HOUSE BILL 1394

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Representatives Reykdal, Manweller, Sells, Hunt, Green, Van De Wege, and Appleton; by request of Employment Security Department

Read first time 01/25/13. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to changing the employment security department's 2 settlement authority; amending RCW 50.24.020; and creating a new 3 section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 Sec. 1. RCW 50.24.020 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 23 s 14 are each 6 amended to read as follows:

7 The commissioner may compromise any claim for contributions, 8 interest, or penalties due and owing from an employer, and any amount 9 owed by an individual because of benefit overpayments((, whether 10 reduced to judgment or otherwise,)) existing or arising under this 11 title in any case where collection of the full ((claim, in the case of contributions, interest, or penalties, would result in the insolvency 12 13 of the employing unit or individual from whom such contributions, interest, or penalties are claimed, and any case where collection of 14 15 the full amount of benefit overpayments made to an individual)) amount 16 due and owing, whether reduced to judgment or otherwise, would be 17 against equity and good conscience.

18 Whenever a compromise is made by the commissioner in the case of a 19 claim for contributions, interest, or penalties, <u>whether reduced to</u>

judgment or otherwise, there shall be placed on file in the office of 1 2 the unemployment compensation division a statement of the amount of 3 contributions, interest, and penalties imposed by law and claimed due, 4 attorneys' fees and costs, if any, a complete record of the compromise agreement, and the amount actually paid in accordance with the terms of 5 the compromise agreement. Whenever a compromise is made by the 6 7 commissioner in the case of a claim of a benefit overpayment, whether 8 reduced to judgment or otherwise, there shall be placed on file in the office of the unemployment compensation division a statement of the 9 10 amount of the benefit overpayment, attorneys' fees and costs, if any, 11 a complete record of the compromise agreement, and the amount actually 12 paid in accordance with the terms of the compromise agreement.

13 If any such compromise is accepted by the commissioner, within such 14 time as may be stated in the compromise or agreed to, such compromise shall be final and conclusive and except upon showing of fraud or 15 malfeasance or misrepresentation of a material fact the case shall not 16 17 be reopened as to the matters agreed upon. In any suit, action, or 18 proceeding, such agreement or any determination, collection, payment, 19 adjustment, refund, or credit made in accordance therewith shall not be annulled, modified, set aside, or disregarded. 20

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If any part of this act is found to be in 22 conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to 23 the allocation of federal funds to the state or the eligibility of employers in this state for federal unemployment tax credits, the 24 25 conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the 26 conflict, and the finding or determination does not affect the operation of the remainder of this act. Rules adopted under this act 27 must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the 28 29 receipt of federal funds by the state or the granting of federal 30 unemployment tax credits to employers in this state.

31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 3. If any provision of this act or its 32 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the 33 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other 34 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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