1. Specifies applicability is for employers and individuals affected by a federal declaration of emergency related to coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

2. Excludes increased benefits charged against an employer resulting from the alternative benefit eligibility criteria from consideration in fixing employer contribution rates to the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

3. Authorizes the Department of Economic Security to adjust eligibility requirements for specified participants of the shared work plan during a federal declaration of emergency related to COVID-19.

4. Includes language asserting the Legislature’s intent that the state ease eligibility requirements and augment access to the unemployment compensation system during the declaration of emergency for COVID-19.

Amendment explanation prepared by Cherie Stone

3/19/20
FANN FLOOR AMENDMENT
SENATE AMENDMENTS TO S.B. 1694
(Reference to printed bill)

1 Page 1, line 9, strike "the"
2 Line 10, strike "through" insert ", including the"
3 Line 12, after "a" insert "federal"
4 Line 13, after the period insert "In fixing employer contribution rates for
the unemployment compensation fund established by section 23-701, Arizona
Revised Statutes, the department may not consider increased benefits
charged against an employer's account that resulted from alternative
benefit eligibility for individuals affected by coronavirus disease 2019."
5 Between lines 14 and 15, insert:
6 "B. For employers and employees who opt to participate in the shared
work plan established pursuant to title 23, chapter 4, article 5.1, Arizona
Revised Statutes, the department of economic security may adjust
eligibility requirements during the federal emergency declaration period
related to coronavirus disease 2019, except that the department may not
approve shared work benefits for an individual who has the individual's
normal weekly hours reduced by more than eighty percent."
7 Reletter to conform
Page 1, line 17, after "the" insert "federal"

Line 19, after "the" insert "federal"; after "and" strike remainder of line

Line 20, strike "issued on March 11, 2020 and federal"

Line 25, after the period insert "For affected individuals and businesses during the federal declaration of emergency, the legislature further intends that this state ease eligibility requirements and strengthen access to the unemployment insurance program, including waiving work search requirements and the waiting week and not charging employers that are directly impacted by coronavirus disease 2019 due to an illness in the workplace or direction from a public health official to isolate or quarantine workers."

Amend title to conform