

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
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As Engrossed: H2/27/19

A Bill

SENATE BILL 298

By: Senators K. Hammer, J. Hendren, B. Davis, Hester

By: Representatives Lundstrum, Barker, Boyd, Cavanaugh, Coleman, Crawford, Dotson, M. Gray, G. Hodges, Ladyman, McCollum, Petty, Richmond, Penzo, B. Smith, Hawks, Bentley, Maddox, Hollowell, Payton, Slape, C. Cooper, Christiansen

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE TAXABLE WAGE BASE UNDER THE
DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES LAW; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE TAXABLE WAGE BASE UNDER THE
DEPARTMENT OF WORKFORCE SERVICES LAW.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 11-10-215(a)(2)(A)(i), concerning the taxable wage base, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(d) For a calendar year beginning after
December 31, 2019:

(1) Except as provided under subdivision
(a)(2)(A)(i)(d)(2) and subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i)(d)(3), if the average
seasonal unadjusted insured unemployment rate, as reported by the United
States Department of Labor, for completed weeks during the period of July 1
through June 30 of the most recently completed state fiscal year is:

(A) Zero percent (0%) to one
percent (1%), then that part of remuneration that exceeds seven thousand
dollars (\$7,000), unless that part of the remuneration is subject to a tax
under a federal law imposing the tax and against which credit may be taken



for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund is increased then the new federal taxable wage base shall be the new minimum amount under this subsection;

(B) One and one hundredths of a percent (1.01%) to one and forty-nine hundredths of a percent (1.49%), then that part of remuneration that exceeds eight thousand dollars (\$8,000), unless, under a federal law imposing the tax and against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund is increased, then that part of remuneration that is one thousand dollars (\$1,000) greater than the minimum amount under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i)(d)(1)(A) of this section;

(C) One and one-half percent (1.5%) to two and nineteen hundredths of a percent (2.19%), then that part of remuneration that exceeds nine thousand dollars (\$9,000), unless under a federal law imposing the tax and against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund is increased, then that part of remuneration that is two thousand dollars (\$2,000) greater than the minimum amount under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i)(d)(1)(A) of this section; or

(D) Two and twenty hundredths of a percent (2.20%) or greater, then that part of remuneration that exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) unless under a federal law imposing the tax and against which credit may be taken for contributions required to be paid into a state unemployment fund is increased, then that part of remuneration that is three thousand dollars (\$3,000) greater than the minimum amount under subdivision (a)(2)(A)(i)(d)(1)(A) of this section;

(2) If during the period of July 1 through June 30 of the most recently completed state fiscal year, disbursements from the unemployment insurance trust fund exceed two hundred million dollars (\$200,000,000) and the balance of the unemployment insurance trust fund is less than six hundred million dollars (\$600,000,000), then that part of remuneration that exceeds eleven thousand dollars (\$11,000); or

(3) If during the period of July 1 through June 30 of the most recently completed state fiscal year, disbursements from the unemployment insurance trust fund exceed two hundred and fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000) and the balance of the unemployment

insurance trust fund is less than four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000), then that part of remuneration that exceeds twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000).

/s/K. Hammer

APPROVED: 3/19/19