

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Amendment

LCO No. 8051



Offered by: SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1427

File No. 542

Cal. No. 307

"AN ACT EXPANDING PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM BENEFITS TO CERTAIN SCHOOL EMPLOYEES."

After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
 internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Section 31-49g of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

5 (a) The Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Authority shall 6 establish and administer the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance 7 Program to provide up to twelve weeks of family and medical leave 8 compensation to covered employees during any twelve-month period, 9 as well as two additional weeks of compensation to a covered employee 10 for a serious health condition resulting in incapacitation that occurs 11 during a pregnancy.

12 (b) (1) Beginning on January 1, 2021, but not later than February 1, 13 2021, <u>and ending January 1, 2026</u>, each employee and each self-

14 employed individual or sole proprietor who has enrolled in the program 15 pursuant to section 31-49m shall contribute a percentage of such 16 employee's or self-employed individual's or sole proprietor's subject 17 earnings that shall not exceed the Social Security contribution and 18 benefit base, as determined pursuant to 42 USC 430, as amended from 19 time to time, to the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Trust Fund. 20 Such percentage shall be established by the authority, provided that the 21 percentage shall not exceed one-half of one per cent.

22 [(2) On September 1, 2022, and on each September first thereafter, the 23 authority shall publish the following information: (A) The total amount 24 of contributions collected and benefits paid during the previous fiscal 25 year, as well as the total amount required for the administration of the 26 Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program in such year; (B) the total 27 amount remaining in the trust fund at the close of such fiscal year; (C) 28 in light of such totals, and of expected future expenditures and 29 contributions, a target fund balance sufficient to ensure the ongoing 30 ability of the fund to pay the compensation described in subdivision (2) 31 of subsection (c) of this section, and to limit the need for contribution 32 rate increases or benefit reductions due to changing economic 33 conditions; (D) the amount by which the total amount remaining in the 34 trust fund at the close of the previous fiscal year is less than or greater 35 than that target fund balance. On November 1, 2022, and on each 36 November first thereafter, the authority may announce a revision to the 37 previously established contribution rate, provided the revised rate shall 38 not exceed one-half of one per cent and shall be sufficient to ensure that 39 the trust fund shall achieve and maintain such target fund balance. 40 Effective on January first of the calendar year following each such 41 announcement, the revised contribution rate announced by the 42 authority under this subsection shall supersede the previously 43 established contribution rate.

44 (3) Each employer making payment of any wages to an employee
45 shall deduct and withhold from such wages for each payroll period a
46 contribution computed in such manner as to result, so far as practicable,

in withholding from the employee's wages during each calendar year
an amount substantially equivalent to the contribution reasonably
estimated to be due from the employee under this subsection with
respect to the amount of such wages during the calendar year.

51 (4) If, after notice, an employee or employer or self-employed 52 individual or sole proprietor who has enrolled in the program pursuant 53 to section 31-49m fails to make a payment required by this section, a 54 state collection agency, as defined in section 12-35, shall collect such 55 contribution and interest by any means provided in sections 12-35, 31-56 265 and 31-266.

57 (5) Each employer making payment of any wages to an employee
58 shall (A) register with the authority, and (B) submit reports required by
59 the authority in a form and manner prescribed by the authority.

60 (6) Any employer that fails to comply with the provisions of this
61 subsection shall be subject to penalties established by the authority
62 pursuant to subsection (b) of section 31-49h.]

63 (2) On and after January 1, 2026, each employee who has enrolled in 64 the program pursuant to section 502 of this act or sole proprietor who 65 has enrolled in the program pursuant to section 31-49m shall submit to the Commissioner of Revenue Services on a quarterly basis, as 66 67 determined by the commissioner and in a form and manner prescribed 68 by the commissioner, the amount due from such employee as 69 determined by the authority. The commissioner shall transfer the 70 amounts collected to the fund on a schedule agreed to by the 71 commissioner and the authority, along with information required by the 72 authority to attribute the amounts submitted to the corresponding 73 employee.

(3) If, after notice, an employee who has enrolled in the program
pursuant to section 502 of this act or self-employed individual or sole
proprietor who has enrolled in the program pursuant to section 31-49m
fails to make a payment required by this section, the Commissioner of

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78	Revenue Services shall notify the authority and the authority shall		
79	unenroll such employee, self-employed individual or sole proprietor		
80	from the program at the end of such employee's or self-employed		
81	individual's or sole proprietor's initial enrollment or subsequent		
82	reenrollment period.		

