
Commerce & Labor Committee

HB 3129

Brief Description: Concerning the unemployment insurance system, but only with respect to improving unemployment benefits and adjusting unemployment contributions.

Sponsors: Representatives Conway and Simpson.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Makes legislative findings about the unemployment insurance system.

Hearing Date: 1/29/10

Staff: Jill Reinmuth (786-7134).

Background:

The unemployment compensation system is designed and intended to provide partial wage replacement for workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own. Eligible unemployed workers receive benefits based on their earnings in their base year. Most covered employers pay contributions (payroll taxes) to finance benefits. The Employment Security Department administers this system.

Summary of Bill:

The Legislature makes findings about the fundamental purposes of the unemployment insurance system. The Legislature also finds that: (1) benefits should be improved to enhance the system's effects on individuals, families, and communities; and (2) contributions should be adjusted to help citizens access training and education, and to mitigate the recent economic downturn's effects on employers.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.