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### **Gordon, Friedman Support Legislation to Enhance Unemployment Benefits for 17,000 Low-Income Recipients**

(BOSTON – 11/2/20) – **Representative Ken Gordon (D-Bedford)** and **Senator Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington)** joined their colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature on Monday, October 26 to pass *An Act relative to additional unemployment benefits for the neediest recipients currently excluded from the Lost Wages Assistance program*, which enhances unemployment benefits for certain Massachusetts workers by as much as \$1,800 each.

The legislation authorizes an increase to unemployment compensation for every recipient in Massachusetts not receiving at least \$100 in weekly benefits. This enhancement would apply retroactively to approximately 17,000 eligible recipients.

“I’m grateful that the House and Senate worked to ensure that this bill was passed into law” said **Rep. Gordon**. “This bill gets critical money to the families and workers who need it most right now. I’m proud of this bill and the Legislature’s commitment to those who have been hit the hardest by the COVID-19 crisis”.

“The Senate is committed to helping the most vulnerable residents in our Commonwealth as we continue to confront the ongoing pandemic, and this bill reflects that commitment,” said **Senator Cindy F. Friedman (D-Arlington)**, co-chair of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. “During this difficult financial time, we need to do everything we can to support those in need so they can support themselves and their families.”

The Governor signed the legislation into law last week.

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