83 (c) (1) Beginning on January 1, [2022] 2026, but not later than February 84 1, [2022] 2026, covered employees shall receive compensation under this 85 section for up to twelve weeks of leave in any twelve-month period taken for one or more of the reasons listed in subdivision (2) of 86 87 subsection (a) of section 31-51ll or subsection (i) of said section or section 88 31-51ss, as well as for two additional weeks for a serious health 89 condition resulting in incapacitation that occurs during a pregnancy, if such covered employee (A) provides notice to the authority, and such 90 91 covered employee's employer, if applicable, of the need for such 92 compensation in a form and manner prescribed by the authority, and 93 (B) upon the request of the authority, provides certification of such 94 covered employee's need for leave and therefore compensation in the 95 manner provided for in section 31-51mm to the authority and such 96 employer, if applicable. Covered employees who are not currently 97 employed or have enrolled in the program pursuant to section 31-49m 98 shall receive compensation in like circumstances. Should the authority 99 determine that it is administratively feasible and prudent, the program 100 may begin providing compensation for leave taken for reasons listed in 101 subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 102 31-51ll prior to offering compensation for leave taken for the other 103 reasons listed in subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 31-51ll or the 104 reasons listed in subsection (i) of said section or section 31-51ss.

(2) The weekly compensation offered to covered employees shall be
equal to ninety-five per cent of the covered employee's base weekly
earnings up to an amount equal to forty times the minimum fair wage,
as defined in section 31-58, and sixty per cent of that covered employee's
base weekly earnings above an amount equal to forty times the
minimum fair wage, except that the total weekly compensation shall not

111 exceed an amount equal to sixty times the minimum fair wage.112 Compensation shall be available on a prorated basis.

(3) Notwithstanding subdivision (2) of this subsection, if employee contributions are the maximum percentage allowed and the authority determines that employee contributions are not sufficient to ensure solvency of the program, the authority shall reduce the benefit for covered employees by the minimum amount necessary in order to ensure the solvency of the program.

(4) If a covered employee elects to have income tax deducted and
withheld from such covered employee's compensation, the amount
specified shall be deducted and withheld in a manner consistent with
state law.

(d) Notwithstanding subsection (g) of section 31-51*ll*, two spouses
employed by the same employer shall each be eligible for up to twelve
weeks of compensation under this section in any twelve-month period.
Such eligibility for compensation shall not increase their eligibility for
job-protected leave beyond the number of weeks specified in said
subsection.

(e) A covered employee may receive compensation under this sectionfor nonconsecutive hours of leave.

(f) A covered employee may receive compensation under this section
concurrently with any employer-provided employment benefits,
provided the total compensation of such covered employee during such
period of leave shall not exceed such covered employee's regular rate of
compensation.

(g) (1) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (2) of this
subsection, no covered employee shall receive compensation under this
section concurrently with income replacement compensation under
chapter 567 or 568 or any other state or federal program that provides
wage replacement.

(2) A covered employee may receive compensation under this section
concurrently with compensation received from the victim compensation
program administered by the Office of Victim Services within the
Judicial Department, provided the total compensation received by the
covered employee during the covered employee's period of leave shall
not exceed such covered employee's regular rate of compensation.

(h) (1) Any moneys expended from the General Fund for the purpose
of administering the Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program, or
providing compensation to covered employees, shall be reimbursed to
the General Fund not later than October 1, 2022.

151 (2) Any moneys expended from any bond authorizations allocated to 152 the authority for the purpose of administering the Family and Medical 153 Leave Insurance Program shall be reimbursed to the General Fund 154 according to a plan to be established by the Secretary of the Office of 155 Policy and Management, in consultation with the State Treasurer. Such 156 plan shall provide for a repayment schedule that provides for 157 repayment by the authority of the debt service deemed attributable to 158 such bond authorizations. Such repayment shall commence during the 159 fiscal year ending June 30, 2023, and shall continue until repayment is 160 complete, according to the terms of the plan. The authority may repay 161 unpaid amounts earlier than the plan established by the secretary.

162 Sec. 502. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2025) (a) An employee, upon application to the authority, in a form and manner prescribed by the 163 164 authority, may enroll in the Family and Medical Leave Insurance 165 Program, provided such employee is enrolled in the program for an 166 initial period of not less than three years. Such employee shall be 167 automatically reenrolled in the program for a subsequent period, or 168 periods, of not less than one year. Such reenrollment begins 169 immediately following a period of participation in the program.

(b) An employee may withdraw from the program upon submitting
written notice to the authority not less than thirty days prior to the
expiration of the initial enrollment or subsequent reenrollment period,

173 or at such other times as the authority may prescribe by rule."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Sec. 501	October 1, 2025	31-49g	
Sec. 502	October 1, 2025	New section	