

## CHAPTER 2012-30

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 7027

An act relating to unemployment compensation; amending s. 443.011, F.S.; revising a short title to rename “unemployment compensation” as “reemployment assistance”; amending s. 443.012, F.S.; renaming the Unemployment Appeals Commission as the Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission; amending s. 443.036, F.S.; providing a definition for the term “reemployment assistance”; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.071, F.S.; specifying what constitutes prima facie evidence that the person claimed and received reemployment assistance from the state through transaction history and payment; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.091, F.S.; providing scoring requirements relating to initial skills reviews; providing for workforce training for certain eligible claimants; requiring the development and use of best practices; providing reporting requirements; providing work search requirements for certain claimants; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; providing for the applicability of certain exceptions relating to benefits based on employment with a private employer under contract with an educational institution; amending s. 443.101, F.S.; clarifying how a disqualification for benefits for fraud is imposed; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.1216, F.S.; providing that employee leasing companies may make a one-time election to report leased employees under the respective unemployment account of each leasing company client; providing procedures and application for such election; revising references to conform to the changes made by this act; amending s. 443.1217, F.S.; reducing the amount of an employee’s wages that are exempt from the employer’s contribution to the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for a certain period of time; amending s. 443.131, F.S.; revising the rate and recoupment period for computing the employer contribution to the trust fund until January 1, 2018; providing for retroactive application; prohibiting benefits from being charged to the employment record of an employer that is forced to lay off workers as a result of a manmade disaster of national significance; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.151, F.S.; revising the statute of limitations related to the collection of unemployment compensation benefits overpayments; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.171, F.S.; deleting an exemption from public records requirements for unemployment compensation records and reports; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 443.1715, F.S.; revising an exemption from public records requirements for unemployment compensation records and reports; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; amending ss. 20.60, 27.52, 40.24, 45.031, 55.204, 57.082, 61.046, 61.1824, 61.30, 69.041, 77.041, 110.205, 110.502, 120.80, 125.9502, 212.096, 213.053, 216.292, 220.03, 220.181, 220.191, 220.194, 222.15, 222.16, 255.20, 288.075, 288.1045, 288.106, 288.1081, 288.1089,

334.30, 408.809, 409.2563, 409.2576, 414.295, 435.06, 440.12, 440.15, 440.381, 440.42, 443.051, 443.111, 443.1113, 443.1116, 443.1215, 443.1312, 443.1313, 443.1315, 443.1316, 443.1317, 443.141, 443.163, 443.17161, 443.181, 443.191, 443.221, 445.009, 445.016, 446.50, 448.110, 450.31, 450.33, 468.529, 553.791, 624.509, 679.4061, 679.4081, 895.02, 896.101, 921.0022, 946.513, 946.523, 985.618, 1003.496, 1008.39, and 1008.41, F.S.; revising references to conform to changes made by the act; reviving, readopting, and amending s. 443.1117, F.S., relating to temporary extended benefits; providing for retroactive application; providing for applicability relating to extended benefits for certain weeks and for periods of high unemployment; providing for applicability; creating a work group to study Florida's reemployment assistance contribution calculation and provide recommendations; providing for membership; providing for reimbursement; providing for future expiration; providing for severability; providing that the act fulfills an important state interest; providing appropriations for purposes of implementation; providing effective dates.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 43. Subsection (10) of section 120.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

120.80 Exceptions and special requirements; agencies.—

(10) DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.—

- (a) Notwithstanding s. 120.54, the rulemaking provisions of this chapter do not apply to reemployment assistance ~~unemployment~~ appeals referees.
- (b) Notwithstanding s. 120.54(5), the uniform rules of procedure do not apply to appeal proceedings conducted under chapter 443 by the Reemployment Assistance ~~Unemployment~~ Appeals Commission, special deputies, or reemployment assistance ~~unemployment~~ appeals referees.
- (c) Notwithstanding s. 120.57(1)(a), hearings under chapter 443 may not be conducted by an administrative law judge assigned by the division, but instead shall be conducted by the Reemployment Assistance ~~Unemployment~~ Appeals Commission in reemployment assistance ~~unemployment compensation~~ appeals, reemployment assistance ~~unemployment~~ appeals referees, and the Department of Economic Opportunity or its special deputies under s. 443.141.