Subtitle A -- Crisis Support for Unemployed Workers Section by Section Summary

Part 1 – Extension of CARES Act Unemployment Provisions

Section 9011. Extension of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance.

This section extends the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program, which provides unemployment benefits to some self-employed and pandemic-affected individuals who do not qualify for regular state unemployment benefits, through September 6, 2021. This section also increases the total number of weeks of benefits available to individuals who are not able to return to work safely from 50 to 79 and provides guidance to states on coordinating with other unemployment benefits when needed.

Section 9012. Extension of Emergency Unemployment Relief for Governmental Entities and Nonprofit Organizations.

This section extends a CARES provision which provided a 50 percent subsidy for costs incurred by employers who provide unemployment benefits on a reimbursable basis, rather than via tax contributions, and starting on April 1, increases the subsidy to 75 percent. The 75 percent subsidy is available through September 6, 2021.

Section 9013. Extension of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.

This section extends both the \$300 per week federal supplemental unemployment benefit (FPUC), which is added to both state and federal benefits, and the additional mixed-earner supplement paid to eligible workers through September 6, 2021.

Section 9014. Extension of Full Federal Funding of the First Week of Compensable Regular Unemployment for States with No Waiting Week.

This section restores full reimbursement for state costs related to waiving the waiting week beginning December 31, 2020 and continues it through September 6, 2021.

Section 9015. Extension of Emergency State Staffing Flexibility.

This section extends temporary exceptions to state unemployment insurance staffing restrictions for states through September 6, 2021.

Section 9016. Extension of Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation.

This section increases the number of weeks of benefits an individual worker may receive in the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program from 24 to 53, and also extends the period of time in which workers can receive PEUC benefits if they exhaust regular state UI benefits to last until September 6, 2021. The section also includes rules for the order in which various types of unemployment benefits should be paid.

Section 9017. Extension of Temporary Financing of Short-Time Compensation Payments in States with Programs in Law.

This section extends full federal financing of benefits provided in Short-Time Compensation programs for states which have laws establishing such programs within their Unemployment Insurance systems through September 6, 2021.

Section 9018. Extension of Temporary Financing of Short-Time Compensation Agreements for States without Programs in Law.

This section extends a 50 percent subsidy for temporary Short-Time Compensation programs which states established using administrative authority during the pandemic in states that have not amended state law to permit access in the future through September 6, 2021.

Part 2 – Extension of FFCRA Unemployment Provisions

Section 9021. Extension of Temporary Assistance for States with Advances.

This section ensures that the earliest date on which states would begin accumulating interest on federal loans they have taken in order to pay state unemployment benefits would be September 6, 2021. The loans allow states with low balances in their unemployment trust funds to delay employer tax increases or other employer surcharges while the economy is struggling.

Section 9022. Extension of Full Federal Funding of Extended Unemployment Compensation.

This section extends of the provision in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act which provided temporary full federal financing of Extended Benefits (EB) for high-unemployment states through September 6, 2021 and applies the extension as if it had been enacted in the original FFCRA law to prevent any gaps. States are normally required to pay 50 percent of the cost of EB, which is a program in permanent law.

Part 3 – Department of Labor Funding for Timely, Accurate, and Equitable Payment

Section 9031. Department of Labor Funding.

This section provides a direct appropriation of \$8 million to the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration for costs related to day-to-day federal administration of unemployment insurance, including the temporary pandemic programs.

Section 9032. Fund for Fraud Prevention, Equitable Access, and Timely Payment to Eligible Workers

This section would appropriate \$2 billion to the Department of Labor specifically to support program integrity and timely and equitable access to benefits. The Secretary of

Labor would be authorized to use the funds directly to develop system-wide program integrity solutions and address access barriers or processing backlogs, or distribute funds to state and territorial Unemployment Insurance programs for these purposes.