



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 440**

LCO No. 2706



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING UNEMPLOYMENT FOR STRIKING WORKERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 31-236 of the  
2 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu  
3 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

4 (3) During any week in which the administrator finds that the  
5 individual's total or partial unemployment is due to the existence of a  
6 labor dispute other than a lockout at the factory, establishment or other  
7 premises at which the individual is or has been employed, [provided]  
8 except that the provisions of this subsection do not apply if it is shown  
9 to the satisfaction of the administrator that: (A) For a labor dispute that  
10 begins on or after December 14, 2027, such labor dispute has been  
11 continuous for fourteen days since the commencement of such labor  
12 dispute; (B) (i) the individual is not participating in or financing or  
13 directly interested in the labor dispute that caused the unemployment,  
14 and [(B)] (ii) the individual does not belong to a trade, class or  
15 organization of workers, members of which, immediately before the  
16 commencement of the labor dispute, were employed at the premises at

17 which the labor dispute occurred, and are participating in or financing  
18 or directly interested in the dispute; or (C) the individual's  
19 unemployment is due to the existence of a lockout. A lockout exists  
20 whether or not such action is to obtain for the employer more  
21 advantageous terms when an employer (i) fails to provide employment  
22 to its employees with whom the employer is engaged in a labor dispute,  
23 either by physically closing its plant or informing its employees that  
24 there will be no work until the labor dispute has terminated, or (ii)  
25 makes an announcement that work will be available after the expiration  
26 of the existing contract only under terms and conditions that are less  
27 favorable to the employees than those current immediately prior to such  
28 announcement; provided in either event the recognized or certified  
29 bargaining agent shall have advised the employer that the employees  
30 with whom the employer is engaged in the labor dispute are ready, able  
31 and willing to continue working pending the negotiation of a new  
32 contract under the terms and conditions current immediately prior to  
33 such announcement;

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2026	31-236(a)(3)

**Statement of Purpose:**

To allow certain striking workers involved in a labor dispute that has been continuous for fourteen days access to unemployment benefits.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*