



SUCAP

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ADVISORY

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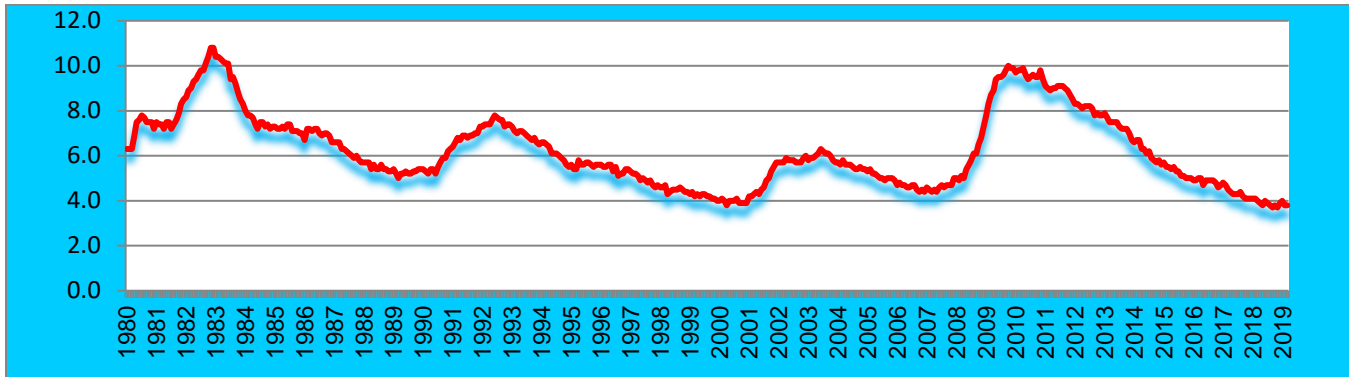


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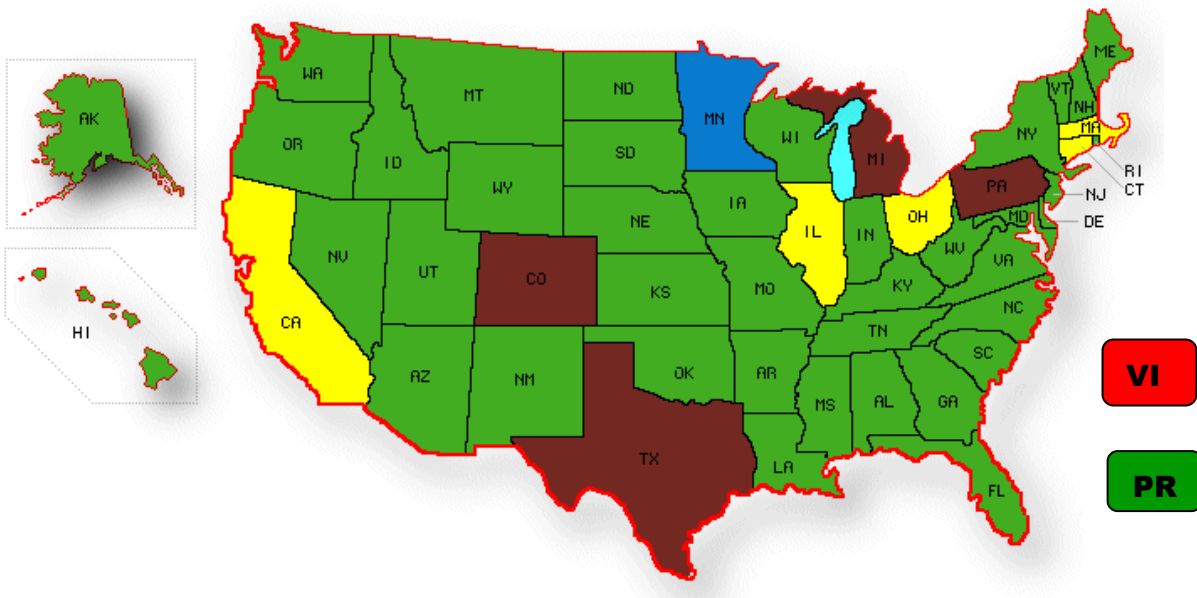
Table of Contents

