43:21-7

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2005 **CHAPTER**: 249

NJSA: 43:21-7 (Concerns redirection of unemployment taxes and extension of unemployment benefits)

BILL NO: A4583 (Substituted for S2788)

SPONSOR(S): Diegnan

DATE INTRODUCED: December 5, 2005

COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Appropriations

SENATE:

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: December 12, 2005

SENATE: December 15, 2005

DATE OF APPROVAL: December 21, 2005

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (1st reprint enacted)

A4583

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 26 of original bill)

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: <u>ASSEMBLY</u>: <u>Yes</u>

SENATE: No

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S2788

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT: (Begins on page 26 of original bill) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

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P.L. 2005, CHAPTER 249, approved December 21, 2005 Assembly, No. 4583 (First Reprint)

AN ACT concerning the redirection of payroll taxes from the unemployment compensation fund to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and the extension of certain unemployment compensation benefits and amending R.S.43:21-7 and P.L.1970, c.324.

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BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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- 1. R.S.43:21-7 is amended to read as follows:
- 10 43:21-7. Contributions. Employers other than governmental entities, whose benefit financing provisions are set forth in section 4 11 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.3), and those nonprofit organizations 12 13 liable for payment in lieu of contributions on the basis set forth in 14 section 3 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.2), shall pay to the controller 15 for the unemployment compensation fund, contributions as set forth in subsections (a), (b) and (c) hereof, and the provisions of subsections 16 (d) and (e) shall be applicable to all employers, consistent with the 17 provisions of the "unemployment compensation law" and the 18 19 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 20 seq.).
 - (a) Payment.
 - (1) Contributions shall accrue and become payable by each employer for each calendar year in which he is subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), with respect to having individuals in his employ during that calendar year, at the rates and on the basis hereinafter set forth. Such contributions shall become due and be paid by each employer to the controller for the fund, in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of individuals in his employ.
 - (2) In the payment of any contributions, a fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.
- 33 (b) Rate of contributions. Each employer shall pay the following 34 contributions:
 - (1) For the calendar year 1947, and each calendar year thereafter, 2 7/10% of wages paid by him during each such calendar year, except as otherwise prescribed by subsection (c) of this section.
- 38 (2) The "wages" of any individual, with respect to any one 39 employer, as the term is used in this subsection (b) and in subsections 40 (c), (d) and (e) of this section 7, shall include the first \$4,800.00 paid

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹ Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted December 8, 2005.

1 during calendar year 1975, for services performed either within or 2 without this State; provided that no contribution shall be required by 3 this State with respect to services performed in another state if such 4 other state imposes contribution liability with respect thereto. If an employer (hereinafter referred to as a successor employer) during any 5 calendar year acquires substantially all the property used in a trade or 6 7 business of another employer (hereinafter referred to as a 8 predecessor), or used in a separate unit of a trade or business of a 9 predecessor, and immediately after the acquisition employs in his trade 10 or business an individual who immediately prior to the acquisition was 11 employed in the trade or business of such predecessors, then, for the 12 purpose of determining whether the successor employer has paid 13 wages with respect to employment equal to the first \$4,800.00 paid 14 during calendar year 1975, any wages paid to such individual by such 15 predecessor during such calendar year and prior to such acquisition shall be considered as having been paid by such successor employer. 16

- 17 (3) For calendar years beginning on and after January 1, 1976, the 18 "wages" of any individual, as defined in the preceding paragraph (2) 19 of this subsection (b), shall be established and promulgated by the 20 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development on or before 21 September 1 of the preceding year and shall be, 28 times the Statewide 22 average weekly remuneration paid to workers by employers, as 23 determined under R.S.43:21-3(c), raised to the next higher multiple of 24 \$100.00 if not already a multiple thereof, provided that if the amount 25 of wages so determined for a calendar year is less than the amount 26 similarly determined for the preceding year, the greater amount will be 27 used; provided, further, that if the amount of such wages so 28 determined does not equal or exceed the amount of wages as defined 29 in subsection (b) of section 3306 of the Federal Unemployment Tax 30 Act, Chapter 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 31 s.3306(b)), the wages as determined in this paragraph in any calendar 32 year shall be raised to equal the amount established under the Federal 33 Unemployment Tax Act for that calendar year.
 - (c) Future rates based on benefit experience.

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(1) A separate account for each employer shall be maintained and this shall be credited with all the contributions which he has paid on his own behalf on or before January 31 of any calendar year with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year; provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a Saturday or Sunday, an employer's account shall be credited as of January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday or Sunday. But nothing in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) shall be construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior claims or rights to the amounts paid by him into the fund either on his own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid with respect

1 to benefit years commencing on and after January 1, 1953, to any 2 individual on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect 3 to unemployment in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years 4 shall be charged against the account or accounts of the employer or employers in whose employment such individual established base 5 weeks constituting the basis of such benefits, except that, with respect 6 7 to benefit years commencing after January 4, 1998, an employer's 8 account shall not be charged for benefits paid to a claimant if the 9 claimant's employment by that employer was ended in any way which, 10 pursuant to subsection (a), (b), (c), (f), (g) or (h) of R.S.43:21-5, 11 would have disqualified the claimant for benefits if the claimant had 12 applied for benefits at the time when that employment ended. Benefits 13 paid under a given benefit determination shall be charged against the 14 account of the employer to whom such determination relates. When 15 each benefit payment is made, either a copy of the benefit check or other form of notification shall be promptly sent to the employer 16 17 against whose account the benefits are to be charged. Such copy or notification shall identify the employer against whose account the 18 19 amount of such payment is being charged, shall show at least the name 20 and social security account number of the claimant and shall specify 21 the period of unemployment to which said check applies. If the total 22 amount of benefits paid to a claimant and charged to the account of 23 the appropriate employer exceeds 50% of the total base year, base 24 week wages paid to the claimant by that employer, then such employer 25 shall have canceled from his account such excess benefit charges as 26 specified above. 27

Each employer shall be furnished an annual summary statement of benefits charged to his account.

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- (2) Regulations may be prescribed for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.
- (3) No employer's rate shall be lower than 5.4% unless assignment of such lower rate is consistent with the conditions applicable to additional credit allowance for such year under section 3303(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.3303(a)(1)), any other provision of this section to the contrary notwithstanding.
- (4) Employer Reserve Ratio. (A) Each employer's rate shall be 2 8/10%, except as otherwise provided in the following provisions. No employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July 1 of any calendar year shall be other than 2 8/10%, unless as of the preceding January 31 such employer shall have paid contributions with respect to wages paid in each of the three calendar years immediately preceding such year, in which case such employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July

- 1 of any calendar year shall be determined on the basis of his record up
- 2 to the beginning of such calendar year. If, at the beginning of such
- 3 calendar year, the total of all his contributions, paid on his own behalf,
- 4 for all past years exceeds the total benefits charged to his account for
- 5 all such years, his contribution rate shall be:
- 6 (1) 2 5/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 4%, but less than
- 7 5%, of his average annual payroll (as defined in paragraph (2),
- 8 subsection (a) of R.S.43:21-19);
- 9 (2) 2 2/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 5%, but is less than
- 10 6%, of his average annual payroll;
- 11 (3) 1 9/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 6%, but is less than
- 12 7%, of his average annual payroll;
- 13 (4) 1 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 7%, but is less than
- 14 8%, of his average annual payroll;
- 15 (5) 1 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 8%, but is less than
- 16 9%, of his average annual payroll;
- 17 (6) 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 9%, but is less than 10%,
- of his average annual payroll;
- 19 (7) 7/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less
- 20 than 11%, of his average annual payroll;
- 21 (8) 4/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 11% of his
- 22 average annual payroll.
- 23 (B) If the total of an employer's contributions, paid on his own
- 24 behalf, for all past periods for the purposes of this paragraph (4), is
- 25 less than the total benefits charged against his account during the same
- 26 period, his rate shall be:
- 27 (1) 4%, if such excess is less than 10% of his average annual
- 28 payroll;
- 29 (2) 4 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less than
- 30 20%, of his average annual payroll;
- 31 (3) 4 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 20% of his average
- 32 annual payroll.
- 33 (C) Specially assigned rates. If no contributions were paid on
- 34 wages for employment in any calendar year used in determining the
- 35 average annual payroll of an employer eligible for an assigned rate
- 36 under this paragraph (4), the employer's rate shall be specially assigned
- 37 as follows:
- 38 (i) if the reserve balance in its account is positive, its assigned rate
- 39 shall be the highest rate in effect for positive balance accounts for that
- 40 period, or 5.4%, whichever is higher, and (ii) if the reserve balance in
- 41 its account is negative, its assigned rate shall be the highest rate in
- 42 effect for deficit accounts for that period.
- 43 (D) The contribution rates prescribed by subparagraphs (A) and (B)
- 44 of this paragraph (4) shall be increased or decreased in accordance
- 45 with the provisions of paragraph (5) of this subsection (c) for
- 46 experience rating periods through June 30, 1986.

1 (5) (A) Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio. If on March 31 2 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals 3 or exceeds 4% but is less than 7% of the total taxable wages reported 4 to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 5 6 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation 7 based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 3/10 of 1% over 8 the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of 9 paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection. If on March 31 of any 10 calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund exceeds 2 11 1/2% but is less than 4% of the total taxable wages reported to the 12 controller as of that date in respect to employment during the 13 preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 14 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation 15 based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of 16 17 paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection. 18

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If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund is less than 2 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer (1) eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by (i) 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraph (3), (4)(A) or (4)(B) of this subsection, and (ii) an additional amount equal to 20% of the total rate established herein, provided, however, that the final contribution rate for each employer shall be computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof; (2) not eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection. For the period commencing July 1, 1984 and ending June 30, 1986, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions under R.S.43:21-7 shall be increased by a factor of 10% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof.

37 (B) If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance in the 38 unemployment trust fund equals or exceeds 10% but is less than 12 39 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that 40 date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the 41 contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall 42 be reduced by 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise 43 44 established under the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this 45 subsection; provided that in no event shall the contribution rate of any 46 employer be reduced to less than 4/10 of 1%. If on March 31 of any

1 calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals or 2 exceeds 12 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller 3 as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar 4 year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit 5 experience, shall be reduced by 6/10 of 1% if his account for all past 6 7 periods reflects an excess of contributions paid over total benefits 8 charged of 3% or more of his average annual payroll, otherwise by 9 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise established under the 10 provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection; provided that 11 in no event shall the contribution rate of any employer be reduced to

- (C) The "balance" in the unemployment trust fund, as the term is used in subparagraphs (A) and (B) above, shall not include moneys credited to the State's account under section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C.s.1103), during any period in which such moneys are appropriated for the payment of expenses incurred in the administration of the "unemployment compensation law."
- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall determine the Unemployment Trust Reserve Ratio, which shall be calculated by dividing the balance of the unemployment trust fund as of the prior March 31 by total taxable wages reported to the controller by all employers as of March 31 with respect to their employment during the last calendar year.
- (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).
- (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2001, c.152).
 - (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2003, c.107).
- 28 (iv) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2004, c.45).

less than 4/10 of 1%.

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(v) With respect to the experience rating year beginning on July 1, 2003, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

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EXPERIENCE RATING TAX TABLE

Fund Reserve Ratio¹

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40		2.50%	2.00%	1.50%	1.00%	0.99%
41	Employer	and	to	to	to	and
42	Reserve	Over	2.49%	1.99%	1.49%	Under
43	Ratio ²	A	В	C	D	E
44	Positive Reserve Ratio:					
45	17% and over	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2
46	16.00% to 16.99%	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2

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1	15.00% to 15.99%	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2
2	14.00% to 14.99%	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2
3	13.00% to 13.99%	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2
4	12.00% to 12.99%	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2
5	11.00% to 11.99%	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
6	10.00% to 10.99%	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6
7	9.00% to 9.99%	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9
8	8.00% to 8.99%	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.3
9	7.00% to 7.99%	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6
10	6.00% to 6.99%	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0
11	5.00% to 5.99%	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.4
12	4.00% to 4.99%	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.7
13	3.00% to 3.99%	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9
14	2.00% to 2.99%	2.2	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0
15	1.00% to 1.99%	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.1
16	0.00% to 0.99%	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.0	4.3
17	Deficit Reserve Ratio:					
18	-0.00% to -2.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.6	6.1
19	-3.00% to -5.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.2
20	-6.00% to -8.99%	3.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3
21	-9.00% to-11.99%	3.5	4.5	5.3	5.9	6.4
22	-12.00%to-14.99%	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.5
23	-15.00%to-19.99%	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6
24	-20.00% to -24.99%	3.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.7
25	-25.00% to-29.99%	3.7	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.8
26	-30.00% to-34.99%	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.9
27	-35.00% and under	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0
28	New Employer Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4

Fund balance as of March 31 as a percentage of taxable wages in the prior calendar year.

(vi) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after July 1, 2004, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

² Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a percentage of employer's taxable wages).

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1	EXPERIENCE RATING TAX TABLE							
2	Fund Reserve Ratio 1							
3								
4		1.40%	1.00%	0.75%	0.50%	0.49%		
5	Employer	and	to	to	to	and		
6	Reserve	Over	1.39%	0.99%	0.74%	Under		
7	Ratio ²	A	В	C	D	E		
8	Positive Reserve Ratio:							
9	17% and over	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2		
10	16.00% to 16.99%	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2		
11	15.00% to 15.99%	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2		
12	14.00% to 14.99%	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2		
13	13.00% to 13.99%	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2		
14	12.00% to 12.99%	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2		
15	11.00% to 11.99%	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2		
16	10.00% to 10.99%	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6		
17	9.00% to 9.99%	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9		
18	8.00% to 8.99%	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.3		
19	7.00% to 7.99%	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6		
20	6.00% to 6.99%	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0		
21	5.00% to 5.99%	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.4		
22	4.00% to 4.99%	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.7		
23	3.00% to 3.99%	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9		
24	2.00% to 2.99%	2.2	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0		
25	1.00% to 1.99%	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.1		
26	0.00% to 0.99%	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.0	4.3		
27	Deficit Reserve Ratio:							
28	-0.00% to -2.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.6	6.1		
29	-3.00% to -5.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.2		
30	-6.00% to -8.99%	3.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3		
31	-9.00% to-11.99%	3.5	4.5	5.3	5.9	6.4		
32	-12.00%to-14.99%	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.5		
33	-15.00%to-19.99%	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6		
34	-20.00% to-24.99%	3.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.7		
35	-25.00%to-29.99%	3.7	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.8		
36	-30.00%to-34.99%	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.9		
37	-35.00% and under	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0		
38	New Employer Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4		
39	¹ Fund balance as of Marc	h 31 as	a perce	entage o	of taxab	le wage		
40	.1 1 1							

Fund balance as of March 31 as a percentage of taxable wages in the prior calendar year.

Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a percentage of employer's taxable wages).

^{44 (}F) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).

^{45 (}ii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after 46 July 1, 1997, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of

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the prior March 31, is less than 1.00%, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof.

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(iii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after July 1, 2004, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of the prior March 31, is less than 0.50%, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof.

13 (G) On or after January 1, 1993, notwithstanding any other 14 provisions of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each 15 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.1%, except that, 16 17 during any experience rating year starting before January 1, 1998 in which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 7.00% or 18 19 during any experience rating year starting on or after January 1, 1998, 20 in which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there 21 shall be no decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (G) in the 22 contribution of any employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of 23 negative 35.00% or under.

24 (H) On or after January 1, 1993 until December 31, 1993, 25 notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (5), the 26 contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as 27 computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be 28 decreased by a factor of 52.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 29 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of 30 negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not 31 be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The 32 amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the 33 34 reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) 35 of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under 36 37 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 38 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be 39 reduced to less than 0.0%. On or after January 1, 1994 until 40 December 31, 1995, except as provided pursuant to subparagraph (I) 41 of this paragraph (5), notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay 42 contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph 43 44 (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 36.0% computed to the nearest 45 multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve 46 ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution

1 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than

2 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions

3 stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount

4 of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by

5 subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of

6 contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative

35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H)

to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer

9 shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On or after April 1, 1996 until December 31, 1996, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 25.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On or after January 1, 1997 until December 31, 1997, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 10.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On and after January 1, 1998 until December 31, 2000 and on or after January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2006, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor, as set out below, computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%:

- From January 1, 1998 until December 31, 1998, a factor of 12%;
- From January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, a factor of 10%;
- From January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2000, a factor of 7%;
- 4 From January 1, 2002 until March 31,2002, a factor of 36%;
- 5 From April 1, 2002 until June 30, 2002, a factor of 85%;
- 6 From July 1, 2002 until June 30, 2003, a factor of 15%;
- From July 1, 2003 until June 30, 2004, a factor of 15%;
- 8 From July 1, 2004 until June 30, 2005, a factor of 7%; [and]
- 9 From July 1, 2005 until [June 30, 2006] <u>December 31, 2005</u>, a 10 factor of 16%; and
- From January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006, a factor of ¹[28%] 12 34%¹.

