

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 3127 **DATE:** April 12, 2010
Version: Second engrossment
Authors: Davnie
Subject: Unemployment insurance
Analyst: Anita Neumann, 651-296-5056

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Section

- 1** **Immediate family members.** Replaces “the applicant’s” with “an individual’s.”
- 2** **Non-covered employment.** Clarifies that a family member providing personal care attendant services to another family member under the state personal care assistance program is not covered employment for unemployment insurance purposes.
- 3** **Tax accounts assigned.** Provides covered employment status for certain officers of a taxpaying employer.
- 4** **Tax rates.** Changes how the tax rate is computed when the trust fund has a negative balance.
- 5** **Tax rate for new employers.** Sets the tax rate for new employers in high experience rating industries at the average computed rate for high experience rating employers.
- 6** **Tax rate buydown.** Provides a tax discount to an employer that has had layoffs if they prepay their future unemployment taxes.
- 7** **Election by state or political subdivision to be taxpaying employer.** Modifies effective date of changes made by government employers in their method of paying unemployment insurance costs.
- 8** **Election.** Modifies effective date of changes made by nonprofit employers in their method of paying unemployment insurance costs.
- 9** **Benefit account.** Specifies the requirements needed to establish a new benefit account within 52 weeks of the expiration of the benefit year of a prior account; makes technical changes.
- 10** **Eligibility.** Technical.

- 11 **Business owners.** Modifies provisions allowing a business owner and family member of a business owner to collect UI benefits. Provides that an officer of a taxpaying employer is covered.
- 12 **Shared work agreements.** Authorizes the shared work program in a high experience rating industry.
- 13 **Special state extended unemployment.** Creates a new special state extension, of up to 13 weeks and replaces the special state emergency compensation program enacted in 2009. The new program is decoupled from federal extensions. Provides that any special state emergency unemployment benefits an applicant received are deducted from the new extended benefits.
- 14 **Leaves of absence.** Extends the special provisions for voluntary leaves of absence taken to prevent the layoff of another employee to leaves taken by employees of 3M at the New Ulm location.
- 15 **Special emergency compensation.** Provides that an applicant has received special state emergency compensation for a week prior to June 10, 2010, (the current law expiration date of the special state emergency unemployment compensation program) they may continue to draw those benefits until they are exhausted or until March 26, 2011, whichever comes first.
- 16 **New benefit accounts.** Provides for minimum levels of unemployment benefits for persons establishing a new state benefit account within 39 weeks of the expiration of a benefit year on a previous account.
- 17 **Revisor instructions.** Renumbering of definitions section of the law, putting the definitions in alphabetical order.