

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 574

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 7, 2003

Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY) introduced the following bill;  
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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## A BILL

To amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act to toll the 5-year limit for assistance under the temporary assistance to needy families program for recipients who live in a State that is experiencing significant increases in unemployment.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Unemployment Protec-  
5 tion for Low-Income Families on TANF Act of 2003” or  
6 the “UPLIFT Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. DISREGARD OF MONTHS OF ASSISTANCE RECEIVED**  
 2 **DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 408(a)(7) of the Social  
 4 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 608(a)(7)) is amended by adding  
 5 at the end the following:

6 “(H) DISREGARD OF ASSISTANCE RE-  
 7 CEIVED DURING PERIODS OF HIGH UNEMPLOY-  
 8 MENT.—

9 “(i) IN GENERAL.—In determining  
 10 the number of months for which an adult  
 11 has received assistance under a State or  
 12 tribal program funded under this part, the  
 13 State or tribe shall disregard any month in  
 14 which the State is determined to be a high  
 15 unemployment State for that month.

16 “(ii) DEFINITION OF HIGH UNEM-  
 17 PLOYMENT STATE.—For purposes of  
 18 clause (i), a State shall be considered to be  
 19 a high unemployment State for a month if  
 20 it satisfies either of the following criteria:

21 “(I) STATE RATE OF UNEMPLOY-  
 22 MENT.—The average—

23 “(aa) rate of total unem-  
 24 ployment (seasonally adjusted) in  
 25 the State for the period con-  
 26 sisting of the most recent 3

1 months for which data are avail-  
2 able has increased by the lesser  
3 of 1.5 percentage points or by 50  
4 percent over the corresponding 3-  
5 month period in either of the 2  
6 most recent preceding fiscal  
7 years; or

8 “(bb) insured unemployment  
9 rate (seasonally adjusted) in the  
10 State for the most recent 3  
11 months for which data are avail-  
12 able has increased by 1 percent-  
13 age point over the corresponding  
14 3-month period in either of the 2  
15 most recent preceding fiscal  
16 years.

17 “(II) NATIONAL RATE OF UNEM-  
18 PLOYMENT.—The average rate of  
19 total unemployment (seasonally ad-  
20 justed) for all States for the period  
21 consisting of the most recent 3  
22 months for which data for all States  
23 are published equals or exceeds 6.5  
24 percent.

1           “(iii) DURATION.—A State that is  
2           considered to be a high unemployment  
3           State under clause (ii) for a month shall  
4           continue to be considered such a State  
5           until the rate that was used to meet the  
6           definition as a high unemployment State  
7           under that clause for the most recently  
8           concluded 3-month period for which data  
9           are available, falls below the level attained  
10          in the 3-month period in which the State  
11          first qualified as a high unemployment  
12          State under that clause.”.

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