13 The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions 14 stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount 15 of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of 16 17 contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 18 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) 19 to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer 20 shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

(I) If the fund reserve ratio decreases to a level of less than 4.00% on March 31 of calendar year 1994 or calendar year 1995, the provisions of subparagraph (H) of this paragraph (5) shall cease to be in effect as of July 1 of that calendar year.

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25 If, upon calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve 26 ratio pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 1997, 27 March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, the controller finds that the fund 28 reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the 29 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development shall notify the 30 State Treasurer of this fact and of the dollar amount necessary to bring the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 3.00%. The State Treasurer 31 32 shall, prior to March 31, 1997, March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, as applicable, transfer from the General Fund to the unemployment 33 34 compensation fund, revenues in the amount specified by the 35 commissioner and which, upon deposit in the unemployment 36 compensation fund, shall result, upon recalculation, in a fund reserve 37 ratio used to determine employer contributions beginning July 1, 1997, 38 July 1, 1998, July 1, 1999, as applicable, of at least 3.00%. If, upon 39 calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve ratio 40 pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 2000, the 41 controller finds that the fund reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce 42 43 Development shall notify the State Treasurer of this fact and of the 44 dollar amount necessary to bring the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 45 3.00%. The State Treasurer shall, prior to March 31, 2000, transfer

from the General Fund to the unemployment compensation fund,

revenues in the amount specified by the commissioner and which, upon 2 deposit in the unemployment compensation fund, shall result, upon 3 recalculation, in a fund reserve ratio used to determine employer 4 contributions beginning July 1, 2000 of at least 3.00%.

5 (J) On or after July 1, 2001, notwithstanding any other provisions 6 of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to 7 pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this 8 paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.0175%, except that, during any 9 experience rating year starting on or after July 1, 2001, in which the 10 fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there shall be no 11 decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (J) in the contribution of any 12 employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.00% or under. 13 The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated 14 by this subparagraph (J) shall be in addition to the amount of the 15 reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraphs (G) and (H) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution 16 17 of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or 18 under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (J) to less 19 than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not 20 be reduced to less than 0.0%.

(6) Additional contributions.

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22 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employer who has 23 been assigned a contribution rate pursuant to subsection (c) of this 24 section for the year commencing July 1, 1948, and for any year 25 commencing July 1 thereafter, may voluntarily make payment of 26 additional contributions, and upon such payment shall receive a 27 recomputation of the experience rate applicable to such employer, 28 including in the calculation the additional contribution so made. Any 29 such additional contribution shall be made during the 30-day period 30 following the date of the mailing to the employer of the notice of his 31 contribution rate as prescribed in this section, unless, for good cause, 32 the time for payment has been extended by the controller for not to exceed an additional 60 days; provided that in no event may such 33 34 payments which are made later than 120 days after the beginning of 35 the year for which such rates are effective be considered in determining the experience rate for the year in which the payment is 36 37 made. Any employer receiving any extended period of time within 38 which to make such additional payment and failing to make such 39 payment timely shall be, in addition to the required amount of 40 additional payment, a penalty of 5% thereof or \$5.00, whichever is 41 greater, not to exceed \$50.00. Any adjustment under this subsection shall be made only in the form of credits against accrued or future 42 43 contributions.

(7) Transfers.

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45 (A) Upon the transfer of the organization, trade or business, or 46 substantially all the assets of an employer to a successor in interest,

1 whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise, 2 the controller shall transfer the employment experience of the 3 predecessor employer to the successor in interest, including credit for 4 past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et 5 cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer, pursuant to regulation, if it is determined that the employment experience of the 6 7 predecessor employer with respect to the organization, trade, assets 8 or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative 9 of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. 10 Unless the predecessor employer was owned or controlled (by legally 11 enforceable means or otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the 12 successor in interest, or the predecessor employer and the successor 13 in interest were owned or controlled (by legally enforceable means or 14 otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the same interest or interests, the 15 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor shall not be effective if such successor in interest, within four months of the date 16 17 of such transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or thereafter upon good cause shown, files a written notice protesting the 18 19 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor employer.

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- (B) An employer who transfers part of his or its organization, trade, assets or business to a successor in interest, whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise, may jointly make application with such successor in interest for transfer of that portion of the employment experience of the predecessor employer relating to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred to the successor in interest, including credit for past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer. The transfer of employment experience may be allowed pursuant to regulation only if it is found that the employment experience of the predecessor employer with respect to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. Credit shall be given to the successor in interest only for the years during which contributions were paid by the predecessor employer with respect to that part of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred.
- (C) A transfer of the employment experience in whole or in part having become final, the predecessor employer thereafter shall not be entitled to consideration for an adjusted rate based upon his or its experience or the part thereof, as the case may be, which has thus been transferred. A successor in interest to whom employment experience or a part thereof is transferred pursuant to this subsection shall, as of the date of the transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or part thereof, immediately become an employer if not theretofore an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.).
- (d) Contributions of workers to the unemployment compensation

1 fund and the State disability benefits fund.

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2 (1) (A) For periods after January 1, 1975, each worker shall 3 contribute to the fund 1% of his wages with respect to his employment 4 with an employer, which occurs on and after January 1, 1975, after such employer has satisfied the condition set forth in subsection (h) of 5 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer; provided, 6 7 however, that such contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1% of 8 wages paid with respect to employment while the worker is in the 9 employ of the State of New Jersey, or any governmental entity or 10 instrumentality which is an employer as defined under 11 R.S.43:21-19(h)(5), or is covered by an approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" or while the worker is 12 13 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits 14 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31).

- (B) Effective January 1, 1978 there shall be no contributions by workers in the employ of any governmental or nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions unless the employer is covered by the State plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-25 et seq.), and in that case contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1%, except that commencing July 1, 1986, workers in the employ of any nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions shall be required to make contributions to the fund at the same rate prescribed for workers of other nongovernmental employers.
- 26 (C) (i) Notwithstanding the above provisions of this paragraph (1), 27 during the period starting July 1, 1986 and ending December 31, 1992, 28 each worker shall contribute to the fund 1.125% of wages paid with 29 respect to his employment with a governmental employer electing or 30 required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including 31 a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under 32 R.S.43:21-19(h)(6), regardless of whether that nonprofit organization 33 elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to 34 the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer 35 has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection R.S.43:21-19(h) with respect to becoming an employer. Contributions, however, shall 36 37 be at the rate of 0.625% while the worker is covered by an approved 38 private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" while the 39 worker is exempt under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 40 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law; provided that such 41 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.625% of wages paid with respect 42 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 43 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make 44 payments in lieu of contributions and which is covered by the State 45 plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while 46 the worker is exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability

Benefits Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 1

- 2 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law, or is covered for
- 3 disability benefits by an approved private plan of the employer, the
- 4 contributions to the fund shall be 0.125%.
- (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.422.) 5
- (D) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (1), 6
- 7 during the period starting January 1, 1993 and ending June 30, 1994,
- 8 each worker shall contribute to the unemployment compensation fund
- 9 0.5% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a
- 10 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or
- 11 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which
- 12 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of
- 13 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects
- 14 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund
- 15 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has
- satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 16
- 17 with respect to becoming an employer. No contributions, however,
- shall be made by the worker while the worker is covered by an 18
- 19 approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law,"
- 20 P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et seq.) or while the worker is exempt
- 21 under section 7 of P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any other
- 22 provision of that law; provided that the contributions shall be at the
- 23 rate of 0.50% of wages paid with respect to employment with the
- State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or 24
- 25 instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of
- 26 contributions and which is covered by the State plan under the
- 27 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while the worker is
- 28 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits
- 29 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any
- 30 other provision of that law, or is covered for disability benefits by an
- 31 approved private plan of the employer, no contributions shall be made
- 32 to the fund.

- 33 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1996 and ending March
- 34 31, 1996, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.60%
- 35 of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a
- governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 36
- 37 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which
- 38 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of
- 39 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects
- 40 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund
- or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 42 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19
- 43 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions
- 44 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to
- 45 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental
- 46 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu

1 of contributions.

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2 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1998 and ending 3 December 31, 1998, contribute to the unemployment compensation 4 fund 0.10% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay 5 contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit 6 7 organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of 8 subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit 9 organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with 10 contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after 11 that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of 12 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the 13 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect 14 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 15 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions. 16

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.15% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

32 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2000 until December 31, 33 2001, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.20% of 34 wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a 35 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 36 37 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 38 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 39 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 40 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 41 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 42 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions 43 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to 44 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental 45 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu 46 of contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2004, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.1825% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or a nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on and after July 1, 2004, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.3825% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

- (E) Each employer shall, notwithstanding any provision of law in this State to the contrary, withhold in trust the amount of his workers' contributions from their wages at the time such wages are paid, shall show such deduction on his payroll records, shall furnish such evidence thereof to his workers as the division or controller may prescribe, and shall transmit all such contributions, in addition to his own contributions, to the office of the controller in such manner and at such times as may be prescribed. If any employer fails to deduct the contributions of any of his workers at the time their wages are paid, or fails to make a deduction therefor at the time wages are paid for the next succeeding payroll period, he alone shall thereafter be liable for such contributions, and for the purpose of R.S.43:21-14, such contributions shall be treated as employer's contributions required from him.
- 45 (F) As used in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), except when the 46 context clearly requires otherwise, the term "contributions" shall

1 include the contributions of workers pursuant to this section.

- 2 (G) Each worker shall, starting on July 1, 1994, contribute to the 3 State disability benefits fund an amount equal to 0.50% of wages paid 4 with respect to the worker's employment with a government employer electing or required to pay contributions to the State disability benefits 5 fund or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization 6 7 which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) 8 of R.S.43:21-19, unless the employer is covered by an approved 9 private disability plan or is exempt from the provisions of the 10 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 11 seq.) under section 7 of that law (C.43:21-31) or any other provision 12 of that law.
- 13 (2) (A) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 14 (B) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 15 (C) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 16 (D) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 17 (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 18 (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1996, c.28.)
- 19 (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 20 (3) If an employee receives wages from more than one employer 21 during any calendar year, and either the sum of his contributions 22 deposited in and credited to the State disability benefits fund plus the 23 amount of his contributions, if any, required towards the costs of 24 benefits under one or more approved private plans under the 25 provisions of section 9 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" 26 (C.43:21-33) and deducted from his wages, or the sum of such latter 27 contributions, if the employee is covered during such calendar year 28 only by two or more private plans, exceeds an amount equal to 1/2 of 29 1% of the "wages" determined in accordance with the provisions of 30 R.S.43:21-7(b)(3) during the calendar years beginning on or after 31 January 1, 1976, the employee shall be entitled to a refund of the 32 excess if he makes a claim to the controller within two years after the end of the calendar year in which the wages are received with respect 33 34 to which the refund is claimed and establishes his right to such refund. 35 Such refund shall be made by the controller from the State disability benefits fund. No interest shall be allowed or paid with respect to any 36 37 such refund. The controller shall, in accordance with prescribed 38 regulations, determine the portion of the aggregate amount of such 39 refunds made during any calendar year which is applicable to private 40 plans for which deductions were made under section 9 of the 41 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-33) such determination to be based upon the ratio of the amount of such wages exempt from 42 43 contributions to such fund, as provided in subparagraph (B) of 44 paragraph (1) of this subsection with respect to coverage under private 45 plans, to the total wages so exempt plus the amount of such wages 46 subject to contributions to the disability benefits fund, as provided in

1 subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of this subsection. The controller 2 shall, in accordance with prescribed regulations, prorate the amount 3 so determined among the applicable private plans in the proportion 4 that the wages covered by each plan bear to the total private plan wages involved in such refunds, and shall assess against and recover 5 6 from the employer, or the insurer if the insurer has indemnified the 7 employer with respect thereto, the amount so prorated. 8 provisions of R.S.43:21-14 with respect to collection of employer 9 contributions shall apply to such assessments. The amount so 10 recovered by the controller shall be paid into the State disability 11 benefits fund.

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- 12 (4) If an individual does not receive any wages from the employing unit which for the purposes of this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) is treated as his employer, or receives his wages from some other employing unit, such employer shall nevertheless be liable for such individual's contributions in the first instance; and after payment thereof such employer may deduct the amount of such contributions from any sums payable by him to such employing unit, or may recover the amount of such contributions from such employing unit, or, in the absence of such an employing unit, from such individual, in a civil action; provided proceedings therefor are instituted within three months after the date on which such contributions are payable. General rules shall be prescribed whereby such an employing unit may recover the amount of such contributions from such individuals in the same manner as if it were the employer.
 - (5) Every employer who has elected to become an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), or to cease to be an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), pursuant to the provisions of R.S.43:21-8, shall post and maintain printed notices of such election on his premises, of such design, in such numbers, and at such places as the director may determine to be necessary to give notice thereof to persons in his service.
 - (6) Contributions by workers, payable to the controller as herein provided, shall be exempt from garnishment, attachment, execution, or any other remedy for the collection of debts.
 - (e) Contributions by employers to State disability benefits fund.
- 37 (1) Except as hereinafter provided, each employer shall, in addition 38 to the contributions required by subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this 39 section, contribute 1/2 of 1% of the wages paid by such employer to 40 workers with respect to employment unless he is not a covered 41 employer as defined in section 3 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-27 (a)), except that the rate for the State of New 42 Jersey shall be 1/10 of 1% for the calendar year 1980 and for the first 43 44 six months of 1981. Prior to July 1, 1981 and prior to July 1 each year 45 thereafter, the controller shall review the experience accumulated in 46 the account of the State of New Jersey and establish a rate for the next

- 1 following fiscal year which, in combination with worker contributions,
- 2 will produce sufficient revenue to keep the account in balance; except
- 3 that the rate so established shall not be less than 1/10 of 1%. Such
- 4 contributions shall become due and be paid by the employer to the
- 5 controller for the State disability benefits fund as established by law,
- 6 in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall
- 7 not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of
- 8 individuals in his employ. In the payment of any contributions, a
- 9 fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to
- 10 \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.

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- (2) During the continuance of coverage of a worker by an approved private plan of disability benefits under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," the employer shall be exempt from the contributions required by subparagraph (1) above with respect to wages paid to such worker.
- (3) (A) The rates of contribution as specified in subparagraph (1) above shall be subject to modification as provided herein with respect to employer contributions due on and after July 1, 1951.
- (B) A separate disability benefits account shall be maintained for each employer required to contribute to the State disability benefits fund and such account shall be credited with contributions deposited in and credited to such fund with respect to employment occurring on and after January 1, 1949. Each employer's account shall be credited with all contributions paid on or before January 31 of any calendar year on his own behalf and on behalf of individuals in his service with respect to employment occurring in preceding calendar years; provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a Saturday or Sunday an employer's account shall be credited as of January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday or Sunday. But nothing in this act shall be construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior claims or rights to the amounts paid by him to the fund either on his own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid to any covered individual in accordance with Article III of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect to disability in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years shall be charged against the account of the employer by whom such individual was employed at the commencement of such disability or by whom he was last employed, if out of employment.
- (C) The controller may prescribe regulations for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.

