

CHAPTER 21
(House Bill 354)

AN ACT to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Section 4 of Article 95A of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume and 1968 Supplement), title "Unemployment Insurance Law," subtitle "Benefits," providing that wages earned by a full-time day student under certain conditions, shall not be considered base-period wages.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Section 4 of Article 95A of the Annotated Code of Maryland, (1964 Replacement Volume and 1968 Supplement), title "Unemployment Insurance Law," subtitle "Benefits," be and it is hereby repealed and re-enacted with amendments to read as follows:

4.

Any unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the Executive Director finds that—

(a) He has registered for work at and thereafter continued to report at an employment office in accordance with such regulations as the Executive Director may prescribe, except that the Executive Director may, by regulation waive or alter either or both of the requirements of this subsection as to individuals attached to regular jobs and as to such types of cases or situations with respect to which it finds that compliance with such requirements would be oppressive, or would be inconsistent with the purposes of this article; provided that no such regulation shall conflict with Section 3(a) of this article.

(b) He has made a claim for benefits with respect to such week in accordance with such regulations as the Executive Director may prescribe.

(c) He is able to work, and is available for work; provided no claimant shall be considered ineligible in any week of unemployment for failure to comply with provisions of this subsection if such failure is due to an illness or disability which occurs after he has registered for work and no work which would have been considered suitable at the time of his initial registration has been offered after the beginning of such illness or disability. As used in this subsection, the term "available for work" shall mean, among other things, that a claimant is actively seeking work. In determining whether or not the claimant has actively sought work, the Executive Director shall consider whether the efforts he has made to obtain work have been reasonable and are such efforts as an unemployed individual is expected to make if he is honestly looking for work. The extent of the effort required shall depend upon labor market conditions in the claimant's area.

Provided, that when an employer closes its entire plant or any portion of the plant for a vacation or inventory or other purpose causing unemployment for a certain and definable period not exceeding three weeks in any benefit year, the Executive Director is authorized to exempt the employees who thereby become unemployed from producing evidence required under this section of the law, if