
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Carla S. Roberts.

DIGEST

Crowe (SB 594)

Present law provides that a former employee can be disqualified for unemployment benefits under certain circumstances.

Present law provides that when a former employee is disqualified from receiving unemployment benefits, the employer's experience rating account shall not be charged under certain circumstances so long as the employer timely filed notice.

Present law provides that in making determinations of unemployment claims, the administrator shall require that information necessary for the prompt determination of claims be sought from each employer. Present law provides that a response to such requests shall be timely if it is received within 10 days of mailing.

Proposed law changes the time in which to respond to the notice from 10 days from the date of mailing to the time specified in the notice.

Present law provides that the employer must complete all forms and reports that are requested by the administrator of the office of workers' compensation.

Proposed law changes the requirement that forms be completed by employers from "as requested" to "as needed".

Proposed law retains present law but provides that a response is adequate if it provides sufficient facts to enable the agency to make the correct determination.

Proposed law provides that a response may not be considered inadequate if the agency failed to ask for all necessary information.

Proposed law provides that no contributing employer's reserve account or reimbursable employer's account shall be relieved of any charges for benefits relating to an improper benefit payment to a claimant established after October 21, 2013, if the improper benefit payment was made because the employer, or an agent of the employer, was at fault for failing to respond timely or adequately to the request of the administrator for information relating to a claim for benefits.

Proposed law provides the following definitions:

- (1) "Employer's reserve account" means that employer's account which contains the amounts of money held in reserve to pay unemployment benefit claims to covered

individuals who were employed by the employer.

- (2) "Reimbursable employer's account" means that accounting method used by the unemployment administrator to invoice the state, its political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes or tribal units for unemployment benefits paid to covered individuals who were employed by such entities.

Effective retroactively to October 21, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 23:1625.1(A) and (B); adds R.S. 23:1553.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to the original bill

1. Changes the time in which to respond to the notice from 10 days from the date of mailing to the time specified in the notice.
2. Changes the requirement that forms be completed by employers from "as requested" to "as needed".