

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0145

Unemployment insurance-amendments.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Law, Burns and Illoway and  
Senator(s) Hawks and Mockler

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to unemployment insurance; providing that  
2 certain amounts shall not be included as wages for a one  
3 year period; eliminating for one year the one week waiting  
4 period; lowering for one year the base rate reduction; and  
5 providing for an effective date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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9           **Section 1.**           W.S.       27-3-102(a) (xviii) (A),  
10 27-3-306(a) (iv) and 27-3-503(b) are amended to read:

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12           **27-3-102. Definitions generally.**

13

14           (a) As used in this act:

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1           (xviii) "Wage" means remuneration payable for  
2 services from any source including commissions, bonuses and  
3 cash. The reasonable cash value of remuneration other than  
4 cash or check shall be prescribed by rule of the  
5 commission. To the extent the following are not considered  
6 wages under 26 U.S.C. §§ 3301 through 3311, "wage" does not  
7 include:

8  
9           (A) For purposes of W.S. 27-3-503 through  
10 27-3-509, remuneration greater than fifty-five percent  
11 (55%) of the statewide average annual wage calculated  
12 pursuant to W.S. 27-3-303(a) and rounded to the lowest one  
13 hundred dollars (\$100.00), which is paid during any  
14 calendar year to an individual by each employer or a  
15 predecessor within any calendar year including employment  
16 under any other state unemployment compensation law unless  
17 the amount is subject to a federal tax against which credit  
18 may be taken for contributions paid into any state  
19 unemployment fund. For purposes of this subparagraph during  
20 calendar year 2003 only, "wage" shall not include any  
21 amount in excess of fourteen thousand seven hundred dollars  
22 (\$14,700.00) paid to an employee by an employer;

23

1           **27-3-306. Eligibility requirements; waiver or**  
2 **amendment authorized; unemployed waiting period;**  
3 **registration and referral for suitable work.**

4  
5           (a) An unemployed individual is eligible for benefits  
6 under this article for any week if he:

7  
8                   (iv) Is unemployed for a waiting period of one  
9 (1) week. The waiting period requirement of this paragraph  
10 shall not apply to initial or additional claims for  
11 benefits filed between January 1, 2003 and December 31,  
12 2003, inclusive;

13  
14           **27-3-503. Payment; base rate; failure to pay; rate**  
15 **variations; benefit ratio; new employer rate; special**  
16 **reserve rate.**

17  
18           (b) Except as otherwise provided by law, the base  
19 rate of contributions assigned to any employer is eight and  
20 one-half percent (8.5%) for 1988 and each calendar year  
21 thereafter subject to rate variations under subsections (d)  
22 and (f) of this section in addition to a special reserve  
23 contribution rate assigned under subsection (g) of this  
24 section and the adjustment factors computed under W.S.

1 27-3-505. For calendar year ~~2002~~2003, the base rate  
2 assigned to any employer under this subsection or any  
3 variation assigned under subsection (d) of this section  
4 shall be reduced by ~~thirty percent (30%)~~twenty-five  
5 percent (25%). The base rate assigned to any employer under  
6 this subsection or any rate variation assigned under  
7 ~~subsections~~subsection (d) or (f) of this section shall be  
8 reduced by twenty percent (20%) for any calendar year in  
9 which a special reserve contribution rate is imposed under  
10 subsection (g) of this section. Except as hereafter  
11 provided, a contributing employer failing to pay all  
12 contributions, interest and penalties or to submit all  
13 quarterly contribution reports due on his account or any  
14 account assumed under W.S. 27-3-507 on or before September  
15 30 preceding the effective date of his assigned rate shall  
16 be assigned a delinquent rate which shall include a two  
17 percent (2%) tax rate increase in his base rate and shall  
18 also include in addition thereto the adjustment factors for  
19 the next calendar year beginning January 1. The delinquent  
20 rate shall not exceed the maximum assignable rate. The  
21 delinquent rate shall continue to be assigned through and  
22 including the calendar quarter in which the delinquent  
23 employer satisfies his delinquent account by submitting all  
24 payments and contribution reports due. Upon satisfaction of

1 the delinquent account, the contributing employer shall be  
2 assigned the contribution rate otherwise applicable under  
3 this article beginning the next full calendar quarter.  
4 Provided however, that a delinquent employer shall pay an  
5 assigned delinquent rate for at least the first quarter  
6 even if the account is satisfied before January 1 of the  
7 new calendar year.

8

9 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2002.

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(END)