

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to unemployment insurance reform.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	1st Plymouth
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex
George N. Peterson, Jr.	9th Worcester
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
—————

AN ACT RELATIVE TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REFORM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Subsection (i) of section 14 of chapter 151A, as appearing in the 2006 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by striking out paragraph (1) and inserting in place thereof the
3 following paragraph:-

4 (1) With respect to calendar years beginning on or after January 1, 2008, the experience rate
5 of an employer qualifying therefore under subsection (b) shall be the rate which appears
6 in the column headed by the unemployment compensation reserve percentage as of the
7 applicable computation date and on the line with the applicable employer account reserve

percentage as set forth in the experience rate table:

Experience Rate Table							
Unemployment compensation fund reserve percentage							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
1.75% and over	1.6% or more but less than 1.75%	1.4% or more but less than 1.6%	1.1% or more but less than 1.4%	0.8% or more but less than 1.1%	0.5% or more but less than 0.8%	less than 0.5%	
Negative Percentage							
23 or more	9.40	10.53	11.79	13.21	14.79	16.57	18.55
21	9.00	10.08	11.29	12.64	14.16	15.86	17.76
19	8.60	9.63	10.79	12.08	13.53	15.16	16.97
17	8.20	9.18	10.29	11.52	12.90	14.45	16.19
15	7.80	8.74	9.78	10.96	12.27	13.75	15.40
13	7.40	8.29	9.28	10.40	11.64	13.04	14.61
11	7.00	7.84	8.78	9.83	11.01	12.34	13.82
9	6.60	7.39	8.28	9.27	10.39	11.63	13.03
7	6.20	6.94	7.78	8.71	9.76	10.93	12.24
5	5.80	6.50	7.28	8.15	9.13	10.22	11.45
3	5.40	6.05	6.77	7.59	8.50	9.52	10.66
1	5.00	5.60	6.27	7.02	7.87	8.81	9.87
0 but < 1	4.60	5.15	5.77	6.46	7.24	8.11	9.08
Positive Percentage							
0 but < 0.5	3.90	4.37	4.89	5.48	6.14	6.87	7.70
0.5	3.80	4.26	4.77	5.34	5.98	6.70	7.50
1	3.70	4.14	4.64	5.20	5.82	6.52	7.30
1.5	3.60	4.03	4.52	5.06	5.66	6.34	7.11
2	3.50	3.92	4.39	4.92	5.51	6.17	6.91
2.5	3.40	3.81	4.26	4.78	5.35	5.99	6.71
3	3.30	3.70	4.14	4.64	5.19	5.82	6.51
3.5	3.20	3.58	4.01	4.50	5.04	5.64	6.32
4	3.10	3.47	3.89	4.36	4.88	5.46	6.12
4.5	3.00	3.36	3.76	4.21	4.72	5.29	5.92
5	2.90	3.25	3.64	4.07	4.56	5.11	5.72
5.5	2.80	3.14	3.51	3.93	4.41	4.93	5.53
6	2.70	3.02	3.39	3.79	4.25	4.76	5.33
6.5	2.60	2.91	3.26	3.65	4.09	4.58	5.13
7	2.50	2.80	3.14	3.51	3.93	4.41	4.93
7.5	2.40	2.69	3.01	3.37	3.78	4.23	4.74
8	2.30	2.58	2.89	3.23	3.62	4.05	4.54
8.5	2.20	2.46	2.76	3.09	3.46	3.88	4.34
9	2.10	2.35	2.63	2.95	3.30	3.70	4.15
9.5	2.00	2.24	2.51	2.81	3.15	3.52	3.95
10	1.90	2.13	2.38	2.67	2.99	3.35	3.75
10.5	1.80	2.02	2.26	2.53	2.83	3.17	3.55
11	1.70	1.90	2.13	2.39	2.67	3.00	3.36
11.5	1.60	1.79	2.01	2.25	2.52	2.82	3.16
12	1.50	1.68	1.88	2.11	2.36	2.64	2.96
12.5	1.40	1.57	1.76	1.97	2.20	2.47	2.76
13	1.30	1.46	1.63	1.83	2.05	2.29	2.57
13.5	1.20	1.34	1.51	1.69	1.89	2.11	2.37
14	1.00	1.12	1.25	1.40	1.57	1.76	1.97
15	0.90	1.01	1.13	1.26	1.42	1.59	1.78
16	0.80	0.90	1.00	1.12	1.26	1.41	1.58
17	0.70	0.78	0.88	0.98	1.10	1.23	1.38
18	0.60	0.67	0.75	0.84	0.94	1.06	1.18
19	0.50	0.56	0.63	0.70	0.79	0.88	0.99
20	0.40	0.45	0.50	0.56	0.63	0.70	0.79
25	0.30	0.34	0.38	0.42	0.47	0.53	0.59
30	0.20	0.22	0.25	0.28	0.31	0.35	0.39
35 or more	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.18	0.20

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11 SECTION 2. Paragraph (2) of subsection (i) of section 14 of chapter 151A of the General Laws,
 12 as so appearing, is hereby repealed.

13 SECTION 3. Paragraph (a) of Section 24 of said chapter 151A, as so appearing, is hereby
14 amended by striking out in its entirety said paragraph and inserting in place thereof a new
15 paragraph;

16 (a) Have been paid wages in the base period amounting to at least forty times the weekly benefit
17 rate; provided, however, that for the period beginning on January first, nineteen hundred and
18 ninety-five the individual has been paid wages in at least two quarters of the base period
19 amounting to at least thirty times the weekly benefit rate; provided, further, that said amount
20 shall be increased annually proportionately, rounding to the nearest one hundred dollars, to any
21 increases which have occurred during the prior calendar year in the minimum wage as set forth
22 in section one of chapter one hundred and fifty-one; and, provided further, that any such increase
23 shall be effective beginning on the first Sunday in January.

24 SECTION 4. Section 30 of said chapter 151A, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (a)
25 in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following subsection: –

26 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), the total benefits which an unemployed
27 individual may receive during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to thirty-six percent of
28 his wages in the base period, or an amount equal to thirty times his benefit rate, whichever is
29 less, plus dependency benefits payable under section 29; provided, that if in any month the
30 average state-wide unemployment rate for the prior 6 months, as determined by the United States
31 Department of Labor, is equal to or below 5.1 percent, the total benefits which an unemployed
32 individual who then files a claim may receive during his benefit year shall be an amount equal to
33 36 per cent of his wages in the base period or an amount equal to 26 times his benefit rate,

34 whichever is less, plus dependency benefits payable under said section 29. If such amount
35 includes a fractional part of a dollar, it shall be rounded to the next lower full dollar amount

36 SECTION 5. Section 14G of said chapter 151A is hereby repealed.

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38 SECTION 6. All proceeds accumulated in the Medical Security Trust Fund on the date of
39 dissolution, shall be deposited in the unemployment insurance trust fund.

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