

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 725

To amend chapter 85 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify that Federal employees excepted from a furlough are eligible for unemployment compensation, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 23, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL (for herself and Mr. UPTON) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

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## A BILL

To amend chapter 85 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify that Federal employees excepted from a furlough are eligible for unemployment compensation, and for other purposes.

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 “Pay Federal Workers  
5       Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION**  
2 **FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES EXCEPTED FROM**  
3 **FURLOUGH.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8502 of title 5, United  
5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
6 lowing:

7 “(f)(1) With respect to any lapse in appropriations  
8 beginning on or after December 22, 2018, each excepted  
9 Federal employee shall be, solely for the purpose of deter-  
10 mining eligibility for unemployment compensation under  
11 this subchapter, deemed for the duration of the lapse in  
12 appropriations to be—

13 “(A) totally separated from Federal service; and

14 “(B) eligible for unemployment compensation  
15 benefits under this subchapter with no waiting pe-  
16 riod for such eligibility to accrue.

17 “(2) In this subsection, the term ‘excepted Federal  
18 employee’ means a Federal employee who—

19 “(A) is an excepted employee or an employee  
20 performing emergency work, as such terms are de-  
21 fined by the Office of Personnel Management; and

22 “(B) is not being paid due to a lapse in appro-  
23 priations.”.

1           (b) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by sub-  
2 section (a) shall apply to weeks of unemployment begin-  
3 ning on or after December 22, 2018.

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