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- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year, the controller shall make a preliminary determination of the rate of contribution for the 12 3 months commencing on such July 1 for each employer subject to the contribution requirements of this subsection (e).
- (1) Such preliminary rate shall be 1/2 of 1% unless on the preceding January 31 of such year such employer shall have been a covered employer who has paid contributions to the State disability 8 benefits fund with respect to employment in the three calendar years immediately preceding such year.
- 10 (2) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the credited contributions exceed the benefits charged by more 12 than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
- 13 (i) 2/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 exceeds 1% but is less 14 than 1 1/4% of his average annual payroll (as defined in this chapter 15 (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.);
- (ii) 15/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 16 17 1/4% but is less than 1 1/2% of his average annual payroll;
 - (iii) 1/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 1/2% of his average annual payroll.
 - (3) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the contributions credited exceed the benefits charged but by not more than \$500.00 plus 1% of his average annual payroll, or if the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited but by not more than \$500.00, the preliminary rate shall be 1/4 of 1%.
 - (4) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited by more than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
- 28 (i) 35/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 is less than 1/4 of 29 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 30 (ii) 45/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 31 1/4 of 1% but is less than 1/2 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 32 (iii) 55/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1/2 of 1% but is less than 3/4 of 1% of his average annual payroll; 33
- (iv) 65/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 34 3/4 of 1% but is less than 1% of his average annual payroll; 35
- (v) 75/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 36 37 1% of his average annual payroll.
- (5) Determination of the preliminary rate as specified in (2), (3) 38 39 and (4) above shall be subject, however, to the condition that it shall 40 in no event be decreased by more than 1/10 of 1% of wages or 41 increased by more than 2/10 of 1% of wages from the preliminary rate determined for the preceding year in accordance with (1), (2), (3) or 42 (4), whichever shall have been applicable. 43
- 44 (E) (1) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall 45 determine the amount of the State disability benefits fund as of 46 December 31 of the preceding calendar year, increased by the

- 1 contributions paid thereto during January of the current calendar year
- 2 with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year.
- 3 If such amount exceeds the net amount withdrawn from the
- 4 unemployment trust fund pursuant to section 23 of the "Temporary
- Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-47) plus the 5
- amount at the end of such preceding calendar year of the 6
- 7 unemployment disability account (as defined in section 22 of said law
- 8 (C.43:21-46), such excess shall be expressed as a percentage of the
 - wages on which contributions were paid to the State disability benefits
- 10 fund on or before January 31 with respect to employment in the
- 11 preceding calendar year.
- 12 (2) The controller shall then make a final determination of the rates 13 of contribution for the 12 months commencing July 1 of such year for 14 employers whose preliminary rates are determined as provided in (D)
- 15 hereof, as follows:

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- (i) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph 16 (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 1 1/4%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary rates determined as provided in (D) hereof, except that if the employer's preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(2) or (D)(3) hereof, the final employer rate shall be the preliminary employer rate decreased by such percentage of excess taken to the nearest 5/100 of 1%, but in no case shall such final rate
- 23 be less than 1/10 of 1%.
- 24 (ii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph 25 (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 3/4 of 1% and is less than 26 1 1/4 of 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer
- 27 rates.
- 28 (iii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph
- 29 (E)(1) of this subsection is less than 3/4 of 1%, but in excess of 1/4 of
- 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer rates 30
- 31 determined as provided in (D) hereof increased by the difference
- 32 between 3/4 of 1% and such percentage taken to the nearest 5/100 of
- 33 1%; provided, however, that no such final rate shall be more than 1/4
- 34 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined
- 35 as provided in (D)(2) hereof, more than 1/2 of 1% in the case of an
- employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(1) 36
- and (D)(3) hereof, nor more than 3/4 of 1% in the case of an employer 37
- 38 whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(4) hereof.
- 39 (iv) If the amount of the State disability benefits fund determined
- 40 as provided in paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection is equal to or less
- 41 than 1/4 of 1%, then the final rate shall be 2/5 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(2) 42
- hereof, 7/10 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate 43
- 44 is determined as provided in (D)(1) and (D)(3) hereof, and 1.1% in the
- 45 case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided
- 46 in (D)(4) hereof. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any

- determination made by the controller with respect to any 12-month
- 2 period commencing on July 1, 1970, the final rates for all employers
- for the period beginning January 1, 1971, shall be as set forth herein.
- 4 (cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.1)

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- 2. Section 5 of P.L.1970, c.324 (C.43:21-24.11) is amended to 6 7 read as follows:
- 8 5. For the purposes of the extended benefit program and as used 9 in this act, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - "Extended benefit period" means a period which
- 11 (1) Begins with the third week after a week for which there is a 12 state "on" indicator; and
- (2) Ends with either of the following weeks, whichever occurs 14 later:
- 15 (a) The third week after the first week for which there is a state "off" indicator; or 16
- 17 (b) The thirteenth consecutive week of such period; provided, that no extended benefit period may begin by reason of a state "on" 18 19 indicator before the fourteenth week after the close of a prior extended 20 benefit period which was in effect with respect to this State; and 21 provided further, that no extended benefit period may become 22 effective in this State prior to the effective date of this act.
 - b. (Deleted by amendment.)
 - (Deleted by amendment.)
 - There is a "state 'on' indicator" for this State for a week if:
 - (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks, the rate of insured unemployment (not seasonally adjusted) under the "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.):
 - (a) Equaled or exceeded 120% of the average of these rates for the corresponding 13-week period during each of the preceding 2 calendar years, and, for weeks beginning after September 25, 1982, equaled or exceeded 5%; or
- 35 (b) With respect to benefits for weeks of unemployment beginning after September 25, 1982, equaled or exceeded 6%; or 36
- (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after 37 38 December 27, 2003, the average seasonally adjusted rate of total 39 unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States 40 Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which 41 data for all states are published:
- 42 (a) Equals or exceeds 6.5%; and
- 43 (b) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate 44 of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the 45 corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding calendar years. 46

- e. There is a "state 'off' indicator" for this State for a week if [the]:
- (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of
 the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of
- 5 the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks,
- 6 [neither] paragraph (1) [or (2)] of subsection d. was <u>not</u> satisfied: 7 and
- 8 (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after
 9 December 27, 2003, as determined by the United States Secretary of
 10 Labor for the most recent three-month period for which data for all
- states are published, paragraph (2) of subsection d. was not satisfied.
- 12 f. "Rate of insured unemployment," for purposes of subsections 13 d. and e. means the percentage derived by dividing
- 14 (1) The average weekly number of individuals filing claims for 15 regular benefits in this State for weeks of unemployment with respect 16 to the most recent 13-consecutive-week period, as determined by the 17 division on the basis of its reports to the United States Secretary of 18 Labor, by
- 19 (2) The average monthly covered employment for the specified 20 period.
- g. "Regular benefits" means benefits payable to an individual under the "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) or under any other State law (including benefits payable to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) other than extended benefits.
- h. "Extended benefits" means benefits (including benefits payable to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) payable to an individual under the provisions of this act for weeks of unemployment in his eligibility period.
- i. "Eligibility period" of an individual means the period consisting of the weeks in his benefit year which begin in an extended benefit period and, if his benefit year ends within the extended benefit period, any weeks thereafter which begin in the period.
 - j. "Exhaustee" means an individual who, with respect to any week of unemployment in his eligibility period:

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36 (1) Has received prior to the week, all of the regular benefits that 37 were available to him under the "unemployment compensation law" 38 (R.S. 43:21-1 et seq.) or any other State law (including dependents' 39 allowances and benefits payable to federal civilian employees and ex-servicemen under 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) in his current benefit 40 year that includes such week, provided, that for the purposes of this 41 42 paragraph, an individual shall be deemed to have received all of the 43 regular benefits that were available to him although as a result of a 44 pending appeal with respect to wages and/or employment that were 45 not considered in the original monetary determination in his benefit year, he may subsequently be determined to be entitled to added 46

1 regular benefits; or

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- (2) His benefit year having expired prior to such week, has no, or insufficient, wages and/or employment on the basis of which he could establish a new benefit year that would include such week; and
- 5 (3) (a) has no right to unemployment benefits or allowances, as the 6 case may be, under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, the 7 Trade Expansion Act of 1962, the Automotive Products Trade Act of 8 1965 and such other federal laws as are specified in regulations issued 9 by the United States Secretary of Labor; and
 - (b) has not received and is not seeking unemployment benefits under the Unemployment Compensation Law of Canada; but if he is seeking these benefits and the appropriate agency finally determines that he is not entitled to benefits under that law he is considered an exhaustee if the other provisions of this definition are met.
 - k. "State law" means the unemployment insurance law of any state approved by the United States Secretary of Labor under section 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s.3304.
- 18 1. "High unemployment period" means any period beginning after 19 December 27, 2003 during which the average seasonally adjusted rate 20 of total unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States 21 Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which 22 data for all states are published:
 - (1) Equals or exceeds 8%; and
 - (2) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding calendar years.
- 28 (cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.3)

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3. This act shall take effect immediately.

35 Concerns redirection of unemployment taxes and extension of unemployment benefits.

ASSEMBLY, No. 4583

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 5, 2005

Sponsored by: Assemblyman PATRICK DIEGNAN, JR. District 18 (Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Concerns redirection of unemployment taxes and extension of unemployment benefits.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



AN ACT concerning the redirection of payroll taxes from the unemployment compensation fund to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and the extension of certain unemployment compensation benefits and amending R.S.43:21-7 and P.L.1970, c.324.

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6 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 7 of New Jersey:

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- 1. R.S.43:21-7 is amended to read as follows:
- 43:21-7. Contributions. Employers other than governmental 10 11 entities, whose benefit financing provisions are set forth in section 4 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.3), and those nonprofit organizations 12 liable for payment in lieu of contributions on the basis set forth in 13 14 section 3 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.2), shall pay to the controller 15 for the unemployment compensation fund, contributions as set forth 16 in subsections (a), (b) and (c) hereof, and the provisions of subsections 17 (d) and (e) shall be applicable to all employers, consistent with the provisions of the "unemployment compensation law" and the 18 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 19 20 seq.).
 - (a) Payment.
 - (1) Contributions shall accrue and become payable by each employer for each calendar year in which he is subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), with respect to having individuals in his employ during that calendar year, at the rates and on the basis hereinafter set forth. Such contributions shall become due and be paid by each employer to the controller for the fund, in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of individuals in his employ.
 - (2) In the payment of any contributions, a fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.
 - (b) Rate of contributions. Each employer shall pay the following contributions:
 - (1) For the calendar year 1947, and each calendar year thereafter, 2 7/10% of wages paid by him during each such calendar year, except as otherwise prescribed by subsection (c) of this section.
- 38 (2) The "wages" of any individual, with respect to any one 39 employer, as the term is used in this subsection (b) and in subsections 40 (c), (d) and (e) of this section 7, shall include the first \$4,800.00 paid 41 during calendar year 1975, for services performed either within or 42 without this State; provided that no contribution shall be required by 43 this State with respect to services performed in another state if such

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 other state imposes contribution liability with respect thereto. If an 2 employer (hereinafter referred to as a successor employer) during any 3 calendar year acquires substantially all the property used in a trade or 4 business of another employer (hereinafter referred to as a predecessor), or used in a separate unit of a trade or business of a 5 6 predecessor, and immediately after the acquisition employs in his trade or business an individual who immediately prior to the acquisition was 7 8 employed in the trade or business of such predecessors, then, for the 9 purpose of determining whether the successor employer has paid 10 wages with respect to employment equal to the first \$4,800.00 paid 11 during calendar year 1975, any wages paid to such individual by such 12 predecessor during such calendar year and prior to such acquisition 13 shall be considered as having been paid by such successor employer.

- 14 (3) For calendar years beginning on and after January 1, 1976, the 15 "wages" of any individual, as defined in the preceding paragraph (2) of this subsection (b), shall be established and promulgated by the 16 17 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development on or before 18 September 1 of the preceding year and shall be, 28 times the Statewide 19 average weekly remuneration paid to workers by employers, as 20 determined under R.S.43:21-3(c), raised to the next higher multiple of 21 \$100.00 if not already a multiple thereof, provided that if the amount 22 of wages so determined for a calendar year is less than the amount 23 similarly determined for the preceding year, the greater amount will be 24 used; provided, further, that if the amount of such wages so 25 determined does not equal or exceed the amount of wages as defined 26 in subsection (b) of section 3306 of the Federal Unemployment Tax 27 Act, Chapter 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 28 s.3306(b)), the wages as determined in this paragraph in any calendar 29 year shall be raised to equal the amount established under the Federal 30 Unemployment Tax Act for that calendar year.
 - (c) Future rates based on benefit experience.

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32 (1) A separate account for each employer shall be maintained and 33 this shall be credited with all the contributions which he has paid on 34 his own behalf on or before January 31 of any calendar year with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year; 35 36 provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a 37 Saturday or Sunday, an employer's account shall be credited as of 38 January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he 39 has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday 40 or Sunday. But nothing in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) shall be 41 construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior 42 claims or rights to the amounts paid by him into the fund either on his 43 own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid with respect 44 to benefit years commencing on and after January 1, 1953, to any 45 individual on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect to unemployment in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years 46

1 shall be charged against the account or accounts of the employer or 2 employers in whose employment such individual established base 3 weeks constituting the basis of such benefits, except that, with respect 4 to benefit years commencing after January 4, 1998, an employer's account shall not be charged for benefits paid to a claimant if the 5 6 claimant's employment by that employer was ended in any way which, pursuant to subsection (a), (b), (c), (f), (g) or (h) of R.S.43:21-5, 7 8 would have disqualified the claimant for benefits if the claimant had 9 applied for benefits at the time when that employment ended. Benefits 10 paid under a given benefit determination shall be charged against the 11 account of the employer to whom such determination relates. When 12 each benefit payment is made, either a copy of the benefit check or 13 other form of notification shall be promptly sent to the employer 14 against whose account the benefits are to be charged. Such copy or 15 notification shall identify the employer against whose account the amount of such payment is being charged, shall show at least the name 16 17 and social security account number of the claimant and shall specify 18 the period of unemployment to which said check applies. If the total 19 amount of benefits paid to a claimant and charged to the account of 20 the appropriate employer exceeds 50% of the total base year, base 21 week wages paid to the claimant by that employer, then such employer 22 shall have canceled from his account such excess benefit charges as 23 specified above. 24

Each employer shall be furnished an annual summary statement of benefits charged to his account.

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- (2) Regulations may be prescribed for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.
- (3) No employer's rate shall be lower than 5.4% unless assignment of such lower rate is consistent with the conditions applicable to additional credit allowance for such year under section 3303(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.3303(a)(1)), any other provision of this section to the contrary notwithstanding.
- 37 (4) Employer Reserve Ratio. (A) Each employer's rate shall be 2 38 8/10%, except as otherwise provided in the following provisions. No 39 employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July 1 of any calendar 40 year shall be other than 2 8/10%, unless as of the preceding January 31 41 such employer shall have paid contributions with respect to wages paid 42 in each of the three calendar years immediately preceding such year, 43 in which case such employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July 44 1 of any calendar year shall be determined on the basis of his record up 45 to the beginning of such calendar year. If, at the beginning of such calendar year, the total of all his contributions, paid on his own behalf, 46

- for all past years exceeds the total benefits charged to his account for all such years, his contribution rate shall be:
- 3 (1) 2 5/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 4%, but less than
- 4 5%, of his average annual payroll (as defined in paragraph (2),
- 5 subsection (a) of R.S.43:21-19);
- 6 (2) 2 2/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 5%, but is less than 7 6%, of his average annual payroll;
- 8 (3) 1 9/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 6%, but is less than 9 7%, of his average annual payroll;
- 10 (4) 1 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 7%, but is less than 8%, of his average annual payroll;
- 12 (5) 1 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 8%, but is less than 9%, of his average annual payroll;
- 14 (6) 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 9%, but is less than 10%, of his average annual payroll;
- 16 (7) 7/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less than 11%, of his average annual payroll;
- 18 (8) 4/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 11% of his average annual payroll.
- 20 (B) If the total of an employer's contributions, paid on his own 21 behalf, for all past periods for the purposes of this paragraph (4), is 22 less than the total benefits charged against his account during the same 23 period, his rate shall be:
- 24 (1) 4%, if such excess is less than 10% of his average annual 25 payroll;
- 26 (2) 4 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less than 27 20%, of his average annual payroll;
- 28 (3) 4 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 20% of his average annual payroll.
- 30 (C) Specially assigned rates. If no contributions were paid on 31 wages for employment in any calendar year used in determining the 32 average annual payroll of an employer eligible for an assigned rate 33 under this paragraph (4), the employer's rate shall be specially assigned 34 as follows:
- 35 (i) if the reserve balance in its account is positive, its assigned rate 36 shall be the highest rate in effect for positive balance accounts for that 37 period, or 5.4%, whichever is higher, and (ii) if the reserve balance in 38 its account is negative, its assigned rate shall be the highest rate in 39 effect for deficit accounts for that period.
- 40 (D) The contribution rates prescribed by subparagraphs (A) and (B) 41 of this paragraph (4) shall be increased or decreased in accordance 42 with the provisions of paragraph (5) of this subsection (c) for 43 experience rating periods through June 30, 1986.
- (5) (A) Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio. If on March 31
 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals
 or exceeds 4% but is less than 7% of the total taxable wages reported

1 to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the

- 2 preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1
- 3 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation
- 4 based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 3/10 of 1% over
- 5 the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of
- 6 paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection. If on March 31 of any
- 7 calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund exceeds 2
- 8 1/2% but is less than 4% of the total taxable wages reported to the
- 9 controller as of that date in respect to employment during the
- 10 preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1
- following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation
- based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 of 1% over
- 13 the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of
- paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection.

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15 If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund is less than 2 1/2% of the total taxable wages 16 17 reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment 18 during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 19 1 following, of each employer (1) eligible for a contribution rate 20 calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by (i) 21 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the 22 provisions of paragraph (3), (4)(A) or (4)(B) of this subsection, and 23 (ii) an additional amount equal to 20% of the total rate established 24 herein, provided, however, that the final contribution rate for each 25 employer shall be computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not 26 already a multiple thereof; (2) not eligible for a contribution rate 27 calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 28 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the 29 provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection. For the period 30 commencing July 1, 1984 and ending June 30, 1986, the contribution 31 rate for each employer liable to pay contributions under R.S.43:21-7 shall be increased by a factor of 10% computed to the nearest multiple 32 of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof. 33

(B) If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals or exceeds 10% but is less than 12 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be reduced by 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection; provided that in no event shall the contribution rate of any employer be reduced to less than 4/10 of 1%. If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals or exceeds 12 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar

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year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be reduced by 6/10 of 1% if his account for all past periods reflects an excess of contributions paid over total benefits charged of 3% or more of his average annual payroll, otherwise by 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection; provided that in no event shall the contribution rate of any employer be reduced to less than 4/10 of 1%.

