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HOUSE BILL 1649

State of Washington 54th Legislature 1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Goldsmith, Romero, Lisk, Schoesler and Elliot; by request of Employment Security Department

Read first time 02/02/95. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to disqualification from unemployment compensation;
- 2 and amending RCW 50.20.065 and 50.20.160.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 50.20.065 and 1993 c 483 s 11 are each amended to read 5 as follows:
- 6 (1) Notwithstanding any prior determination made under this
- 7 chapter, an individual who has been discharged from his or her work
- 8 because of a felony or gross misdemeanor of which he or she has been
- 9 convicted, or has admitted committing to a competent authority, and
- 10 that is connected with his or her work shall ((have)) be disqualified
- 11 from benefits beginning with the first day of the calendar week in
- 12 which he or she has been discharged or suspended for misconduct and
- 13 thereafter for five calendar weeks and until he or she has obtained
- 14 work and earned wages equal to five times his or her benefit amount.
- 15 In addition, all hourly wage credits based on that employment shall be
- 16 canceled.
- 17 (2) The employer shall notify the department of such an admission
- 18 or conviction, not later than six months following the admission or
- 19 conviction.

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- 1 (3) The claimant shall disclose any conviction of the claimant of 2 a work-connected felony or gross misdemeanor occurring in the previous 3 two years to the department at the time of application for benefits.
- 4 (4) All benefits ((that are)) paid ((in error)) based on wage/hour 5 credits that ((should have been)) are removed from the claimant's base 6 year are recoverable, notwithstanding RCW 50.20.190 or 50.24.020 or any 7 other provisions of this title.
- 8 **Sec. 2.** RCW 50.20.160 and 1990 c 245 s 4 are each amended to read 9 as follows:
- (1) A determination of amount of benefits potentially payable 10 issued pursuant to the provisions of RCW 50.20.120 and 50.20.140 shall 11 12 not serve as a basis for appeal but shall be subject to request by the claimant for reconsideration and/or for redetermination by the 13 14 commissioner at any time within one year from the date of delivery or 15 mailing of such determination, or any redetermination thereof: PROVIDED, That in the absence of fraud or misrepresentation on the part 16 of the claimant, any benefits paid prior to the date of any 17 18 redetermination which reduces the amount of benefits payable shall not 19 be subject to recovery under the provisions of RCW 50.20.190. A denial of a request to reconsider or a redetermination shall be furnished the 20 claimant in writing and provide the basis for appeal under the 21 provisions of RCW 50.32.020. 22
 - (2) A determination of denial of benefits issued under the provisions of RCW 50.20.180 shall become final, in absence of timely appeal therefrom: PROVIDED, That the commissioner may reconsider and redetermine such determinations at any time within one year from delivery or mailing to correct an error in identity, omission of fact, or misapplication of law with respect to the facts.
- 29 (3) A determination of allowance of benefits shall become final, in 30 absence of a timely appeal therefrom: PROVIDED, That the commissioner may redetermine such allowance at any time within two years following 31 the benefit year in which such allowance was made in order to recover 32 any benefits improperly paid and for which recovery is provided under 33 34 the provisions of RCW 50.20.190: AND PROVIDED FURTHER, That in the absence of fraud, misrepresentation, ((or)) nondisclosure, or a 35 36 <u>determination of disqualification under RCW 50.20.065</u>, this provision or the provisions of RCW 50.20.190 shall not be construed so as to 37 permit redetermination or recovery of an allowance of benefits which 38

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1 having been made after consideration of the provisions of RCW 2 50.20.010(3), or the provisions of RCW 50.20.050, 50.20.060, 50.20.080, or 50.20.090 has become final.

4 (4) A redetermination may be made at any time: (a) To conform to a final court decision applicable to either an initial determination or 5 a determination of denial or allowance of benefits; (b) in the event of 6 a back pay award or settlement affecting the allowance of benefits; 7 8 ((or)) (c) in the case of fraud, misrepresentation, or willful nondisclosure; or (d) in the event of a determination of 9 disqualification under RCW 50.20.065. Written notice of any such 10 redetermination shall be promptly given by mail or delivered to such 11 interested parties as were notified of the initial determination or 12 determination of denial or allowance of benefits and any new interested 13 party or parties who, pursuant to such regulation as the commissioner 14 15 may prescribe, would be an interested party.

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