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State of Minnesota  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**EIGHTY-FIFTH  
SESSION**

**HOUSE FILE No. 1158**

February 19, 2007

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Labor

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 relating to unemployment insurance; eliminating the one-week waiting period  
1.3 from the eligibility requirements for benefits; amending Minnesota Statutes  
1.4 2006, section 268.085, subdivision 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2006, section 268.085, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

1.7 Subdivision 1. **Eligibility conditions.** An applicant shall be eligible to receive  
1.8 unemployment benefits for any week if:

1.9 (1) the applicant has an active benefit account and has filed a continued biweekly  
1.10 request for unemployment benefits for that week pursuant to section 268.086;

1.11 (2) the week for which unemployment benefits are requested is in the applicant's  
1.12 benefit year;

1.13 (3) the applicant was unemployed as defined in section 268.035, subdivision 26;

1.14 (4) the applicant was able to work and was available for suitable employment,  
1.15 and was actively seeking suitable employment. The applicant's weekly unemployment  
1.16 benefit amount shall be reduced one-fifth for each day the applicant is unable to work or is  
1.17 unavailable for suitable employment. If the computation of the reduced unemployment  
1.18 benefits is not a whole dollar, it shall be rounded down to the next lower whole dollar.

1.19 This clause shall not apply to an applicant who is in reemployment assistance training, or  
1.20 each day the applicant is on jury duty or serving as an election judge; and

1.21 ~~(5) the applicant has served a waiting period of one week that the applicant is~~  
1.22 ~~otherwise entitled to some amount of unemployment benefits. This clause shall not apply~~  
1.23 ~~if the applicant would have been entitled to federal disaster unemployment assistance~~

2.1 ~~because of a disaster in Minnesota, but for the applicant's establishment of a benefit~~  
2.2 ~~account under section 268.07; and~~

2.3 (6) the applicant has been participating in reemployment assistance services, such  
2.4 as job search and resume writing classes, if the applicant has been determined in need  
2.5 of reemployment assistance services by the commissioner, unless there is good cause  
2.6 for the applicant's failure to participate.