- (C) The "balance" in the unemployment trust fund, as the term is used in subparagraphs (A) and (B) above, shall not include moneys credited to the State's account under section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C.s.1103), during any period in which such moneys are appropriated for the payment of expenses incurred in the administration of the "unemployment compensation law."
- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall determine the Unemployment Trust Reserve Ratio, which shall be calculated by dividing the balance of the unemployment trust fund as of the prior March 31 by total taxable wages reported to the controller by all employers as of March 31 with respect to their employment during the last calendar year.
 - (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).
 - (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2001, c.152).
- (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2003, c.107).
- 25 (iv) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2004, c.45).
 - (v) With respect to the experience rating year beginning on July 1, 2003, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

EXPERIENCE RATING TAX TABLE Fund Reserve Ratio¹

-						
37		2.50%	2.00%	1.50%	1.00%	0.99%
38	Employer	and	to	to	to	and
39	Reserve	Over	2.49%	1.99%	1.49%	Under
40	Ratio ²	A	В	C	D	E
41	Positive Reserve Ratio:					
42	17% and over	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2
43	16.00% to 16.99%	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2
44	15.00% to 15.99%	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2
45	14.00% to 14.99%	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2
46	13.00% to 13.99%	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2

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1	12.00% to 12.99%	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2
2	11.00% to 11.99%	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
3	10.00% to 10.99%	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6
4	9.00% to 9.99%	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9
5	8.00% to 8.99%	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.3
6	7.00% to 7.99%	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6
7	6.00% to 6.99%	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0
8	5.00% to 5.99%	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.4
9	4.00% to 4.99%	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.7
10	3.00% to 3.99%	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9
11	2.00% to 2.99%	2.2	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0
12	1.00% to 1.99%	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.1
13	0.00% to 0.99%	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.0	4.3
14	Deficit Reserve Ratio:					
15	-0.00% to -2.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.6	6.1
16	-3.00% to -5.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.2
17	-6.00% to -8.99%	3.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3
18	-9.00% to-11.99%	3.5	4.5	5.3	5.9	6.4
19	-12.00%to-14.99%	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.5
20	-15.00%to-19.99%	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6
21	-20.00% to -24.99%	3.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.7
22	-25.00%to-29.99%	3.7	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.8
23	-30.00% to-34.99%	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.9
24	-35.00% and under	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0
25	New Employer Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4
_	1				_	

Fund balance as of March 31 as a percentage of taxable wages in the prior calendar year.

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(vi) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after July 1, 2004, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

² Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a percentage of employer's taxable wages).

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EXPERIENCE RATING TAX TABLE							
rund Reserve Ratio							
	1 40%	1 00%	0.75%	0.50%	0.49%		
Employer					and		
- ·							
					E		
	11	D	C	D	L		
	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2		
					1.2		
					1.2		
					1.2		
					1.2		
					1.2		
					1.2		
					1.6		
					1.9		
					2.3		
					2.6		
					3.0		
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					3.7		
					3.9		
					4.0		
					4.0		
					4.1		
	2.4	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.3		
	2.4	1.2	5 1	5 6	<i>c</i> 1		
					6.1 6.2		
					6.3		
					6.4		
					6.5		
					6.6		
					6.7		
					6.8		
					6.9		
					7.0		
. *					3.4		
	n 31 as	a perce	entage c	oi taxab	ie wages		
	Employer Reserve Ratio ² Positive Reserve Ratio: 17% and over 16.00% to 16.99% 15.00% to 15.99% 14.00% to 14.99% 13.00% to 13.99% 12.00% to 12.99% 11.00% to 11.99% 10.00% to 10.99% 9.00% to 9.99% 8.00% to 8.99% 7.00% to 7.99% 6.00% to 6.99% 5.00% to 5.99% 4.00% to 4.99% 3.00% to 3.99% 2.00% to 2.99% 1.00% to 1.99% 0.00% to 1.99% 0.00% to -2.99% -3.00% to -5.99% -5.00% to -5.99% -15.00%to-14.99% -15.00%to-14.99% -25.00%to-24.99% -35.00% and under New Employer Rate	Fund Reserve 1.40% Employer Ratio ² A Positive Reserve Ratio: 17% and over 15.00% to 16.99% 14.00% to 14.99% 15.00% to 13.99% 16.00% to 12.99% 16.00% to 11.99% 170.00% to 11.99% 10.00% to 10.99% 10.00% to 10.99% 10.00% to 9.99% 10.00% to 9.99% 10.00% to 7.99% 1.4 6.00% to 6.99% 1.7 5.00% to 5.99% 1.9 4.00% to 4.99% 2.0 3.00% to 3.99% 2.1 2.00% to 1.99% 2.2 1.00% to 1.99% 2.3 0.00% to 2.99% 2.4 Deficit Reserve Ratio: -0.00% to -2.99% 3.4 -3.00% to -5.99% 3.4 -6.00% to -8.99% 3.5 -9.00% to -11.99% 3.6 -15.00%to-19.99% 3.6 -20.00%to-24.99% 3.7 -25.00%to-24.99% 3.8 -35.00% and under 5.4 New Employer Rate ¹ Fund balance as of March 31 as	Fund Reserve Ratio 1.40% 1.00% 1.00% 1.39% Reserve Qver 1.39% Ratio² A B Positive Reserve Ratio: 17% and over 0.3 0.4 0.5 15.00% to 16.99% 0.4 0.6 14.00% to 14.99% 0.5 0.6 0.7 12.00% to 13.99% 0.6 0.7 12.00% to 11.99% 0.6 0.8 11.00% to 11.99% 0.7 0.8 10.00% to 10.99% 0.9 1.1 9.00% to 9.99% 1.0 1.3 8.00% to 8.99% 1.3 1.6 7.00% to 7.99% 1.4 1.8 6.00% to 6.99% 1.7 2.1 5.00% to 5.99% 1.9 2.4 4.00% to 4.99% 2.0 2.6 3.00% to 3.99% 2.1 2.7 2.00% to 2.99% 2.2 2.8 1.00% to 1.99% 2.3 2.9 0.00% to 0.99% 3.4 4.3 3.0 0.00% to 1.99% 3.5 4.5	Fund Reserve Ratio I 1.40% 1.00% 0.75% employer and to to to Reserve Over 1.39% 0.99% Ratio A B C Positive Reserve Ratio: I 7% and over 0.3 0.4 0.5 16.00% to 16.99% 0.4 0.5 0.6 15.00% to 15.99% 0.4 0.6 0.7 14.00% to 14.99% 0.5 0.6 0.7 13.00% to 13.99% 0.6 0.7 0.8 12.00% to 11.99% 0.6 0.8 0.9 11.00% to 11.99% 0.7 0.8 1.0 10.00% to 10.99% 0.9 1.1 1.3 9.00% to 9.99% 1.0 1.3 1.6 1.9 7.00% to 7.99% 1.4 1.8 2.2 6.00% to 6.99% 1.7 2.1 2.5 5.00% to 5.99% 1.9 2.4 2.8 4.00% to 4.99% 2.0 2.6 3.1 3.00% to 3.99% 2.1 2.7 3.2 2.00% to 2.99% 2.1 2.7 3.2 2.00% to 2.99% 2.3 2.9 3.4 0.00% to 0.99% 2.3 2.9 3.4 0.00% to 0.99% 3.4 4.3 5.1 0.00% to 1.99% 3.5 4.5 5.3 0.00% to -2.99% 3.4 4.3 5.1 0.00% to -2.99% 3.4 4.3 5.1 0.00% to -2.99% 3.5 4.5 5.3 0.00% to -2.99% 3.5 4.6 5.4 5.4 5.4 5.8 0.00% to -2.99% 3.7 4.8 5.6 0.00% to -11.99% 3.5 4.5 5.3 0.00% to -11.99% 3.6 4.6 5.4 0.00% to -11.99% 3.6 4.6 5.4 0.00% to -11.99% 3.6 4.6 5.4 0.00% to -11.99% 3.6 4.6 5.5 0.00% to -11.99% 3.6 4.6 5.5 0.00% to -11.99% 3.7 4.8 5.6 0.00% to -2.99% 3.7 4.8 5.6 0.00% to -2.9.99% 3.7 4.8 5.6 0.00% to -2.9.9	Fund Reserve Ratio		

es in the prior calendar year. 40

² Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a 41 percentage of employer's taxable wages). 42

⁴⁴ (F) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).

⁴⁵ (ii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after 46 July 1, 1997, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of

1 the prior March 31, is less than 1.00%, the contribution rate for each

- 2 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- 3 (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10%
- 4 computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple
- 5 thereof.
- 6 (iii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after
- 7 July 1, 2004, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of
- 8 the prior March 31, is less than 0.50%, the contribution rate for each
- 9 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- 10 (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10%
- 11 computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple
- 12 thereof.
- 13 (G) On or after January 1, 1993, notwithstanding any other
- 14 provisions of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each
- 15 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- 16 (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.1%, except that,
- during any experience rating year starting before January 1, 1998 in
- 18 which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 7.00% or
- during any experience rating year starting on or after January 1, 1998,
- 20 in which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there
- 21 shall be no decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (G) in the
- 22 contribution of any employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of
- 23 negative 35.00% or under.
- 24 (H) On or after January 1, 1993 until December 31, 1993,
- 25 notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (5), the
- 26 contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as
- 27 computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be
- decreased by a factor of 52.0% computed to the nearest multiple of
- 29 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of
- 30 negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not
- 31 be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The
- amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by
- this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G)
- 35 of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an
- 36 employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under
- 37 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than
- 38 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be
- 39 reduced to less than 0.0%. On or after January 1, 1994 until
- 40 December 31, 1995, except as provided pursuant to subparagraph (I)
- 41 of this paragraph (5), notwithstanding any other provisions of this
- 42 paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay
- contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 36.0% computed to the nearest
- 44 (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 36.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve
- ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution

1 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than

- 2 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions
- 3 stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount
- 4 of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by
- 5 subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of
- 6 contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative
- 7 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H)
- 8 to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer
- 9 shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On or after April 1, 1996 until December 31, 1996, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 25.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On or after January 1, 1997 until December 31, 1997, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 10.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On and after January 1, 1998 until December 31, 2000 and on or after January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2006, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor, as set out below, computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%:

- From January 1, 1998 until December 31, 1998, a factor of 12%;
- From January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, a factor of 10%;
- From January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2000, a factor of 7%;
- 4 From January 1, 2002 until March 31,2002, a factor of 36%;
- 5 From April 1, 2002 until June 30, 2002, a factor of 85%;
- 6 From July 1, 2002 until June 30, 2003, a factor of 15%;
- From July 1, 2003 until June 30, 2004, a factor of 15%;
- 8 From July 1, 2004 until June 30, 2005, a factor of 7%; [and]
- 9 From July 1, 2005 until [June 30, 2006] <u>December 31, 2005</u>, a 10 factor of 16%; and
- 11 <u>From January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006, a factor of 28%.</u>

shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

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The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer

(I) If the fund reserve ratio decreases to a level of less than 4.00% on March 31 of calendar year 1994 or calendar year 1995, the provisions of subparagraph (H) of this paragraph (5) shall cease to be in effect as of July 1 of that calendar year.

23 24 If, upon calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve 25 ratio pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 1997, March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, the controller finds that the fund 26 27 reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development shall notify the 28 29 State Treasurer of this fact and of the dollar amount necessary to bring 30 the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 3.00%. The State Treasurer 31 shall, prior to March 31, 1997, March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, as 32 applicable, transfer from the General Fund to the unemployment 33 compensation fund, revenues in the amount specified by the commissioner and which, upon deposit in the unemployment 34 35 compensation fund, shall result, upon recalculation, in a fund reserve ratio used to determine employer contributions beginning July 1, 1997, 36 37 July 1, 1998, July 1, 1999, as applicable, of at least 3.00%. If, upon 38 calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve ratio 39 pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 2000, the 40 controller finds that the fund reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce 41 42 Development shall notify the State Treasurer of this fact and of the 43 dollar amount necessary to bring the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 44 3.00%. The State Treasurer shall, prior to March 31, 2000, transfer 45 from the General Fund to the unemployment compensation fund,

revenues in the amount specified by the commissioner and which, upon

deposit in the unemployment compensation fund, shall result, upon 2 recalculation, in a fund reserve ratio used to determine employer 3 contributions beginning July 1, 2000 of at least 3.00%.

4 (J) On or after July 1, 2001, notwithstanding any other provisions 5 of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to 6 pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this 7 paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.0175%, except that, during any 8 experience rating year starting on or after July 1, 2001, in which the 9 fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there shall be no 10 decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (J) in the contribution of any 11 employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.00% or under. 12 The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated 13 by this subparagraph (J) shall be in addition to the amount of the 14 reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraphs 15 (G) and (H) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or 16 17 under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (J) to less 18 than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not 19 be reduced to less than 0.0%.

(6) Additional contributions.

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21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employer who has 22 been assigned a contribution rate pursuant to subsection (c) of this 23 section for the year commencing July 1, 1948, and for any year 24 commencing July 1 thereafter, may voluntarily make payment of 25 additional contributions, and upon such payment shall receive a 26 recomputation of the experience rate applicable to such employer, 27 including in the calculation the additional contribution so made. Any 28 such additional contribution shall be made during the 30-day period 29 following the date of the mailing to the employer of the notice of his 30 contribution rate as prescribed in this section, unless, for good cause, the time for payment has been extended by the controller for not to 31 32 exceed an additional 60 days; provided that in no event may such 33 payments which are made later than 120 days after the beginning of 34 the year for which such rates are effective be considered in determining the experience rate for the year in which the payment is 35 made. Any employer receiving any extended period of time within 36 37 which to make such additional payment and failing to make such 38 payment timely shall be, in addition to the required amount of 39 additional payment, a penalty of 5% thereof or \$5.00, whichever is 40 greater, not to exceed \$50.00. Any adjustment under this subsection 41 shall be made only in the form of credits against accrued or future 42 contributions.

(7) Transfers.

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44 (A) Upon the transfer of the organization, trade or business, or 45 substantially all the assets of an employer to a successor in interest, 46 whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise,

1 the controller shall transfer the employment experience of the 2 predecessor employer to the successor in interest, including credit for 3 past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et 4 cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer, pursuant to regulation, if it is determined that the employment experience of the 5 6 predecessor employer with respect to the organization, trade, assets 7 or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative 8 of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. 9 Unless the predecessor employer was owned or controlled (by legally 10 enforceable means or otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the 11 successor in interest, or the predecessor employer and the successor 12 in interest were owned or controlled (by legally enforceable means or otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the same interest or interests, the 13 14 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor shall not be 15 effective if such successor in interest, within four months of the date of such transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or 16 thereafter upon good cause shown, files a written notice protesting the 17 18 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor employer.

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- (B) An employer who transfers part of his or its organization, trade, assets or business to a successor in interest, whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise, may jointly make application with such successor in interest for transfer of that portion of the employment experience of the predecessor employer relating to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred to the successor in interest, including credit for past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer. The transfer of employment experience may be allowed pursuant to regulation only if it is found that the employment experience of the predecessor employer with respect to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. Credit shall be given to the successor in interest only for the years during which contributions were paid by the predecessor employer with respect to that part of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred.
- (C) A transfer of the employment experience in whole or in part having become final, the predecessor employer thereafter shall not be entitled to consideration for an adjusted rate based upon his or its experience or the part thereof, as the case may be, which has thus been transferred. A successor in interest to whom employment experience or a part thereof is transferred pursuant to this subsection shall, as of the date of the transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or part thereof, immediately become an employer if not theretofore an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.).
- (d) Contributions of workers to the unemployment compensation fund and the State disability benefits fund.

1 (1) (A) For periods after January 1, 1975, each worker shall 2 contribute to the fund 1% of his wages with respect to his employment 3 with an employer, which occurs on and after January 1, 1975, after 4 such employer has satisfied the condition set forth in subsection (h) of 5 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer; provided, 6 however, that such contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1% of 7 wages paid with respect to employment while the worker is in the 8 employ of the State of New Jersey, or any governmental entity or 9 instrumentality which is an employer as defined under 10 R.S.43:21-19(h)(5), or is covered by an approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" or while the worker is 11 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits 12 13 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31). 14

(B) Effective January 1, 1978 there shall be no contributions by workers in the employ of any governmental or nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions unless the employer is covered by the State plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-25 et seq.), and in that case contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1%, except that commencing July 1, 1986, workers in the employ of any nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions shall be required to make contributions to the fund at the same rate prescribed for workers of other nongovernmental employers.

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25 (C) (i) Notwithstanding the above provisions of this paragraph (1), 26 during the period starting July 1, 1986 and ending December 31, 1992, 27 each worker shall contribute to the fund 1.125% of wages paid with 28 respect to his employment with a governmental employer electing or 29 required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including 30 a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under 31 R.S.43:21-19(h)(6), regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to 32 33 the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer 34 has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection R.S.43:21-19(h) with respect to becoming an employer. Contributions, however, shall 35 36 be at the rate of 0.625% while the worker is covered by an approved 37 private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" while the 38 worker is exempt under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 39 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law; provided that such 40 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.625% of wages paid with respect 41 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 42 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make 43 payments in lieu of contributions and which is covered by the State 44 plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while 45 the worker is exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 46

1 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law, or is covered for 2 disability benefits by an approved private plan of the employer, the 3 contributions to the fund shall be 0.125%.

