

1 HB539
2 148900-2
3 By Representatives Warren, Vance, McCampbell and Beckman
4 RFD: Commerce and Small Business
5 First Read: 02-APR-13

1 ENGROSSED

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4 A BILL
5 TO BE ENTITLED
6 AN ACT
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8 Relating to unemployment compensation; to amend
9 Section 25-4-72, Code of Alabama 1975, to increase the weekly
10 maximum benefit to \$275 beginning July 5, 2013, and to \$285
11 beginning July 5, 2014.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

13 Section 1. Section 25-4-72, Code of Alabama 1975, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "§25-4-72.

16 "(a) For weeks of unemployment during benefit years
17 which begin before the effective date of subsection (b) of
18 this section, an individual's weekly benefit amount shall be
19 as prescribed by this section as amended through July 6, 1997.

20 "(b) For weeks of unemployment during benefit years
21 beginning on or after July 2, 2006, an individual's weekly
22 benefit amount shall be an amount equal to one twenty-sixth of
23 the average of the wages for insured work paid to the
24 individual during the two quarters of his or her base period
25 in which the total wages were the highest; except, that:

26 "(1) If the amount thus derived is not a multiple of
27 one dollar (\$1), fractional parts of one dollar (\$1) in excess

1 of fifty cents (\$.50) shall be rounded to the next higher
2 multiple of one dollar (\$1) and fractional parts of one dollar
3 (\$1) which are fifty cents (\$.50) or less shall be dropped to
4 the next lower multiple of one dollar (\$1).

5 "(2) If the amount derived before the application of
6 subdivision (1) of this subsection is not in excess of
7 forty-four dollars fifty cents (\$44.50), there shall be no
8 weekly benefit amount.

9 "(3) Effective with benefit years beginning on or
10 after July 6, 2008, if the amount thus derived is more than
11 two hundred fifty-four dollars fifty cents (\$254.50), the
12 weekly maximum benefit amount shall be two hundred fifty-five
13 dollars (\$255).

14 "(4) Effective with benefit years beginning on or
15 after July 5, 2009, if the amount thus derived is more than
16 two hundred sixty-four dollars fifty cents (\$264.50), the
17 weekly maximum benefit shall be two hundred sixty-five dollars
18 (\$265).

19 "(5) Effective with benefit years beginning on or
20 after July 5, 2013, if the amount thus derived is more than
21 two hundred seventy-four dollars fifty cents (\$274.50), the
22 weekly maximum benefit shall be two hundred seventy-five
23 dollars (\$275).

24 "(6) Effective with benefit years beginning on or
25 after July 5, 2014, if the amount thus derived is more than
26 two hundred eighty-four dollars fifty cents (\$284.50), the

1 weekly maximum benefit shall be two hundred eighty-five
2 dollars (\$285).

3 "(c) If, as a condition for approval of this section
4 for full tax credit against the tax imposed by the federal
5 Unemployment Tax Act, federal law should require a greater
6 maximum weekly benefit amount than that provided herein, then
7 the maximum weekly benefit amount shall be the minimum
8 required by any such federal law for such approval.

9 "(d) Nothing herein shall serve to deprive any
10 individual of any benefit for which he or she had qualified in
11 any benefit year beginning prior to the effective date of the
12 provisions of subsection (b) of this section.

13 "(e) There is hereby appropriated out of funds made
14 available to this state under Section 903 of the Social
15 Security Act, as amended by Title II, Section 209, "Special
16 Reed Act Transfer in Fiscal Year 2002," of the "Temporary
17 Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002," as contained
18 in the "Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002," an
19 amount not to exceed 15 percent of the funds, or so much
20 thereof to be used as may be necessary, under the direction of
21 the State of Alabama, Department of ~~Industrial Relations~~
22 Labor, for the expenses incurred for the administration of
23 this state's unemployment compensation law and public
24 employment offices. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the
25 additional amount of up to \$7,940,119 of "Reed Act" funds may
26 be withdrawn from the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund and
27 used for administrative purposes from May 29, 2008, until

1 September 30, 2009. Furthermore, whatever amount is withdrawn
2 during this time period, that amount shall not change the
3 Employer Tax Schedules pursuant to Section 25-4-54 for the
4 calendar year beginning January 1, 2010."

5 Section 2. This act shall become effective
6 immediately following its passage and approval by the
7 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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House of Representatives

Read for the first time and re-
ferred to the House of Representa-
tives committee on Commerce and
Small Business..... 02-APR-13

Read for the second time and placed
on the calendar 1 amendment 10-APR-13

Read for the third time and passed
as amended..... 18-APR-13

Yeas 54, Nays 33, Abstains 6

Jeff Woodard
Clerk