

By: Ellis, Lucio

S.B. No. 960

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to eligibility of certain job trainees for extended  
3 unemployment compensation benefits.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 209.041, Labor Code, is amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 Sec. 209.041. ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTENDED BENEFITS. (a) An  
8 individual is eligible to receive extended benefits for a benefit  
9 period of unemployment in the individual's eligibility period if,  
10 with respect to the benefit period, the individual:

11 (1) has exhausted all regular benefits;

12 (2) satisfies the requirements of this subtitle for  
13 the receipt of regular benefits that are applicable to an  
14 individual claiming extended benefits, including not being  
15 disqualified for the receipt of benefits; and

16 (3) has within the individual's base period received  
17 benefit wage credits for employment by employers in an amount not  
18 less than:

19 (A) 40 times the individual's weekly benefit  
20 amount; or

21 (B) 1-1/2 times the individual's high-quarter  
22 benefit wage credits.

23 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), an individual is also  
24 eligible to receive extended benefits for a benefit period of

1 unemployment in the individual's eligibility period if, with  
2 respect to the benefit period, the individual:

3 (1) has exhausted all regular benefits; and

4 (2) is participating in a training program approved by  
5 the commission under Section 207.022.

6 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
7 to a claim for extended unemployment compensation benefits that is  
8 filed with the Texas Workforce Commission on or after the effective  
9 date of this Act. A claim filed before that date is governed by the  
10 law in effect on the date that the claim was filed, and the former  
11 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.