- (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.422.)
- 4 5 (D) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (1), 6 during the period starting January 1, 1993 and ending June 30, 1994, 7 each worker shall contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 8 0.5% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a 9 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 10 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 11 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 12 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 13 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 14 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 15 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer. No contributions, however, 16 17 shall be made by the worker while the worker is covered by an 18 approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," 19 P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et seq.) or while the worker is exempt 20 under section 7 of P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any other 21 provision of that law; provided that the contributions shall be at the 22 rate of 0.50% of wages paid with respect to employment with the 23 State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or 24 instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of 25 contributions and which is covered by the State plan under the 26 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while the worker is 27 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits 28 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any 29 other provision of that law, or is covered for disability benefits by an 30 approved private plan of the employer, no contributions shall be made

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1996 and ending March 32 33 31, 1996, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.60% 34 of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 35 36 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 37 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 38 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 39 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 40 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 41 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 42 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions 43 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to 44 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental 45 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions. 46

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to the fund.

1 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1998 and ending 2 December 31, 1998, contribute to the unemployment compensation 3 fund 0.10% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment 4 with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit 5 6 organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of 7 subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit 8 organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with 9 contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after 10 that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of 11 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the 12 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect 13 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 14 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make 15 payments in lieu of contributions. 16

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.15% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

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31 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2001, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.20% of 32 wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a 33 34 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 35 36 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 37 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 38 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 39 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 40 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 41 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions 42 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to 43 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental 44 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu 45 of contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2004,

1 contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.1825% of wages

- 2 paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental
- 3 employer electing or required to pay contributions or a
- 4 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which
- 5 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of
- 6 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects
- or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has
- 9 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19
- with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions
- shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to
- employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental
- 12 chiployment with the State of New Jersey of any other governmental
- 13 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu
- 14 of contributions.

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contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on and after July 1, 2004, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.3825% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of

- (E) Each employer shall, notwithstanding any provision of law in this State to the contrary, withhold in trust the amount of his workers' contributions from their wages at the time such wages are paid, shall show such deduction on his payroll records, shall furnish such evidence thereof to his workers as the division or controller may prescribe, and shall transmit all such contributions, in addition to his own contributions, to the office of the controller in such manner and at such times as may be prescribed. If any employer fails to deduct the contributions of any of his workers at the time their wages are paid, or fails to make a deduction therefor at the time wages are paid for the next succeeding payroll period, he alone shall thereafter be liable for such contributions, and for the purpose of R.S.43:21-14, such contributions shall be treated as employer's contributions required from him.
- 44 (F) As used in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), except when the 45 context clearly requires otherwise, the term "contributions" shall 46 include the contributions of workers pursuant to this section.

- 1 (G) Each worker shall, starting on July 1, 1994, contribute to the 2 State disability benefits fund an amount equal to 0.50% of wages paid 3 with respect to the worker's employment with a government employer 4 electing or required to pay contributions to the State disability benefits fund or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization 5 6 which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, unless the employer is covered by an approved 7 8 private disability plan or is exempt from the provisions of the 9 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 10 seq.) under section 7 of that law (C.43:21-31) or any other provision 11 of that law.
- 12 (2) (A) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 13 (B) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 14 (C) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 15 (D) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 16 (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 17 (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1996, c.28.)
- 18 (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 19 (3) If an employee receives wages from more than one employer 20 during any calendar year, and either the sum of his contributions 21 deposited in and credited to the State disability benefits fund plus the 22 amount of his contributions, if any, required towards the costs of 23 benefits under one or more approved private plans under the provisions of section 9 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" 24 25 (C.43:21-33) and deducted from his wages, or the sum of such latter 26 contributions, if the employee is covered during such calendar year 27 only by two or more private plans, exceeds an amount equal to 1/2 of 28 1% of the "wages" determined in accordance with the provisions of 29 R.S.43:21-7(b)(3) during the calendar years beginning on or after 30 January 1, 1976, the employee shall be entitled to a refund of the 31 excess if he makes a claim to the controller within two years after the 32 end of the calendar year in which the wages are received with respect 33 to which the refund is claimed and establishes his right to such refund. 34 Such refund shall be made by the controller from the State disability benefits fund. No interest shall be allowed or paid with respect to any 35 such refund. The controller shall, in accordance with prescribed 36 37 regulations, determine the portion of the aggregate amount of such 38 refunds made during any calendar year which is applicable to private 39 plans for which deductions were made under section 9 of the 40 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-33) such determination 41 to be based upon the ratio of the amount of such wages exempt from 42 contributions to such fund, as provided in subparagraph (B) of 43 paragraph (1) of this subsection with respect to coverage under private 44 plans, to the total wages so exempt plus the amount of such wages 45 subject to contributions to the disability benefits fund, as provided in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of this subsection. The controller 46

- 1 shall, in accordance with prescribed regulations, prorate the amount
- 2 so determined among the applicable private plans in the proportion
- 3 that the wages covered by each plan bear to the total private plan
- 4 wages involved in such refunds, and shall assess against and recover
- 5 from the employer, or the insurer if the insurer has indemnified the
- 6 employer with respect thereto, the amount so prorated. The
- 7 provisions of R.S.43:21-14 with respect to collection of employer
- 8 contributions shall apply to such assessments. The amount so
- 9 recovered by the controller shall be paid into the State disability
- 10 benefits fund.

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- 11 (4) If an individual does not receive any wages from the employing 12 unit which for the purposes of this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) is 13 treated as his employer, or receives his wages from some other 14 employing unit, such employer shall nevertheless be liable for such 15 individual's contributions in the first instance; and after payment thereof such employer may deduct the amount of such contributions 16 17 from any sums payable by him to such employing unit, or may recover 18 the amount of such contributions from such employing unit, or, in the 19 absence of such an employing unit, from such individual, in a civil 20 action; provided proceedings therefor are instituted within three 21 months after the date on which such contributions are payable. General 22 rules shall be prescribed whereby such an employing unit may recover 23 the amount of such contributions from such individuals in the same 24 manner as if it were the employer.
 - (5) Every employer who has elected to become an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), or to cease to be an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), pursuant to the provisions of R.S.43:21-8, shall post and maintain printed notices of such election on his premises, of such design, in such numbers, and at such places as the director may determine to be necessary to give notice thereof to persons in his service.
 - (6) Contributions by workers, payable to the controller as herein provided, shall be exempt from garnishment, attachment, execution, or any other remedy for the collection of debts.
 - (e) Contributions by employers to State disability benefits fund.
- 36 (1) Except as hereinafter provided, each employer shall, in addition 37 to the contributions required by subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this 38 section, contribute 1/2 of 1% of the wages paid by such employer to 39 workers with respect to employment unless he is not a covered 40 employer as defined in section 3 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-27 (a)), except that the rate for the State of New 41 42 Jersey shall be 1/10 of 1% for the calendar year 1980 and for the first 43 six months of 1981. Prior to July 1, 1981 and prior to July 1 each year 44 thereafter, the controller shall review the experience accumulated in 45 the account of the State of New Jersey and establish a rate for the next following fiscal year which, in combination with worker contributions, 46

- 1 will produce sufficient revenue to keep the account in balance; except
- 2 that the rate so established shall not be less than 1/10 of 1%. Such
- 3 contributions shall become due and be paid by the employer to the
- 4 controller for the State disability benefits fund as established by law,
- 5 in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall
- 6 not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of
- 7 individuals in his employ. In the payment of any contributions, a
- 8 fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to
- 9 \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.

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- (2) During the continuance of coverage of a worker by an approved private plan of disability benefits under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," the employer shall be exempt from the contributions required by subparagraph (1) above with respect to wages paid to such worker.
- (3) (A) The rates of contribution as specified in subparagraph (1) above shall be subject to modification as provided herein with respect to employer contributions due on and after July 1, 1951.
- (B) A separate disability benefits account shall be maintained for each employer required to contribute to the State disability benefits fund and such account shall be credited with contributions deposited in and credited to such fund with respect to employment occurring on and after January 1, 1949. Each employer's account shall be credited with all contributions paid on or before January 31 of any calendar year on his own behalf and on behalf of individuals in his service with respect to employment occurring in preceding calendar years; provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a Saturday or Sunday an employer's account shall be credited as of January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday or Sunday. But nothing in this act shall be construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior claims or rights to the amounts paid by him to the fund either on his own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid to any covered individual in accordance with Article III of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect to disability in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years shall be charged against the account of the employer by whom such individual was employed at the commencement of such disability or by whom he was last employed, if out of employment.
- (C) The controller may prescribe regulations for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.
- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year, the controller shall make

a preliminary determination of the rate of contribution for the 12 months commencing on such July 1 for each employer subject to the contribution requirements of this subsection (e).

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- (1) Such preliminary rate shall be 1/2 of 1% unless on the preceding January 31 of such year such employer shall have been a covered employer who has paid contributions to the State disability benefits fund with respect to employment in the three calendar years immediately preceding such year.
- 9 (2) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled 10 and the credited contributions exceed the benefits charged by more 11 than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
- 12 (i) 2/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 exceeds 1% but is less 13 than 1 1/4% of his average annual payroll (as defined in this chapter 14 (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.);
- 15 (ii) 15/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 16 1/4% but is less than 1 1/2% of his average annual payroll;
- 17 (iii) 1/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 18 1/2% of his average annual payroll.
 - (3) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the contributions credited exceed the benefits charged but by not more than \$500.00 plus 1% of his average annual payroll, or if the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited but by not more than \$500.00, the preliminary rate shall be 1/4 of 1%.
 - (4) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited by more than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
 - (i) 35/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 is less than 1/4 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 29 (ii) 45/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 30 1/4 of 1% but is less than 1/2 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 31 (iii) 55/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 32 1/2 of 1% but is less than 3/4 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 33 (iv) 65/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 34 3/4 of 1% but is less than 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 35 (v) 75/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 36 1% of his average annual payroll.
- (5) Determination of the preliminary rate as specified in (2), (3) and (4) above shall be subject, however, to the condition that it shall in no event be decreased by more than 1/10 of 1% of wages or increased by more than 2/10 of 1% of wages from the preliminary rate determined for the preceding year in accordance with (1), (2), (3) or (4), whichever shall have been applicable.
- 43 (E) (1) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall 44 determine the amount of the State disability benefits fund as of 45 December 31 of the preceding calendar year, increased by the 46 contributions paid thereto during January of the current calendar year

- 1 with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year.
- 2 If such amount exceeds the net amount withdrawn from the
- 3 unemployment trust fund pursuant to section 23 of the "Temporary
- 4 Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-47) plus the
- 5 amount at the end of such preceding calendar year of the
- 6 unemployment disability account (as defined in section 22 of said law
- 7 (C.43:21-46), such excess shall be expressed as a percentage of the
- 8 wages on which contributions were paid to the State disability benefits
- 9 fund on or before January 31 with respect to employment in the
- 10 preceding calendar year.

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- (2) The controller shall then make a final determination of the rates of contribution for the 12 months commencing July 1 of such year for employers whose preliminary rates are determined as provided in (D) hereof, as follows:
- 15 (i) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 1 1/4%, the final employer 16 rates shall be the preliminary rates determined as provided in (D) 17 18 hereof, except that if the employer's preliminary rate is determined as 19 provided in (D)(2) or (D)(3) hereof, the final employer rate shall be 20 the preliminary employer rate decreased by such percentage of excess 21 taken to the nearest 5/100 of 1%, but in no case shall such final rate 22 be less than 1/10 of 1%.
 - (ii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 3/4 of 1% and is less than 1 1/4 of 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer rates.
- 27 (iii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph 28 (E)(1) of this subsection is less than 3/4 of 1%, but in excess of 1/4 of 29 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer rates 30 determined as provided in (D) hereof increased by the difference 31 between 3/4 of 1% and such percentage taken to the nearest 5/100 of 32 1%; provided, however, that no such final rate shall be more than 1/4 33 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined 34 as provided in (D)(2) hereof, more than 1/2 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(1) 35 and (D)(3) hereof, nor more than 3/4 of 1% in the case of an employer 36 37 whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(4) hereof.
- 38 (iv) If the amount of the State disability benefits fund determined 39 as provided in paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection is equal to or less 40 than 1/4 of 1%, then the final rate shall be 2/5 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(2) 41 42 hereof, 7/10 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate 43 is determined as provided in (D)(1) and (D)(3) hereof, and 1.1% in the 44 case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided 45 in (D)(4) hereof. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any determination made by the controller with respect to any 12-month 46

- 1 period commencing on July 1, 1970, the final rates for all employers
- 2 for the period beginning January 1, 1971, shall be as set forth herein.
- 3 (cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.1)

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- 5 2. Section 5 of P.L.1970, c.324 (C.43:21-24.11) is amended to 6 read as follows:
- 5. For the purposes of the extended benefit program and as usedin this act, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - a. "Extended benefit period" means a period which
- 10 (1) Begins with the third week after a week for which there is a state "on" indicator; and
- 12 (2) Ends with either of the following weeks, whichever occurs later:
- 14 (a) The third week after the first week for which there is a state 15 "off" indicator; or
 - (b) The thirteenth consecutive week of such period; provided, that no extended benefit period may begin by reason of a state "on" indicator before the fourteenth week after the close of a prior extended benefit period which was in effect with respect to this State; and provided further, that no extended benefit period may become effective in this State prior to the effective date of this act.
 - b. (Deleted by amendment.)
- c. (Deleted by amendment.)
- d. There is a "state 'on' indicator" for this State for a week if:
- 25 (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of 26 the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of 27 the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks, the rate 28 of insured unemployment (not seasonally adjusted) under the 29 "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.):
- 30 (a) Equaled or exceeded 120% of the average of these rates for the corresponding 13-week period during each of the preceding 2 calendar years, and, for weeks beginning after September 25, 1982, equaled or exceeded 5%; or
- 34 (b) With respect to benefits for weeks of unemployment beginning 35 after September 25, 1982, equaled or exceeded 6%; or
- 36 (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after 37 December 27, 2003, the average seasonally adjusted rate of total 38 unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States 39 Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which 40 data for all states are published:
- 41 (a) Equals or exceeds 6.5%; and
- 42 (b) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate 43 of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the 44 corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding 45 calendar years.
- e. There is a "state 'off' indicator" for this State for a week if

[the]<u>:</u>

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- (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of
 the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of
 the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks,
 [neither] paragraph (1) [or (2)] of subsection d. was not satisfied;
 and
- 7 (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after
 8 December 27, 2003, as determined by the United States Secretary of
 9 Labor for the most recent three-month period for which data for all
 10 states are published, paragraph (2) of subsection d. was not satisfied.
 - f. "Rate of insured unemployment," for purposes of subsectionsd. and e. means the percentage derived by dividing
- 13 (1) The average weekly number of individuals filing claims for 14 regular benefits in this State for weeks of unemployment with respect 15 to the most recent 13-consecutive-week period, as determined by the 16 division on the basis of its reports to the United States Secretary of 17 Labor, by
- 18 (2) The average monthly covered employment for the specified 19 period.
- g. "Regular benefits" means benefits payable to an individual under the "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) or under any other State law (including benefits payable to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) other than extended benefits.
- h. "Extended benefits" means benefits (including benefits payable to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) payable to an individual under the provisions of this act for weeks of unemployment in his eligibility period.
- i. "Eligibility period" of an individual means the period consisting of the weeks in his benefit year which begin in an extended benefit period and, if his benefit year ends within the extended benefit period, any weeks thereafter which begin in the period.
- j. "Exhaustee" means an individual who, with respect to any weekof unemployment in his eligibility period:
- (1) Has received prior to the week, all of the regular benefits that 35 36 were available to him under the "unemployment compensation law" 37 (R.S. 43:21-1 et seq.) or any other State law (including dependents' allowances and benefits payable to federal civilian employees and 38 39 ex-servicemen under 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) in his current benefit 40 year that includes such week, provided, that for the purposes of this paragraph, an individual shall be deemed to have received all of the 41 42 regular benefits that were available to him although as a result of a 43 pending appeal with respect to wages and/or employment that were 44 not considered in the original monetary determination in his benefit 45 year, he may subsequently be determined to be entitled to added regular benefits; or 46

A4583 DIEGNAN

- (2) His benefit year having expired prior to such week, has no, or insufficient, wages and/or employment on the basis of which he could establish a new benefit year that would include such week; and
 - (3) (a) has no right to unemployment benefits or allowances, as the case may be, under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, the Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965 and such other federal laws as are specified in regulations issued by the United States Secretary of Labor; and
- 9 (b) has not received and is not seeking unemployment benefits 10 under the Unemployment Compensation Law of Canada; but if he is seeking these benefits and the appropriate agency finally determines that he is not entitled to benefits under that law he is considered an 12 exhaustee if the other provisions of this definition are met.
 - "State law" means the unemployment insurance law of any state approved by the United States Secretary of Labor under section 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s.3304.
 - "High unemployment period" means any period beginning after December 27, 2003 during which the average seasonally adjusted rate of total unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which data for all states are published:
 - (1) Equals or exceeds 8%; and
 - (2) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding calendar years.

(cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.3) 27

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29 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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This bill makes the following corrections to the provisions of P.L.2005, c.123, which redirected \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and modified unemployment benefits, to better facilitate the implementation of that act:

To ensure that the \$350 million in payroll taxes which that act provides be redirected to the Health Care Subsidy Fund is successfully redirected, the bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 28% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006. The percentage redirected from July 1, 2005 until December 31, 2005 remains unchanged at 16%. The bill does not change the requirement to deposit into the unemployment compensation fund any amount of the redirected payroll taxes which exceeds \$350 million during the period from July

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- 1 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006.
- 2 2. The time period used to determine when to end a period of
- 3 extended unemployment benefits is brought into synchronization with
- 4 the time period used to determine when to begin a period of extended
- 5 benefits. This correction is necessary to conform with federal
- 6 requirements to receive 50% federal funding for the extended benefits.

ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4583

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 8, 2005

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4583, with committee amendments.

Assembly Bill No. 4583, as amended, modifies the redirection of unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and adjusts provisions concerning extended unemployment benefits.

The bill makes the following corrections to the provisions of P.L.2005, c.123, which redirected \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and modified unemployment benefits, to better facilitate the implementation of that act:

- 1. To ensure that the \$350 million in payroll taxes which that act provides be redirected to the Health Care Subsidy Fund is successfully redirected, the bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 34% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006. The percentage redirected from July 1, 2005 until December 31, 2005 remains unchanged at 16%. The bill does not change the requirement to deposit into the unemployment compensation fund any amount of the redirected payroll taxes which exceeds \$350 million during the period from July 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006.
- 2. The time period used to determine when to end a period of extended unemployment benefits is brought into synchronization with the time period used to determine when to begin a period of extended benefits. This correction is necessary to conform with federal requirements for the State to receive 50% federal funding for the extended benefits.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note. The bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 34% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006, but this is to fulfill the original purpose of P.L.2005, c.123 to redirect \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments change the increased percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006 from 28% to 34%.

SENATE, No. 2788

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 211th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 26, 2005

Sponsored by: Senator BERNARD F. KENNY, JR. District 33 (Hudson)

SYNOPSIS

Concerns redirection of unemployment taxes and extension of unemployment benefits.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



AN ACT concerning the redirection of payroll taxes from the 1 2 unemployment compensation fund to the Health Care Subsidy Fund 3 and the extension of certain unemployment compensation benefits 4 and amending R.S.43:21-7 and P.L.1970, c.324.

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6 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

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- 1. R.S.43:21-7 is amended to read as follows:
- 43:21-7. Contributions. Employers other than governmental 10 11 entities, whose benefit financing provisions are set forth in section 4 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.3), and those nonprofit organizations 12 liable for payment in lieu of contributions on the basis set forth in 13 section 3 of P.L.1971, c.346 (C.43:21-7.2), shall pay to the controller 14 15 for the unemployment compensation fund, contributions as set forth 16 in subsections (a), (b) and (c) hereof, and the provisions of subsections 17 (d) and (e) shall be applicable to all employers, consistent with the provisions of the "unemployment compensation law" and the 18 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 19 20 seq.).
 - (a) Payment.
 - (1) Contributions shall accrue and become payable by each employer for each calendar year in which he is subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), with respect to having individuals in his employ during that calendar year, at the rates and on the basis hereinafter set forth. Such contributions shall become due and be paid by each employer to the controller for the fund, in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of individuals in his employ.
 - (2) In the payment of any contributions, a fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.
- (b) Rate of contributions. Each employer shall pay the following 33 34 contributions:
 - (1) For the calendar year 1947, and each calendar year thereafter, 2 7/10% of wages paid by him during each such calendar year, except as otherwise prescribed by subsection (c) of this section.
- (2) The "wages" of any individual, with respect to any one 38 39 employer, as the term is used in this subsection (b) and in subsections 40 (c), (d) and (e) of this section 7, shall include the first \$4,800.00 paid 41 during calendar year 1975, for services performed either within or 42 without this State; provided that no contribution shall be required by 43 this State with respect to services performed in another state if such

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 other state imposes contribution liability with respect thereto. If an 2 employer (hereinafter referred to as a successor employer) during any 3 calendar year acquires substantially all the property used in a trade or 4 business of another employer (hereinafter referred to as a 5 predecessor), or used in a separate unit of a trade or business of a 6 predecessor, and immediately after the acquisition employs in his trade 7 or business an individual who immediately prior to the acquisition was 8 employed in the trade or business of such predecessors, then, for the 9 purpose of determining whether the successor employer has paid 10 wages with respect to employment equal to the first \$4,800.00 paid 11 during calendar year 1975, any wages paid to such individual by such 12 predecessor during such calendar year and prior to such acquisition 13 shall be considered as having been paid by such successor employer.

- 14 (3) For calendar years beginning on and after January 1, 1976, the 15 "wages" of any individual, as defined in the preceding paragraph (2) of this subsection (b), shall be established and promulgated by the 16 17 Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development on or before 18 September 1 of the preceding year and shall be, 28 times the Statewide 19 average weekly remuneration paid to workers by employers, as 20 determined under R.S.43:21-3(c), raised to the next higher multiple of 21 \$100.00 if not already a multiple thereof, provided that if the amount 22 of wages so determined for a calendar year is less than the amount 23 similarly determined for the preceding year, the greater amount will be 24 used; provided, further, that if the amount of such wages so 25 determined does not equal or exceed the amount of wages as defined 26 in subsection (b) of section 3306 of the Federal Unemployment Tax 27 Act, Chapter 23 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 28 s.3306(b)), the wages as determined in this paragraph in any calendar 29 year shall be raised to equal the amount established under the Federal 30 Unemployment Tax Act for that calendar year.
 - (c) Future rates based on benefit experience.

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32 (1) A separate account for each employer shall be maintained and 33 this shall be credited with all the contributions which he has paid on 34 his own behalf on or before January 31 of any calendar year with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year; 35 36 provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a 37 Saturday or Sunday, an employer's account shall be credited as of 38 January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he 39 has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday 40 or Sunday. But nothing in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) shall be 41 construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior 42 claims or rights to the amounts paid by him into the fund either on his 43 own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid with respect 44 to benefit years commencing on and after January 1, 1953, to any 45 individual on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect to unemployment in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years 46

1 shall be charged against the account or accounts of the employer or 2 employers in whose employment such individual established base 3 weeks constituting the basis of such benefits, except that, with respect 4 to benefit years commencing after January 4, 1998, an employer's account shall not be charged for benefits paid to a claimant if the 5 6 claimant's employment by that employer was ended in any way which, pursuant to subsection (a), (b), (c), (f), (g) or (h) of R.S.43:21-5, 7 8 would have disqualified the claimant for benefits if the claimant had 9 applied for benefits at the time when that employment ended. Benefits 10 paid under a given benefit determination shall be charged against the 11 account of the employer to whom such determination relates. When 12 each benefit payment is made, either a copy of the benefit check or 13 other form of notification shall be promptly sent to the employer 14 against whose account the benefits are to be charged. Such copy or 15 notification shall identify the employer against whose account the amount of such payment is being charged, shall show at least the name 16 17 and social security account number of the claimant and shall specify 18 the period of unemployment to which said check applies. If the total 19 amount of benefits paid to a claimant and charged to the account of 20 the appropriate employer exceeds 50% of the total base year, base 21 week wages paid to the claimant by that employer, then such employer 22 shall have canceled from his account such excess benefit charges as 23 specified above. 24

Each employer shall be furnished an annual summary statement of benefits charged to his account.

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- (2) Regulations may be prescribed for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.
- (3) No employer's rate shall be lower than 5.4% unless assignment of such lower rate is consistent with the conditions applicable to additional credit allowance for such year under section 3303(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. s.3303(a)(1)), any other provision of this section to the contrary notwithstanding.
- 37 (4) Employer Reserve Ratio. (A) Each employer's rate shall be 2 38 8/10%, except as otherwise provided in the following provisions. No 39 employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July 1 of any calendar 40 year shall be other than 2 8/10%, unless as of the preceding January 31 41 such employer shall have paid contributions with respect to wages paid 42 in each of the three calendar years immediately preceding such year, 43 in which case such employer's rate for the 12 months commencing July 44 1 of any calendar year shall be determined on the basis of his record up 45 to the beginning of such calendar year. If, at the beginning of such calendar year, the total of all his contributions, paid on his own behalf, 46

- for all past years exceeds the total benefits charged to his account for all such years, his contribution rate shall be:
- 3 (1) 2 5/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 4%, but less than
- 4 5%, of his average annual payroll (as defined in paragraph (2),
- 5 subsection (a) of R.S.43:21-19);
- 6 (2) 2 2/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 5%, but is less than 7 6%, of his average annual payroll;
- 8 (3) 1 9/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 6%, but is less than 9 7%, of his average annual payroll;
- 10 (4) 1 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 7%, but is less than 8%, of his average annual payroll;
- 12 (5) 1 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 8%, but is less than 9%, of his average annual payroll;
- 14 (6) 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 9%, but is less than 10%, of his average annual payroll;
- 16 (7) 7/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less than 11%, of his average annual payroll;
- 18 (8) 4/10 of 1%, if such excess equals or exceeds 11% of his average annual payroll.
- 20 (B) If the total of an employer's contributions, paid on his own 21 behalf, for all past periods for the purposes of this paragraph (4), is 22 less than the total benefits charged against his account during the same 23 period, his rate shall be:
- 24 (1) 4%, if such excess is less than 10% of his average annual 25 payroll;
- 26 (2) 4 3/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 10%, but is less than 27 20%, of his average annual payroll;
- 28 (3) 4 6/10%, if such excess equals or exceeds 20% of his average annual payroll.
- 30 (C) Specially assigned rates. If no contributions were paid on 31 wages for employment in any calendar year used in determining the 32 average annual payroll of an employer eligible for an assigned rate 33 under this paragraph (4), the employer's rate shall be specially assigned 34 as follows:

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- (i) if the reserve balance in its account is positive, its assigned rate shall be the highest rate in effect for positive balance accounts for that period, or 5.4%, whichever is higher, and (ii) if the reserve balance in its account is negative, its assigned rate shall be the highest rate in effect for deficit accounts for that period.
- (D) The contribution rates prescribed by subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph (4) shall be increased or decreased in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (5) of this subsection (c) for experience rating periods through June 30, 1986.
- (5) (A) Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio. If on March 31
 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals
 or exceeds 4% but is less than 7% of the total taxable wages reported

1 to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the

- 2 preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1
- 3 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation
- 4 based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 3/10 of 1% over
- the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of 5
- 6 paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection. If on March 31 of any
- 7 calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund exceeds 2
- 8 1/2% but is less than 4% of the total taxable wages reported to the
- 9 controller as of that date in respect to employment during the
- 10 preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1
- 11 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation
- 12 based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 of 1% over
- 13 the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of
- 14 paragraph (3) or (4) of this subsection.

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If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance of the unemployment trust fund is less than 2 1/2% of the total taxable wages 16 reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer (1) eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by (i) 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraph (3), (4)(A) or (4)(B) of this subsection, and (ii) an additional amount equal to 20% of the total rate established herein, provided, however, that the final contribution rate for each employer shall be computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof; (2) not eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be increased by 6/10 of 1% over the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraph (4) of this subsection. For the period commencing July 1, 1984 and ending June 30, 1986, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions under R.S.43:21-7 shall be increased by a factor of 10% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple thereof.

(B) If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals or exceeds 10% but is less than 12 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be reduced by 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection; provided that in no event shall the contribution rate of any employer be reduced to less than 4/10 of 1%. If on March 31 of any calendar year the balance in the unemployment trust fund equals or exceeds 12 1/2% of the total taxable wages reported to the controller as of that date in respect to employment during the preceding calendar

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year, the contribution rate, effective July 1 following, of each employer eligible for a contribution rate calculation based upon benefit experience, shall be reduced by 6/10 of 1% if his account for all past periods reflects an excess of contributions paid over total benefits charged of 3% or more of his average annual payroll, otherwise by 3/10 of 1% under the contribution rate otherwise established under the provisions of paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection; provided that in no event shall the contribution rate of any employer be reduced to less than 4/10 of 1%.

- (C) The "balance" in the unemployment trust fund, as the term is used in subparagraphs (A) and (B) above, shall not include moneys credited to the State's account under section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C.s.1103), during any period in which such moneys are appropriated for the payment of expenses incurred in the administration of the "unemployment compensation law."
- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall determine the Unemployment Trust Reserve Ratio, which shall be calculated by dividing the balance of the unemployment trust fund as of the prior March 31 by total taxable wages reported to the controller by all employers as of March 31 with respect to their employment during the last calendar year.
 - (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).
 - (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2001, c.152).
- (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2003, c.107).
- 25 (iv) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2004, c.45).
 - (v) With respect to the experience rating year beginning on July 1, 2003, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

EXPERIENCE RATING TAX TABLE Fund Reserve Ratio¹

J	,0						
3	37		2.50%	2.00%	1.50%	1.00%	0.99%
3	88	Employer	and	to	to	to	and
3	89	Reserve	Over	2.49%	1.99%	1.49%	Under
4	10	Ratio ²	A	В	C	D	E
4	1	Positive Reserve Ratio:					
4	12	17% and over	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2
4	13	16.00% to 16.99%	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2
4	14	15.00% to 15.99%	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2
4	15	14.00% to 14.99%	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2
4	16	13 00% to 13 99%	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2

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1	12.00% to 12.99%	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2
2	11.00% to 11.99%	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2
3	10.00% to 10.99%	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6
4	9.00% to 9.99%	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9
5	8.00% to 8.99%	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.3
6	7.00% to 7.99%	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6
7	6.00% to 6.99%	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0
8	5.00% to 5.99%	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.4
9	4.00% to 4.99%	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.7
10	3.00% to 3.99%	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9
11	2.00% to 2.99%	2.2	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0
12	1.00% to 1.99%	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.1
13	0.00% to 0.99%	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.0	4.3
14	Deficit Reserve Ratio:					
15	-0.00% to -2.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.6	6.1
16	-3.00% to -5.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.2
17	-6.00% to -8.99%	3.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3
18	-9.00% to-11.99%	3.5	4.5	5.3	5.9	6.4
19	-12.00%to-14.99%	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.5
20	-15.00%to-19.99%	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6
21	-20.00%to-24.99%	3.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.7
22	-25.00%to-29.99%	3.7	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.8
23	-30.00% to-34.99%	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.9
24	-35.00% and under	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0
25	New Employer Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4
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Fund balance as of March 31 as a percentage of taxable wages in the prior calendar year.

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(vi) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after July 1, 2004, the new employer rate or the unemployment experience rate of an employer under this section shall be the rate which appears in the column headed by the Unemployment Trust Fund Reserve Ratio as of the applicable calculation date and on the line with the Employer Reserve Ratio, as defined in paragraph 4 of this subsection (R.S.43:21-7 (c)(4)), as set forth in the following table:

² Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a percentage of employer's taxable wages).

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1	EXPERIENC	E RAT	ING TA	X TAI	BLE		
2	Fund Reserve Ratio ¹						
3							
4		1.40%	1.00%	0.75%	0.50%	0.49%	
5	Employer	and	to	to	to	and	
6	Reserve	Over	1.39%	0.99%	0.74%	Under	
7	Ratio ²	A	В	C	D	E	
8	Positive Reserve Ratio:						
9	17% and over	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	1.2	
10	16.00% to 16.99%	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	
11	15.00% to 15.99%	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	1.2	
12	14.00% to 14.99%	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.2	
13	13.00% to 13.99%	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.2	
14	12.00% to 12.99%	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.2	
15	11.00% to 11.99%	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	
16	10.00% to 10.99%	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6	
17	9.00% to 9.99%	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.9	
18	8.00% to 8.99%	1.3	1.6	1.9	2.1	2.3	
19	7.00% to 7.99%	1.4	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.6	
20	6.00% to 6.99%	1.7	2.1	2.5	2.8	3.0	
21	5.00% to 5.99%	1.9	2.4	2.8	3.1	3.4	
22	4.00% to 4.99%	2.0	2.6	3.1	3.4	3.7	
23	3.00% to 3.99%	2.1	2.7	3.2	3.6	3.9	
24	2.00% to 2.99%	2.2	2.8	3.3	3.7	4.0	
25	1.00% to 1.99%	2.3	2.9	3.4	3.8	4.1	
26	0.00% to 0.99%	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.0	4.3	
27	Deficit Reserve Ratio:						
28	-0.00% to -2.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.6	6.1	
29	-3.00% to -5.99%	3.4	4.3	5.1	5.7	6.2	
30	-6.00% to -8.99%	3.5	4.4	5.2	5.8	6.3	
31	-9.00% to-11.99%	3.5	4.5	5.3	5.9	6.4	
32	-12.00%to-14.99%	3.6	4.6	5.4	6.0	6.5	
33	-15.00%to-19.99%	3.6	4.6	5.5	6.1	6.6	
34	-20.00%to-24.99%	3.7	4.7	5.6	6.2	6.7	
35	-25.00%to-29.99%	3.7	4.8	5.6	6.3	6.8	
36	-30.00%to-34.99%	3.8	4.8	5.7	6.3	6.9	
37	-35.00% and under	5.4	5.4	5.8	6.4	7.0	
38	New Employer Rate	2.8	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.4	
39	¹ Fund balance as of Marc	h 31 as	a perce	entage c	of taxab	le wages	
40	the prior calendar year.						

s in the prior calendar year.

