

MATTHEW H. MEAD
GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
CHEYENNE, WY 82002

Office of the Governor

March 14, 2013

The Honorable Max Maxfield
Secretary of State
State Capitol
Cheyenne, WY 82002

Re: House Enrolled Act 107 (HB0237) Unemployment Insurance – Worker Misconduct

Dear Secretary Maxfield,

This letter is to advise that I am exercising my authority to veto House Enrolled Act 107.

As originally introduced, this bill proposed to amend W.S. § 27-3-322(f), providing a definition of “misconduct connected to work” for purposes of disqualification from benefit entitlement under the Wyoming Employment Security Law Act. As introduced, “misconduct connected to work” would have been defined as “conduct rising above mere negligence or incompetence that is intentionally, willfully or wantonly against the policies, rules or interests of the employer.” Such a definition placed into statute would have established a clear line as to when an employee was entitled to unemployment insurance and when an employee was not.

However, through the amendment process, the bill changed, and the clarity was lost. I believe the definition in HEA 107, which would have become W.S. § 27-3-102(a)(xii), would have unintended consequences in that it could be interpreted that in no case would a discharged employee be eligible for unemployment insurance.

For this reason, I feel it is necessary to veto the bill and have done so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew H. Mead".

Matthew H. Mead
Governor

MHM:mdm

cc: Honorable Tony Ross, President of the Senate
Honorable Tom Lubnau, Speaker of the House
Members of the 62nd Legislature
Legislative Service Office