1.	U.S. Unemployment Rate (1980 – Present).....	3
2.	Unemployment Trust Fund Solvency Map	3
3.	Summary of Loans, State UI Tax Bases, FUTA and Max Benefits.....	4
4.	State Legislation	6
	a. Map of States with Legislative Activity in July 2019 (in blue).....	6
	b. States Enacting Bills in July 2019	6
	c. States Passing Bills Through One Chamber of the Legislature	7
5.	Summary of State UI Legislation.....	10
6.	US DOL Report on UI Trust Fund Solvency - Are State Trust Funds Solvent Yet?	15
7.	Unemployment Initial Claims Increased in AR, IA, MN, MT, ND, OK, OR, SD, WV, WI and WY in July	16
8.	U.S. House Passes Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization with added Federal Unemployment Compensation Mandates	16
9.	US DOL Releases Proposed Guidance for New Grants to Fund UI Claimant Reemployment Services.....	17
10.	President Trump's FY 2020 Budget would effectively mandate \$9.2 billion UI Tax/Solvency Increases and Create a National Paid Parental Leave Program.....	18
11.	Save the date! 2020 National UI Conference – May 27-29,2020– Indianapolis, IN.....	19
12.	Status of State Legislative Sessions.....	20

1. U.S. Unemployment Rate (1980 – Present)



2. Unemployment Trust Fund Solvency Map



Source: US Department of Labor charts in most recent UI data quarterly summary and SUCAP Reports

The U.S. Map above depicts the status of state trust fund solvency as of July 30, 2019 (and 1st Quarter 2019 US DOL Reports).

- **RED** states are those that were borrowing as of July 30, 2019 (including the Virgin Islands).
- **BROWN** states are those that are currently using employer financed bonds or other state financing to repay Title XII loans.
- **YELLOW** states are those with positive balances of less than 1 year of benefits in the state trust fund.
- **BLUE** states are those where 12-month UI Benefit Payouts were higher than 12-month UI Tax Revenues
- **GREEN** states are those with more than 1 year of benefits in the state trust fund (including Puerto Rico).

3. Summary of Loans, State UI Tax Bases, FUTA and Max Benefits

State	June 2019 UI Rate ¹	Trust Fund(Loans) as of 7/30/19 or Balance (000) ²	States Using Employer Financed Bonds ³	2018 State Taxable Wage Base	2019 State Taxable Wage Base	UI Tax Revenues for Last 12 months (000) ⁴	Regular UI Benefits Paid for Last 12 months (000) ⁴	Max Number of weeks of Regular State UC Benefits ⁵	2018 FUTA Rate/ Cost Per Employee ⁶	2019 FUTA Rate/Cost Per Employee Projected
Alabama (AL)	3.5	\$627,724	-	8,000	8,000	\$220,613	\$146,166	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Alaska (AK)	6.4	\$458,292	-	39,500	39,900	\$111,862	\$87,205	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Arizona (AZ)	4.9	\$903,017	-	7,000	7,000	\$508,387	\$213,433	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Arkansas (AR)	3.5	\$745,665	-	10,000	10,000	\$182,992	\$97,094	20	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
California (CA)	4.2	\$1,668,362	-	7,000	7,000	\$5,944,894	\$5,036,990	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Colorado (CO)	3.0	\$927,080	X	12,600	13,100	\$554,059	\$372,196	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Connecticut (CT)	3.7	\$456,309	-	15,000	15,000	\$736,082	\$614,886	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Delaware (DE)	3.2	\$145,859	-	16,500	16,500	\$92,336	\$60,539	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Dist. Of Columbia (DC)	5.6	\$469,702	-	9,000	9,000	\$162,176	\$119,782	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Florida (FL)	3.4	\$3,885,751	-	7,000	7,000	\$516,486	\$334,115	12-23	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Georgia (GA)	3.7	\$2,214,557	-	9,500	9,500	\$621,355	\$293,623	14-20	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Hawaii (HI)	2.8	\$549,815	-	45,800	46,800	\$181,084	\$154,260	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Idaho (ID)	2.8	\$646,294	-	38,200	40,000	\$126,897	\$81,711	20-26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Illinois (IL)	4.3	\$1,552,638	-	12,960	12,960	\$1,899,808	\$1,681,441	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Indiana (IN)	3.5	\$630,654	-	9,500	9,500	\$501,139	\$243,691	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Iowa (IA)	2.4	\$1,093,389	-	29,900	30,600	\$406,084	\$366,511	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Kansas (KS)	3.4	\$819,388	-	14,000	14,000	\$299,797	\$135,470	16-26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Kentucky (KY)	4.1	\$506,599	-	10,200	10,500	\$386,450	\$287,782	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Louisiana (LA)	4.3	\$979,762	-	7,700	7,700	\$218,580	\$130,673	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Maine (ME)	3.2	\$447,841	-	12,000	12,000	\$115,733	\$84,665	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Maryland (MD)	3.8	\$1,130,773	-	8,500	8,500	\$493,852	\$436,256	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Massachusetts (MA)	3.0	\$963,548	-	15,000	15,000	\$1,672,310	\$1,462,280	30	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Michigan (MI)	4.2	\$4,043,948	X	9,000/ 9,500 if delinquent	9,000/ 9,500 if delinquent	\$1,203,029	\$724,397	20	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Minnesota (MN)	3.3	\$1,440,472	-	32,000	34,000	\$733,353	\$781,007	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Mississippi (MS)	5.0	\$685,592	-	14,000	14,000	\$101,958	\$61,514	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Missouri (MO)	3.3	\$912,194	-	12,500	12,000	\$368,961	\$252,759	20	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Montana (MT)	3.5	\$331,129	-	32,000	33,000	\$128,041	\$99,513	28	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Nebraska (NE)	3.0	\$427,155	-	9,000	9,000	\$78,512	\$64,704	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Nevada (NV)	4.0	\$1,520,998	-	29,500	30,500	\$654,641	\$276,740	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
New Hampshire (NH)	2.5	\$303,675	-	14,000	12,000	\$57,625	\$45,700	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
New Jersey (NJ)	3.5	\$2,350,821	-	33,700	34,400	\$2,244,312	\$1,960,630	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
New Mexico (NM)	4.9	\$447,407	-	24,200	24,800	\$136,683	\$129,831	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
New York (NY)	4.0	\$2,081,406	-	11,100	11,400	\$2,478,570	\$2,069,022	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
North Carolina (NC)	4.1	\$3,624,044	-	23,500	24,300	\$493,567	\$166,530	12-20	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
North Dakota (ND)	2.3	\$182,563	-	35,500	36,400	\$131,558	\$80,383	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Ohio (OH)	4.0	\$788,798	-	9,500	9,500	\$1,113,949	\$821,324	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Oklahoma (OK)	3.2	\$1,061,726	-	17,600	18,100	\$249,786	\$206,406	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Oregon (OR)	4.1	\$4,528,570	-	38,300	40,600	\$904,420	\$463,034	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Pennsylvania (PA)	3.8	\$2,519,762	X	10,000	10,000	\$2,973,527	\$1,742,795	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Puerto Rico (PR)	8.4	\$622,397	-	7,000	7,000	\$176,209	\$83,950	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42
Rhode Island (RI)	3.6	\$433,127	-	23,000/ 24,500 highest rate	23,601/ 25,100 highest rate	\$226,108	\$143,996	26	0.6%/42	0.6%/42