44 (F) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1997, c.263).

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45 (ii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after 46 July 1, 1997, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of

² Employer Reserve Ratio (Contributions minus benefits as a 41 42 percentage of employer's taxable wages).

1 the prior March 31, is less than 1.00%, the contribution rate for each

- 2 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- 3 (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10%
- 4 computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple
- 5 thereof.
- 6 (iii) With respect to experience rating years beginning on or after
- 7 July 1, 2004, if the fund reserve ratio, based on the fund balance as of
- 8 the prior March 31, is less than 0.50%, the contribution rate for each
- 9 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- 10 (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be increased by a factor of 10%
- 11 computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10% if not already a multiple
- 12 thereof.

- 13 (G) On or after January 1, 1993, notwithstanding any other
- 14 provisions of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each
- 15 employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph
- (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.1%, except that, 16
- 17 during any experience rating year starting before January 1, 1998 in
- 18 which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 7.00% or
- 19 during any experience rating year starting on or after January 1, 1998,
- 20 in which the fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there
- 21 shall be no decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (G) in the
- 22 contribution of any employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of
- 23 negative 35.00% or under.
- (H) On or after January 1, 1993 until December 31, 1993, 24
- 25 notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (5), the
- 26 contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as
- 27 computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be
- 28 decreased by a factor of 52.0% computed to the nearest multiple of
- 29 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of
- 30 negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not
- be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The 31
- 32 amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by
- 33 this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the 34 reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G)
- 35 of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an
- 36 employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under
- 37 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than
- 38 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be
- 39 reduced to less than 0.0%. On or after January 1, 1994 until
- 40 December 31, 1995, except as provided pursuant to subparagraph (I)
- 41 of this paragraph (5), notwithstanding any other provisions of this
- 42 paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay
- 43 contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph
- (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 36.0% computed to the nearest
- 45 multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve
- ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution 46

1 shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than

- 2 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions
- 3 stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount
- 4 of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by
- 5 subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of
- 6 contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative
- 7 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H)
- 8 to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer
- 9 shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

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On or after April 1, 1996 until December 31, 1996, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 25.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On or after January 1, 1997 until December 31, 1997, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor of 10.0% computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%. The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

On and after January 1, 1998 until December 31, 2000 and on or after January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2006, the contribution rate for each employer liable to pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this paragraph (5), shall be decreased by a factor, as set out below, computed to the nearest multiple of 1/10%, except 44 that, if an employer has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or under, the employer's rate of contribution shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) to less than 5.4%:

- From January 1, 1998 until December 31, 1998, a factor of 12%;
- From January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, a factor of 10%;
- From January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2000, a factor of 7%;
- 4 From January 1, 2002 until March 31,2002, a factor of 36%;
- 5 From April 1, 2002 until June 30, 2002, a factor of 85%;
- 6 From July 1, 2002 until June 30, 2003, a factor of 15%;
- From July 1, 2003 until June 30, 2004, a factor of 15%;
- 8 From July 1, 2004 until June 30, 2005, a factor of 7%; [and]
- 9 From July 1, 2005 until [June 30, 2006] <u>December 31, 2005</u>, a 10 factor of 16%; and
- 11 <u>From January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006, a factor of 26%.</u>

12 The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions 13 stipulated by this subparagraph (H) shall be in addition to the amount 14 of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraph (G) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of 15 16 contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 17 35.0% or under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (H) 18 to less than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer 19 shall not be reduced to less than 0.0%.

(I) If the fund reserve ratio decreases to a level of less than 4.00% on March 31 of calendar year 1994 or calendar year 1995, the provisions of subparagraph (H) of this paragraph (5) shall cease to be in effect as of July 1 of that calendar year.

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24 If, upon calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve 25 ratio pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 1997, March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, the controller finds that the fund 26 27 reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development shall notify the 28 29 State Treasurer of this fact and of the dollar amount necessary to bring 30 the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 3.00%. The State Treasurer 31 shall, prior to March 31, 1997, March 31, 1998 or March 31, 1999, as 32 applicable, transfer from the General Fund to the unemployment 33 compensation fund, revenues in the amount specified by the commissioner and which, upon deposit in the unemployment 34 35 compensation fund, shall result, upon recalculation, in a fund reserve ratio used to determine employer contributions beginning July 1, 1997, 36 37 July 1, 1998, July 1, 1999, as applicable, of at least 3.00%. If, upon 38 calculating the unemployment compensation fund reserve ratio 39 pursuant to R.S.43:21-7(c)(5)(D) prior to March 31, 2000, the 40 controller finds that the fund reserve ratio has decreased to a level of less than 3.00%, the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce 41 42 Development shall notify the State Treasurer of this fact and of the 43 dollar amount necessary to bring the fund reserve ratio up to a level of 44 3.00%. The State Treasurer shall, prior to March 31, 2000, transfer 45 from the General Fund to the unemployment compensation fund,

revenues in the amount specified by the commissioner and which, upon

deposit in the unemployment compensation fund, shall result, upon recalculation, in a fund reserve ratio used to determine employer contributions beginning July 1, 2000 of at least 3.00%.

4 (J) On or after July 1, 2001, notwithstanding any other provisions 5 of this paragraph (5), the contribution rate for each employer liable to 6 pay contributions, as computed under subparagraph (E) of this 7 paragraph (5), shall be decreased by 0.0175%, except that, during any 8 experience rating year starting on or after July 1, 2001, in which the 9 fund reserve ratio is equal to or greater than 3.5%, there shall be no 10 decrease pursuant to this subparagraph (J) in the contribution of any 11 employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.00% or under. 12 The amount of the reduction in the employer contributions stipulated 13 by this subparagraph (J) shall be in addition to the amount of the 14 reduction in the employer contributions stipulated by subparagraphs 15 (G) and (H) of this paragraph (5), except that the rate of contribution of an employer who has a deficit reserve ratio of negative 35.0% or 16 17 under shall not be reduced pursuant to this subparagraph (J) to less 18 than 5.4% and the rate of contribution of any other employer shall not 19 be reduced to less than 0.0%.

(6) Additional contributions.

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21 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any employer who has 22 been assigned a contribution rate pursuant to subsection (c) of this 23 section for the year commencing July 1, 1948, and for any year 24 commencing July 1 thereafter, may voluntarily make payment of 25 additional contributions, and upon such payment shall receive a 26 recomputation of the experience rate applicable to such employer, 27 including in the calculation the additional contribution so made. Any 28 such additional contribution shall be made during the 30-day period 29 following the date of the mailing to the employer of the notice of his 30 contribution rate as prescribed in this section, unless, for good cause, the time for payment has been extended by the controller for not to 31 32 exceed an additional 60 days; provided that in no event may such 33 payments which are made later than 120 days after the beginning of 34 the year for which such rates are effective be considered in determining the experience rate for the year in which the payment is 35 made. Any employer receiving any extended period of time within 36 37 which to make such additional payment and failing to make such 38 payment timely shall be, in addition to the required amount of 39 additional payment, a penalty of 5% thereof or \$5.00, whichever is 40 greater, not to exceed \$50.00. Any adjustment under this subsection 41 shall be made only in the form of credits against accrued or future 42 contributions.

(7) Transfers.

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44 (A) Upon the transfer of the organization, trade or business, or 45 substantially all the assets of an employer to a successor in interest, 46 whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise,

1 the controller shall transfer the employment experience of the 2 predecessor employer to the successor in interest, including credit for 3 past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et 4 cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer, pursuant to regulation, if it is determined that the employment experience of the 5 6 predecessor employer with respect to the organization, trade, assets 7 or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative 8 of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. 9 Unless the predecessor employer was owned or controlled (by legally 10 enforceable means or otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the 11 successor in interest, or the predecessor employer and the successor 12 in interest were owned or controlled (by legally enforceable means or 13 otherwise), directly or indirectly, by the same interest or interests, the 14 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor shall not be 15 effective if such successor in interest, within four months of the date of such transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or 16 thereafter upon good cause shown, files a written notice protesting the 17 18 transfer of the employment experience of the predecessor employer. 19

(B) An employer who transfers part of his or its organization, trade, assets or business to a successor in interest, whether by merger, consolidation, sale, transfer, descent or otherwise, may jointly make application with such successor in interest for transfer of that portion of the employment experience of the predecessor employer relating to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred to the successor in interest, including credit for past years, contributions paid, annual payrolls, benefit charges, et cetera, applicable to such predecessor employer. The transfer of employment experience may be allowed pursuant to regulation only if it is found that the employment experience of the predecessor employer with respect to the portion of the organization, trade, assets or business which has been transferred may be considered indicative of the future employment experience of the successor in interest. Credit shall be given to the successor in interest only for the years during which contributions were paid by the predecessor employer with respect to that part of the organization, trade, assets or business transferred.

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- (C) A transfer of the employment experience in whole or in part having become final, the predecessor employer thereafter shall not be entitled to consideration for an adjusted rate based upon his or its experience or the part thereof, as the case may be, which has thus been transferred. A successor in interest to whom employment experience or a part thereof is transferred pursuant to this subsection shall, as of the date of the transfer of the organization, trade, assets or business, or part thereof, immediately become an employer if not theretofore an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.).
- (d) Contributions of workers to the unemployment compensation fund and the State disability benefits fund.

1 (1) (A) For periods after January 1, 1975, each worker shall 2 contribute to the fund 1% of his wages with respect to his employment 3 with an employer, which occurs on and after January 1, 1975, after 4 such employer has satisfied the condition set forth in subsection (h) of 5 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer; provided, 6 however, that such contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1% of 7 wages paid with respect to employment while the worker is in the 8 employ of the State of New Jersey, or any governmental entity or 9 instrumentality which is an employer as defined under 10 R.S.43:21-19(h)(5), or is covered by an approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" or while the worker is 11 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits 12 13 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31). 14

(B) Effective January 1, 1978 there shall be no contributions by workers in the employ of any governmental or nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions unless the employer is covered by the State plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-25 et seq.), and in that case contributions shall be at the rate of 1/2 of 1%, except that commencing July 1, 1986, workers in the employ of any nongovernmental employer electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions shall be required to make contributions to the fund at the same rate prescribed for workers of other nongovernmental employers.

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25 (C) (i) Notwithstanding the above provisions of this paragraph (1), 26 during the period starting July 1, 1986 and ending December 31, 1992, 27 each worker shall contribute to the fund 1.125% of wages paid with 28 respect to his employment with a governmental employer electing or 29 required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including 30 a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under 31 R.S.43:21-19(h)(6), regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to 32 33 the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer 34 has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection R.S.43:21-19(h) with respect to becoming an employer. Contributions, however, shall 35 36 be at the rate of 0.625% while the worker is covered by an approved 37 private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" while the 38 worker is exempt under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 39 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law; provided that such 40 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.625% of wages paid with respect 41 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 42 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make 43 payments in lieu of contributions and which is covered by the State 44 plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while 45 the worker is exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 46

1 (C.43:21-31) or any other provision of that law, or is covered for 2 disability benefits by an approved private plan of the employer, the 3 contributions to the fund shall be 0.125%.

(ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1995, c.422.)

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5 (D) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this paragraph (1), 6 during the period starting January 1, 1993 and ending June 30, 1994, each worker shall contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 7 8 0.5% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a 9 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 10 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 11 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 12 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 13 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 14 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 15 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer. No contributions, however, 16 17 shall be made by the worker while the worker is covered by an 18 approved private plan under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," 19 P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et seq.) or while the worker is exempt 20 under section 7 of P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any other 21 provision of that law; provided that the contributions shall be at the 22 rate of 0.50% of wages paid with respect to employment with the 23 State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or 24 instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of 25 contributions and which is covered by the State plan under the 26 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," except that, while the worker is 27 exempt from the provisions of the "Temporary Disability Benefits 28 Law" under section 7 of that law, P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-31) or any 29 other provision of that law, or is covered for disability benefits by an 30 approved private plan of the employer, no contributions shall be made 31 to the fund.

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1996 and ending March 32 33 31, 1996, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.60% 34 of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 35 36 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 37 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 38 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 39 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 40 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 41 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 42 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions 43 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to 44 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental 45 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions. 46

1 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1998 and ending 2 December 31, 1998, contribute to the unemployment compensation 3 fund 0.10% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment 4 with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit 5 6 organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of 7 subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit 8 organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with 9 contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after 10 that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of 11 R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the 12 contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect 13 to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other 14 governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make 15 payments in lieu of contributions. 16

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 1999 until December 31, 1999, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.15% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

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31 Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2000 until December 31, 2001, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.20% of 32 wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a 33 34 governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or 35 nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which 36 is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of 37 R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects 38 or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund 39 or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has 40 satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 41 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions 42 shall be at the rate of 0.10% of wages paid with respect to 43 employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental 44 entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu 45 of contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on January 1, 2002 until June 30, 2004,

contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.1825% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or a nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions

shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu

14 of contributions.

Each worker shall, starting on and after July 1, 2004, contribute to the unemployment compensation fund 0.3825% of wages paid with respect to the worker's employment with a governmental employer electing or required to pay contributions or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, regardless of whether that nonprofit organization elects or is required to finance its benefit costs with contributions to the fund or by payments in lieu of contributions, after that employer has satisfied the conditions set forth in subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19 with respect to becoming an employer, provided that the contributions shall be at the rate of 0.0825% of wages paid with respect to employment with the State of New Jersey or any other governmental entity or instrumentality electing or required to make payments in lieu of contributions.

- (E) Each employer shall, notwithstanding any provision of law in this State to the contrary, withhold in trust the amount of his workers' contributions from their wages at the time such wages are paid, shall show such deduction on his payroll records, shall furnish such evidence thereof to his workers as the division or controller may prescribe, and shall transmit all such contributions, in addition to his own contributions, to the office of the controller in such manner and at such times as may be prescribed. If any employer fails to deduct the contributions of any of his workers at the time their wages are paid, or fails to make a deduction therefor at the time wages are paid for the next succeeding payroll period, he alone shall thereafter be liable for such contributions, and for the purpose of R.S.43:21-14, such contributions shall be treated as employer's contributions required from him.
- 44 (F) As used in this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), except when the 45 context clearly requires otherwise, the term "contributions" shall 46 include the contributions of workers pursuant to this section.

- 1 (G) Each worker shall, starting on July 1, 1994, contribute to the 2 State disability benefits fund an amount equal to 0.50% of wages paid 3 with respect to the worker's employment with a government employer 4 electing or required to pay contributions to the State disability benefits fund or nongovernmental employer, including a nonprofit organization 5 6 which is an employer as defined under paragraph (6) of subsection (h) of R.S.43:21-19, unless the employer is covered by an approved 7 8 private disability plan or is exempt from the provisions of the 9 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-25 et 10 seq.) under section 7 of that law (C.43:21-31) or any other provision 11 of that law.
- 12 (2) (A) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 13 (B) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1984, c.24.)
- 14 (C) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 15 (D) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 16 (E) (i) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 17 (ii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1996, c.28.)
- 18 (iii) (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.112.)
- 19 (3) If an employee receives wages from more than one employer 20 during any calendar year, and either the sum of his contributions 21 deposited in and credited to the State disability benefits fund plus the 22 amount of his contributions, if any, required towards the costs of 23 benefits under one or more approved private plans under the provisions of section 9 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" 24 25 (C.43:21-33) and deducted from his wages, or the sum of such latter 26 contributions, if the employee is covered during such calendar year 27 only by two or more private plans, exceeds an amount equal to 1/2 of 28 1% of the "wages" determined in accordance with the provisions of 29 R.S.43:21-7(b)(3) during the calendar years beginning on or after 30 January 1, 1976, the employee shall be entitled to a refund of the 31 excess if he makes a claim to the controller within two years after the 32 end of the calendar year in which the wages are received with respect 33 to which the refund is claimed and establishes his right to such refund. 34 Such refund shall be made by the controller from the State disability benefits fund. No interest shall be allowed or paid with respect to any 35 such refund. The controller shall, in accordance with prescribed 36 37 regulations, determine the portion of the aggregate amount of such 38 refunds made during any calendar year which is applicable to private 39 plans for which deductions were made under section 9 of the 40 "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-33) such determination 41 to be based upon the ratio of the amount of such wages exempt from 42 contributions to such fund, as provided in subparagraph (B) of 43 paragraph (1) of this subsection with respect to coverage under private 44 plans, to the total wages so exempt plus the amount of such wages 45 subject to contributions to the disability benefits fund, as provided in subparagraph (G) of paragraph (1) of this subsection. The controller 46

- shall, in accordance with prescribed regulations, prorate the amount
- 2 so determined among the applicable private plans in the proportion
- 3 that the wages covered by each plan bear to the total private plan
- 4 wages involved in such refunds, and shall assess against and recover
- 5 from the employer, or the insurer if the insurer has indemnified the
- 6 employer with respect thereto, the amount so prorated. The
- 7 provisions of R.S.43:21-14 with respect to collection of employer
- 8 contributions shall apply to such assessments. The amount so
- 9 recovered by the controller shall be paid into the State disability
- 10 benefits fund.

