

Amendments to State Unemployment Insurance Laws

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Employment and Training Administration
Washington, D.C. 20210

REPORT ON STATE LEGISLATION

REPORT NO. 1
May 2008

CONNECTICUT HB 5438 ENACTED and EFFECTIVE May 7, 2008
(P.A. No. 08-40)

Nonmonetary Eligibility

Makes permanent the provision that provides that an individual will not be ineligible for benefits for voluntarily leaving suitable employment that occurs on or after July 1, 2007, to accompany a spouse who is on active duty with the armed forces of the U.S. and is required to relocate by the armed forces.

IDAHO SB 1250 ENACTED and EFFECTIVE February 27, 2008
(CH 44)

Overpayments

Provides that if a determination is made finding that an employer has colluded with an employee or former employee to file a false or fraudulent claim, a penalty of 10 times the weekly benefit amount of such employee or former employee must be added to the liability of the employer. (This penalty for colluding is in addition to current law providing penalties for employers that induce, solicit, or coerce such employees or former employees to file a false or fraudulent claim.)

IDAHO SB 1311 ENACTED and EFFECTIVE March 14, 2008
(CH 99)

Administration

Establishes new requirements concerning the confidentiality and disclosure of certain employment security information. Establishes new civil penalties for persons who receive and make unauthorized disclosure of employment security information in violation of the confidentiality provisions.

Nonmonetary Eligibility

Eliminates the option of a claimant being able to demonstrate good cause for failure to attend job training.

Provides that claimants enrolled in approved training who fail to attend or otherwise participate in such training are ineligible if they are not able to work nor available for work unless they have an illness or disability (under certain circumstances) or compelling personal circumstances.

KENTUCKY SB 146 ENACTED and EFFECTIVE April 14, 2008
(CH 111)

Administration

Establishes new requirements concerning the confidentiality and disclosure of certain unemployment compensation information and records. Establishes a penalty for persons receiving unemployment compensation information and records who violate the confidentiality provision.

KENTUCKY Rule 17959 ADOPTED and EFFECTIVE February 1, 2008

Administration

Establishes the receipt date for reports, contributions or payments, protests or appeals as the date it is delivered to the department or the date of the postmark applied by the US Postal Service or commercial postal service. Privately held postage meter dates will not be considered in determining the date of receipt. If the due date falls on a day the office of the department or post office is closed, due date will be the next day the office or post office is open.

MARYLAND HB 416 ENACTED April 8, 2008
(CH 74) EFFECTIVE October 1, 2008

Financing

Provides that if authorized or directed by the U.S. Department of Labor, the department may directly collect from employers the Federal Unemployment Insurance Tax set forth in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act. Requires these funds be used only to administer programs and services designated for the unemployment insurance and employment services offices. Requires that any agreement reached with the Federal government be submitted to the Joint Committee on Unemployment Insurance Oversight. This act remains effective for 5 years, ending September 30, 2013.

MASSACHUSETTS HB 4528 ENACTED February 21, 2008
(CH 42) EFFECTIVE January 1, 2008

Financing

For calendar year 2008, sets the minimum experience rate at 1.12 percent and the maximum at 10.96 percent (Table D).

NEBRASKA LB 500 ENACTED March 10, 2008
(CH 48) EFFECTIVE July 14, 2008

Financing

Amends the law to non-charge the employer's experience account for benefits paid during a week when an individual was participating in training approved under the federal Trade Act.

OKLAHOMA HB 2662 ENACTED and EFFECTIVE April 22, 2008

Administration

