

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 25-64—SB 8 (VETOED)

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Judiciary Committee

Appropriations Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING PROTECTIONS FOR WORKERS AND
ENHANCEMENTS TO WORKERS' RIGHTS**

SUMMARY: For labor disputes that start on or after December 14, 2026, this act would have generally made striking workers eligible for unemployment benefits after they had been on strike for 14 days in a row. Existing law generally disqualifies claimants for benefits during any week in which their unemployment is due to a labor dispute. The act would have lifted this disqualification once the labor dispute had been continuous for 14 days.

Existing law also allows claimants to qualify for benefits during a labor dispute, with no waiting period, if the (1) unemployment is due to a lockout (e.g., the employer closed the workplace) or (2) claimant is not participating in the dispute and does not belong to a trade, class, or organization of workers that is participating in, financing, or directly interested in the dispute (e.g., non-union employees at a business temporarily closed by a strike).