

SHB 1893 - H AMD 961

By Representative Abbarno

NOT ADOPTED 02/13/2024

1 On page 4, beginning on line 33, strike all of subsection (k)

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3 On page 6, after line 39, insert the following:

4 "(6) If an individual's unemployment is due to a strike at the
5 separating employer's factory, establishment, or other premises at
6 which the individual is or was last employed, the benefit payments may
7 not be charged to the experience rating account of any employer, and
8 may not be factored into the social cost factor for the total taxable
9 payroll for purposes of RCW 50.29.025. The benefit payments must be
10 paid in accordance with section 4 of this act.

11

12 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 50.16
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 The striking worker benefit account is created in the custody of
15 the state treasurer. Funds in the account must consist of
16 appropriations and transfers by the legislature and all other
17 funding directed for deposit into the account. Expenditures from the
18 account may be used only for providing benefits under section 4 of
19 this act. Only the commissioner or the commissioner's designee may
20 authorize expenditures from the account. The account is subject to
21 allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation
22 is not required for expenditures.

23

24 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. A new section is added to chapter 50.20
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 If an individual's unemployment is due to a strike at the
27 separating employer's factory, establishment, or other premises at

1 which the individual is or was last employed, those benefit payments
2 must be paid from the account under section 3 of this act. Benefits
3 are subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this
4 specific purpose."

5

6 Renumber the remaining section consecutively and correct any
7 internal references accordingly. Correct the title.

8

EFFECT:

- Establishes the Striking Worker Benefit Account, which must consist of appropriations and transfers by the Legislature.
- Requires unemployment insurance (UI) benefits for striking workers to be paid from the Striking Worker Benefit Account (rather than the UI Trust Fund, as provided in the underlying bill). Specifies that UI benefits are subject to the availability of appropriated funds.
- Excludes UI benefits paid to striking workers from being factored into UI payroll taxes.

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