

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6271

To provide certain unemployment assistance for individuals impacted by quarantine order for a national or State public health emergency, including a virus threat or other health pandemic.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

---

## A BILL

To provide certain unemployment assistance for individuals impacted by quarantine order for a national or State public health emergency, including a virus threat or other health pandemic.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Unemployment Assist-  
5 ance for Individuals Impacted by Quarantine Order for a  
6 National or State Public Health Emergency Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE.**

2       The President may treat a national or State public  
3 health emergency, including a virus threat or other health  
4 pandemic, as a major disaster for purposes of providing  
5 unemployment assistance under section 410 of the Robert  
6 T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act  
7 (42 U.S.C. 5177). For the duration of such a public health  
8 emergency, the President may provide any assistance  
9 available under such section, and may provide additional  
10 unemployment assistance that meets the following require-  
11 ments:

12           (1) For individuals occupying a part-time or  
13 full-time position of employment who do not receive  
14 paid sick leave and who are under quarantine or-  
15 ders, or have minor children under quarantine or-  
16 ders, issued by a Federal, State, or local public  
17 health authority, compensation for absence from  
18 such employment for the duration of such quar-  
19 antine orders.

20           (2) Compensation provided under this section  
21 shall be based on the number of regular hours that  
22 the individual would have worked if such individual  
23 were not under quarantine orders, or was not accom-  
24 panying a minor child under quarantine orders.

25           (3) Proof of pay for the period within 60 days  
26 of an order described in paragraph (2) and proof of

1 employment during the duration of the order shall  
2 serve as evidence of the compensation level to be de-  
3 termined under such paragraph.

4 (4) Assistance may be provided under this sec-  
5 tion to individuals described in paragraph (1) who  
6 are eligible for paid sick leave but denied such ben-  
7 efit in the case of a quarantine order.

8 (5) Assistance may be provided under this sec-  
9 tion to an individual who occupies a part-time or  
10 full-time position of employment and is paid an  
11 hourly rate if such individual is the primary care-  
12 giver to a medically at-risk person under a quar-  
13 antine order or other medical declaration issued by  
14 a Federal, State, or local public health authority due  
15 to the public health emergency.

16 (6) Benefit levels provided as assistance under  
17 this section shall additionally meet the following:

18 (A) Benefit Levels shall be calculated  
19 based upon State Unemployment Insurance  
20 (hereinafter referred to as “UI”) benefits where  
21 the individual primarily worked (which may dif-  
22 fer from the location where a quarantine or re-  
23 cuperation from an illness may take place).

24 (B) At a minimum, individuals with em-  
25 ployment that require that such individual

1 physically be at a location that is not accessible  
2 due to a quarantine or medical order due to a  
3 public health emergency will receive assistance  
4 under this section that is at least half of the av-  
5 erage UI benefit for that State and cannot re-  
6 ceive more than the maximum UI benefit avail-  
7 able in that State.

8 (C) The maximum UI weekly benefit  
9 amount shall be determined under the provi-  
10 sions of the laws of the State in which the work  
11 occurs.

12 (D) The UI benefit amount shall be cal-  
13 culated to replace around 50 percent of wages  
14 up to a maximum benefit amount and shall not  
15 exceed 66 percent of the average weekly wage,  
16 based upon each State's practice.

17 (E) The minimum weekly assistance pro-  
18 vided under this section shall be half of the av-  
19 erage weekly UI benefit for the State in which  
20 the work occurs.

21 (F) The terms of payment of UI benefits  
22 shall be determined by the health declaration,  
23 doctors orders, or public health mandate.

24 (G) The benefit shall cease upon the end  
25 of the public health emergency, as determined

1 by the President, or upon recovery or other  
2 mitigation of the conditions of this section.

3 (7) The President shall consider the following  
4 factors, with respect to the individual requesting as-  
5 sistance for qualification under this section:

6 (A) The address of employment is within  
7 the geographic area under quarantine.

8 (B) The home address is a location where  
9 quarantine is declared.

10 (C) The primary means of reaching work  
11 are not available due to quarantine.

12 (D) The person is under medical care  
13 which prohibits them working or traveling to  
14 work.

15 (E) Illness or suspected illness that is the  
16 target of the national health emergency.

17 (F) Primary caregiver for someone deemed  
18 to be at particularly high risk who are under  
19 quarantine or medical directive regarding mobil-  
20 ity or activity outside of their home.

21 (G) Have a child infant through 18 with a  
22 place of education that is under quarantine.

○