

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1212

5 By: Representative Ladyman
6 By: Senator Irvin
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES
10 LAW; CONCERNING THE NONCHARGE OF EMPLOYER
11 CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
12 CLAIMS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE DIVISION OF WORKFORCE
17 SERVICES LAW; AND CONCERNING THE
18 NONCHARGE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS FOR
19 CERTAIN UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS;
20 AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.
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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-10-703(a), concerning employer rates and
27 separate accounts regarding an employer's unemployment benefit contributions,
28 is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

29 (7) At the discretion of the director, benefits paid with
30 respect to weeks of unemployment claimed starting the week ending on April 4,
31 2020, and after may be noncharged to the separate account of each employer in
32 the base period if the benefits are paid as the direct result of:

33 (A) The Governor declaring a disaster emergency under the
34 Arkansas Emergency Services Act of 1973, § 12-75-101 et seq.; or

35 (B) A disaster resulting in a state or federal disaster
36 declaration.



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2 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. It is the intent of the General Assembly
3 that the effective date of this act is retroactive to April 4, 2020.
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5 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
6 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the uncertainty for businesses
7 in Arkansas caused by a disaster emergency has caused a threat to state
8 revenue; that a need exists to allow for the Director of the Division of
9 Workforce Services to modify employer contributions for certain unemployment
10 insurance claims during a disaster emergency; and that this act is
11 immediately necessary because state revenues and businesses in Arkansas will
12 suffer if the Director of the Division of Workforce Services is unable to
13 noncharge employer contributions as a result of a disaster emergency and it
14 is the intent of the General Assembly that this act be retroactive to prevent
15 further harm to businesses and state revenues. Therefore, an emergency is
16 declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the
17 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
18 on:

19 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

20 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
21 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
22 bill; or

23 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is
24 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.
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