

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 217

5 By: Senator Trusty
6 By: Representative Rosenbaum
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE ARKANSAS
11 EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW; TO UPDATE WAGE
12 CALCULATIONS AND INDEXING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT
13 BENEFITS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
14

Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO AMEND VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE
16 ARKANSAS EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW.
17
18
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-10-215(a)(1)(A), concerning wage
23 calculations for unemployment benefits, is amended to read as follows:

24 (1)(A) For the purposes of §§ 11-10-701 - 11-10-715:

25 ~~(i) That part of remuneration paid to an individual~~
26 ~~by an employer with respect to employment during any calendar year prior to~~
27 ~~or ending December 31, 1992, which exceeds eight thousand dollars (\$8,000);~~

28 ~~(ii) For the calendar year beginning on and after~~
29 ~~January 1, 1993, that part of remuneration that exceeds eight thousand five~~
30 ~~hundred dollars (\$8,500); and~~

31 ~~(iii) For any calendar year beginning on and after~~
32 ~~January 1, 1994, that part of remuneration that exceeds nine thousand dollars~~
33 ~~(\$9,000).~~

34 (i) That part of remuneration paid to an individual
35 by an employer with respect to employment during any calendar year beginning
36 after December 31, 1994, and ending December 31, 2002, which exceeds nine



1 thousand dollars (\$9,000);

2 (ii) For the calendar year beginning after December
3 31, 2002, that part of remuneration which exceeds nine thousand five hundred
4 dollars (\$9,500); and

5 (iii) For any calendar year beginning after December
6 31, 2003, that part of remuneration which exceeds ten thousand dollars
7 (\$10,000).

8
9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 11-10-502(c), concerning indexing of
10 unemployment benefits, is amended to read as follows:

11 (c)(1) No weekly benefit amount shall be greater than sixty-six and
12 two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the state average weekly wage for insured
13 employment for the previous calendar year for benefit years beginning after
14 June 30, 1985.

15 (2) However, for benefit years beginning July 1, 2003 through
16 June 30, 2005, the maximum weekly benefit amount shall not exceed three
17 hundred forty five dollars (\$345).

18
19 SECTION 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
20 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that this act should go into effect
21 as soon as possible in order to bring the Arkansas Employment Security Law
22 into conformity with the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, as amended, so that
23 Arkansas employers may continue to receive the tax credits accorded by the
24 Federal Unemployment Tax Act and the Arkansas workers may receive
25 unemployment benefits when they are unemployed. Therefore, an emergency is
26 declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the
27 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective
28 on:

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

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

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