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- (4) If an individual does not receive any wages from the employing unit which for the purposes of this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) is treated as his employer, or receives his wages from some other employing unit, such employer shall nevertheless be liable for such individual's contributions in the first instance; and after payment thereof such employer may deduct the amount of such contributions from any sums payable by him to such employing unit, or may recover the amount of such contributions from such employing unit, or, in the absence of such an employing unit, from such individual, in a civil action; provided proceedings therefor are instituted within three months after the date on which such contributions are payable. General rules shall be prescribed whereby such an employing unit may recover the amount of such contributions from such individuals in the same manner as if it were the employer.
- (5) Every employer who has elected to become an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), or to cease to be an employer subject to this chapter (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.), pursuant to the provisions of R.S.43:21-8, shall post and maintain printed notices of such election on his premises, of such design, in such numbers, and at such places as the director may determine to be necessary to give notice thereof to persons in his service
- (6) Contributions by workers, payable to the controller as herein provided, shall be exempt from garnishment, attachment, execution, or any other remedy for the collection of debts.
 - (e) Contributions by employers to State disability benefits fund.
- 36 (1) Except as hereinafter provided, each employer shall, in addition 37 to the contributions required by subsections (a), (b), and (c) of this 38 section, contribute 1/2 of 1% of the wages paid by such employer to 39 workers with respect to employment unless he is not a covered 40 employer as defined in section 3 of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" (C.43:21-27 (a)), except that the rate for the State of New 41 42 Jersey shall be 1/10 of 1% for the calendar year 1980 and for the first 43 six months of 1981. Prior to July 1, 1981 and prior to July 1 each year 44 thereafter, the controller shall review the experience accumulated in 45 the account of the State of New Jersey and establish a rate for the next following fiscal year which, in combination with worker contributions, 46

- 1 will produce sufficient revenue to keep the account in balance; except
- 2 that the rate so established shall not be less than 1/10 of 1%. Such
- 3 contributions shall become due and be paid by the employer to the
- 4 controller for the State disability benefits fund as established by law,
- 5 in accordance with such regulations as may be prescribed, and shall
- 6 not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of
- 7 individuals in his employ. In the payment of any contributions, a
- 8 fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to
- 9 \$0.005 or more, in which case it shall be increased to \$0.01.

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- (2) During the continuance of coverage of a worker by an approved private plan of disability benefits under the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law," the employer shall be exempt from the contributions required by subparagraph (1) above with respect to wages paid to such worker.
- (3) (A) The rates of contribution as specified in subparagraph (1) above shall be subject to modification as provided herein with respect to employer contributions due on and after July 1, 1951.
- (B) A separate disability benefits account shall be maintained for each employer required to contribute to the State disability benefits fund and such account shall be credited with contributions deposited in and credited to such fund with respect to employment occurring on and after January 1, 1949. Each employer's account shall be credited with all contributions paid on or before January 31 of any calendar year on his own behalf and on behalf of individuals in his service with respect to employment occurring in preceding calendar years; provided, however, that if January 31 of any calendar year falls on a Saturday or Sunday an employer's account shall be credited as of January 31 of such calendar year with all the contributions which he has paid on or before the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday or Sunday. But nothing in this act shall be construed to grant any employer or individuals in his service prior claims or rights to the amounts paid by him to the fund either on his own behalf or on behalf of such individuals. Benefits paid to any covered individual in accordance with Article III of the "Temporary Disability Benefits Law" on or before December 31 of any calendar year with respect to disability in such calendar year and in preceding calendar years shall be charged against the account of the employer by whom such individual was employed at the commencement of such disability or by whom he was last employed, if out of employment.
- (C) The controller may prescribe regulations for the establishment, maintenance, and dissolution of joint accounts by two or more employers, and shall, in accordance with such regulations and upon application by two or more employers to establish such an account, or to merge their several individual accounts in a joint account, maintain such joint account as if it constituted a single employer's account.
- (D) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year, the controller shall make

- a preliminary determination of the rate of contribution for the 12 months commencing on such July 1 for each employer subject to the contribution requirements of this subsection (e).
- 4 (1) Such preliminary rate shall be 1/2 of 1% unless on the 5 preceding January 31 of such year such employer shall have been a 6 covered employer who has paid contributions to the State disability 6 benefits fund with respect to employment in the three calendar years 8 immediately preceding such year.
- 9 (2) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled 10 and the credited contributions exceed the benefits charged by more 11 than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
- 12 (i) 2/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 exceeds 1% but is less than 1 1/4% of his average annual payroll (as defined in this chapter 14 (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.);
- 15 (ii) 15/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 16 1/4% but is less than 1 1/2% of his average annual payroll;
- 17 (iii) 1/10 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 1 18 1/2% of his average annual payroll.

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- (3) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the contributions credited exceed the benefits charged but by not more than \$500.00 plus 1% of his average annual payroll, or if the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited but by not more than \$500.00, the preliminary rate shall be 1/4 of 1%.
- (4) If the minimum requirements in (1) above have been fulfilled and the benefits charged exceed the contributions credited by more than \$500.00, such preliminary rate shall be as follows:
- (i) 35/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 is less than 1/4 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 29 (ii) 45/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 30 1/4 of 1% but is less than 1/2 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 31 (iii) 55/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 32 1/2 of 1% but is less than 3/4 of 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 33 (iv) 65/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 34 3/4 of 1% but is less than 1% of his average annual payroll;
- 35 (v) 75/100 of 1% if such excess over \$500.00 equals or exceeds 36 1% of his average annual payroll.
- 37 (5) Determination of the preliminary rate as specified in (2), (3) and (4) above shall be subject, however, to the condition that it shall in no event be decreased by more than 1/10 of 1% of wages or 40 increased by more than 2/10 of 1% of wages from the preliminary rate determined for the preceding year in accordance with (1), (2), (3) or (4), whichever shall have been applicable.
- 43 (E) (1) Prior to July 1 of each calendar year the controller shall 44 determine the amount of the State disability benefits fund as of 45 December 31 of the preceding calendar year, increased by the 46 contributions paid thereto during January of the current calendar year

- 1 with respect to employment occurring in the preceding calendar year.
- 2 If such amount exceeds the net amount withdrawn from the
- 3 unemployment trust fund pursuant to section 23 of the "Temporary
- 4 Disability Benefits Law," P.L.1948, c.110 (C.43:21-47) plus the
- 5 amount at the end of such preceding calendar year of the
- 6 unemployment disability account (as defined in section 22 of said law
- 7 (C.43:21-46), such excess shall be expressed as a percentage of the
- 8 wages on which contributions were paid to the State disability benefits
- 9 fund on or before January 31 with respect to employment in the
- 10 preceding calendar year.

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- (2) The controller shall then make a final determination of the rates of contribution for the 12 months commencing July 1 of such year for employers whose preliminary rates are determined as provided in (D) hereof, as follows:
- 15 (i) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 1 1/4%, the final employer 16 rates shall be the preliminary rates determined as provided in (D) 17 18 hereof, except that if the employer's preliminary rate is determined as 19 provided in (D)(2) or (D)(3) hereof, the final employer rate shall be 20 the preliminary employer rate decreased by such percentage of excess 21 taken to the nearest 5/100 of 1%, but in no case shall such final rate 22 be less than 1/10 of 1%.
 - (ii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection equals or exceeds 3/4 of 1% and is less than 1 1/4 of 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer rates.
- 27 (iii) If the percentage determined in accordance with paragraph 28 (E)(1) of this subsection is less than 3/4 of 1%, but in excess of 1/4 of 29 1%, the final employer rates shall be the preliminary employer rates 30 determined as provided in (D) hereof increased by the difference between 3/4 of 1% and such percentage taken to the nearest 5/100 of 31 1%; provided, however, that no such final rate shall be more than 1/4 32 33 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined 34 as provided in (D)(2) hereof, more than 1/2 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(1) 35 and (D)(3) hereof, nor more than 3/4 of 1% in the case of an employer 36 37 whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(4) hereof.
- 38 (iv) If the amount of the State disability benefits fund determined 39 as provided in paragraph (E)(1) of this subsection is equal to or less 40 than 1/4 of 1%, then the final rate shall be 2/5 of 1% in the case of an 41 employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided in (D)(2) 42 hereof, 7/10 of 1% in the case of an employer whose preliminary rate 43 is determined as provided in (D)(1) and (D)(3) hereof, and 1.1% in the 44 case of an employer whose preliminary rate is determined as provided 45 in (D)(4) hereof. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or any determination made by the controller with respect to any 12-month 46

- 1 period commencing on July 1, 1970, the final rates for all employers
- 2 for the period beginning January 1, 1971, shall be as set forth herein.
- 3 (cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.1)

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- 5 2. Section 5 of P.L.1970, c.324 (C.43:21-24.11) is amended to 6 read as follows:
- 7 43:21-24.11 Definitions.
- 5. For the purposes of the extended benefit program and as usedin this act, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:
 - a. "Extended benefit period" means a period which
- 11 (1) Begins with the third week after a week for which there is a 12 state "on" indicator; and
- 13 (2) Ends with either of the following weeks, whichever occurs later:
- 15 (a) The third week after the first week for which there is a state 16 "off" indicator; or
- 17 (b) The thirteenth consecutive week of such period; provided, that
 18 no extended benefit period may begin by reason of a state "on"
 19 indicator before the fourteenth week after the close of a prior extended
 20 benefit period which was in effect with respect to this State; and
 21 provided further, that no extended benefit period may become
 22 effective in this State prior to the effective date of this act.
 - b. (Deleted by amendment.)
 - c. (Deleted by amendment.)
 - d. There is a "state 'on' indicator" for this State for a week if:
- (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks, the rate of insured unemployment (not seasonally adjusted) under the "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.):
- 31 (a) Equaled or exceeded 120% of the average of these rates for the 32 corresponding 13-week period during each of the preceding 2 calendar 33 years, and, for weeks beginning after September 25, 1982, equaled or 34 exceeded 5%; or
 - (b) With respect to benefits for weeks of unemployment beginning after September 25, 1982, equaled or exceeded 6%; or
- 37 (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after
 38 December 27, 2003, the average seasonally adjusted rate of total
 39 unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States
 40 Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which
 41 data for all states are published:
- 42 (a) Equals or exceeds 6.5%; and
- 43 (b) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate 44 of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the 45 corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding 46 calendar years.

- e. There is a "state 'off' indicator" for this State for a week if [the]:
- 2 (1) The division determines, in accordance with the regulations of
- 3 the United States Secretary of Labor, that for the period consisting of
- 4 the respective week and the immediately preceding 12 weeks,
- 5 [neither] paragraph (1) [or (2)] of subsection d. was <u>not</u> satisfied;
- 6 and

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- 7 (2) With respect to any week of unemployment beginning after
- 8 December 27, 2003, as determined by the United States Secretary of
- 9 Labor for the most recent three-month period for which data for all
- 10 states are published, paragraph (2) of subsection d. was not satisfied.
 - f. "Rate of insured unemployment," for purposes of subsections d. and e. means the percentage derived by dividing
- 13 (1) The average weekly number of individuals filing claims for
- 14 regular benefits in this State for weeks of unemployment with respect
- 15 to the most recent 13-consecutive-week period, as determined by the
- division on the basis of its reports to the United States Secretary of
- 17 Labor, by
- 18 (2) The average monthly covered employment for the specified
- 19 period.
- g. "Regular benefits" means benefits payable to an individual under
- 21 the "unemployment compensation law" (R.S.43:21-1 et seq.) or under
- 22 any other State law (including benefits payable to federal civilian
- 23 employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.)
- 24 other than extended benefits.
- 25 h. "Extended benefits" means benefits (including benefits payable
- 26 to federal civilian employees and to ex-servicemen pursuant to 5
- 27 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) payable to an individual under the provisions of
- 28 this act for weeks of unemployment in his eligibility period.
- i. "Eligibility period" of an individual means the period consisting
- 30 of the weeks in his benefit year which begin in an extended benefit
- 31 period and, if his benefit year ends within the extended benefit period,
- 32 any weeks thereafter which begin in the period.
 - j. "Exhaustee" means an individual who, with respect to any week
- 34 of unemployment in his eligibility period:
- 35 (1) Has received prior to the week, all of the regular benefits that
- were available to him under the "unemployment compensation law"
- 37 (R.S. 43:21-1 et seq.) or any other State law (including dependents'
- 38 allowances and benefits payable to federal civilian employees and
- 39 ex-servicemen under 5 U.S.C. s.8501 et seq.) in his current benefit
- 40 year that includes such week, provided, that for the purposes of this
- paragraph, an individual shall be deemed to have received all of the regular benefits that were available to him although as a result of a
- 43 pending appeal with respect to wages and/or employment that were
- 44 not considered in the original monetary determination in his benefit
- 45 year, he may subsequently be determined to be entitled to added
- 46 regular benefits; or

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- (2) His benefit year having expired prior to such week, has no, or insufficient, wages and/or employment on the basis of which he could establish a new benefit year that would include such week; and
- (3) (a) has no right to unemployment benefits or allowances, as the case may be, under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act, the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, the Automotive Products Trade Act of 1965 and such other federal laws as are specified in regulations issued by the United States Secretary of Labor; and
- (b) has not received and is not seeking unemployment benefits under the Unemployment Compensation Law of Canada; but if he is seeking these benefits and the appropriate agency finally determines that he is not entitled to benefits under that law he is considered an exhaustee if the other provisions of this definition are met.
- k. "State law" means the unemployment insurance law of any state approved by the United States Secretary of Labor under section 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. s.3304.
- 1. "High unemployment period" means any period beginning after December 27, 2003 during which the average seasonally adjusted rate of total unemployment in the State, as determined by the United States Secretary of Labor for the most recent three-month period for which data for all states are published:
 - (1) Equals or exceeds 8%; and
- (2) Equals or exceeds 110% of the average seasonally adjusted rate of total unemployment in the State during either or both of the corresponding three-month periods ending in the two preceding calendar years.
- 27 (cf: P.L.2005, c.123, s.3)

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill makes the following corrections to the provisions of P.L.2005, c.123, which redirected \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and modified unemployment benefits, to better facilitate the implementation of that act:

1. To ensure that the \$350 million in payroll taxes which that act provides be redirected to the Health Care Subsidy Fund is successfully redirected, the bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 26% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006. The percentage redirected from July 1, 2005 until December 31, 2005 remains unchanged at 16%. The bill does not change the requirement to deposit into the unemployment compensation fund any amount of the redirected payroll taxes which exceed \$350 million during the period from July

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- 1 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006.
- 2. The time period used to determine when to end a period of
- 3 extended unemployment benefits is brought into synchronization with
- 4 the time period used to determine when to begin a period of extended
- 5 benefits. This correction is necessary to conform with federal
- 6 requirements to receive 50% federal funding for the extended benefits.

SENATE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 2788

(with committee amendments)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 12, 2005

The Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 2788, with committee amendments.

As amended, this bill makes the following corrections to the provisions of P.L.2005, c.123, which redirected \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund and modified unemployment benefits, to better facilitate the implementation of that act:

- 1. To ensure that the \$350 million in payroll taxes is successfully redirected to the Health Care Subsidy Fund, the bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 34% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006. The percentage redirected from July 1, 2005 until December 31, 2005 remains unchanged at 16%. The bill does not change the requirement to deposit into the unemployment compensation fund any amount of the redirected payroll taxes which exceed \$350 million during the period from July 1, 2005 until June 30, 2006.
- 2. The time period used to determine when to end a period of extended unemployment benefits is brought into synchronization with the time period used to determine when to begin a period of extended benefits. This correction is necessary to conform with federal requirements to receive 50% federal funding for the extended benefits.

As amended, this bill is identical to Assembly Bill No. 4583 (1R).

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments increase the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006 from 26% to 34%.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note. The bill increases the percentage of employer unemployment contributions which are redirected from 16% to 34% during the period from January 1, 2006 until June 30, 2006, in order to fulfill the original purpose of

P.L.2005, c.123 (or the redirection of \$350 million in unemployment taxes to the Health Care Subsidy Fund).