

# SENATE, No. 3505

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 9, 2021

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator NICHOLAS P. SCUTARI**  
District 22 (Middlesex, Somerset and Union)  
**Senator LORETTA WEINBERG**  
District 37 (Bergen)  
**Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI**  
District 33 (Hudson)  
**Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON**  
District 37 (Bergen)  
**Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO**  
District 20 (Union)

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senators Addiego, Bateman, Beach, Brown, A.M.Bucco, Codey, Connors, Corrado, Cruz-Perez, Cryan, Cunningham, Diegnan, Doherty, Gill, Gopal, Greenstein, Holzappel, T.Kean, Lagana, Madden, O'Scanlon, Oroho, Pennacchio, Pou, Rice, Ruiz, Sacco, Sarlo, Schepisi, Singer, Singleton, B.Smith, Stack, Sweeney, Testa, Thompson, Turner, Vitale, Assemblymen DeAngelo, Verrelli, Assemblywoman DiMaso, Assemblyman McClellan, Assemblywoman Murphy, Assemblyman DiMaio, Assemblywoman Vainieri Huttel, Assemblyman Rumpf, Assemblywoman Gove, Assemblyman Benson, Assemblywoman Carter, Assemblymen Mazzeo and Armato**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires assignment of unemployment claims handlers to legislative districts and partisan offices during COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency; appropriates \$1.8 million.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 5/20/2021)

S3505 SCUTARI, WEINBERG

2

1 AN ACT requiring assignment of unemployment claims handlers to  
2 legislative districts and partisan offices during COVID-19  
3 pandemic state of emergency, and making an appropriation.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
6 *of New Jersey:*  
7

8 1. a. During the public health emergency and State of  
9 Emergency declared on March 9, 2020 by the Governor pursuant to  
10 Executive Order No. 103 and any extension of the order, and for six  
11 months after the expiration of the order, the Department of Labor  
12 and Workforce Development shall assign at least one full-time  
13 unemployment claims handler to each legislative district and  
14 partisan office.

15 b. The department shall make available to employees of  
16 legislative district offices and partisan offices:

17 (1) view-only access to the unemployment claims system for use  
18 in their constituent services duties; and

19 (2) training on confidentiality and information security rules.

20 c. The commissioner shall take necessary action to implement  
21 technological infrastructure upgrades to implement the provisions  
22 of this bill.  
23

24 2. There is appropriated from the General Fund \$1,800,000 to  
25 effectuate the provisions of this act.  
26

27 3. This act shall take effect 30 days after enactment.  
28  
29

30 STATEMENT  
31

32 This bill requires the Department of Labor and Workforce  
33 Development to assign an unemployment claims handler to each  
34 legislative district and partisan office during the state of emergency  
35 related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It also requires the department  
36 to make view-only access to the unemployment claims system  
37 available to employees of legislative district offices and partisan  
38 offices, along with training on confidentiality and information  
39 security rules. The bill appropriates \$1,800,000 from the general  
40 fund to effectuate its purposes.