South Carolina (SC)	3.5	\$925,066	-	14,000	14,000	\$342,882	\$155,560	20	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
South Dakota (SD)	2.9	\$119,933	-	15,000	15,000	\$30,288	\$24,582	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Tennessee (TN)	3.4	\$1,164,976	-	8,000	7,000	\$261,492	\$189,950	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Texas (TX)	3.4	\$1,336,336	X	9,000	9,000	\$2,479,781	\$1,987,185	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Utah (UT)	2.8	\$1,112,434	-	34,300	35,300	\$166,523	\$148,646	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Vermont (VT)	2.1	\$453,306	-	17,600	15,600	\$126,360	\$64,474	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Virginia (VA)	2.9	\$1,294,805	-	8,000	8,000	\$427,598	\$277,631	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Virgin Islands (VI)	4.9	(\$63,480)	-	24,000	26,500	\$9,057	\$10,946	26	3.0%/ \$210	3.3%/ \$231
Washington (WA)	4.6	\$4,517,368	-	47,300	49,800	\$1,096,336	\$919,383	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
West Virginia (WV)	4.7	\$144,235	-	12,000	12,000	\$220,133	\$143,042	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Wisconsin (WI)	2.9	\$1,670,902	-	14,000	14,000	\$605,883	\$389,984	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
Wyoming (WY)	3.5	\$335,010	-	24,700	25,400	\$72,715	\$43,222	26	0.6%/ \$42	0.6%/ \$42
U.S.	3.7¹	\$63,137,389				\$36,246,832	\$26,969,612			

Sources: U.S. Department of Labor, NASWA, Congressional Research Service, SUCAP Reports

¹ According to the USDOL Bureau of Labor Statistics, the Total Unemployment Rate for July was 3.7%.

² The total balance reflects the state UTF balances from 1st Quarter 2019 data from the USDOL or recent updates from US DOL.

³ There are currently four states (CO, MI, PA, and TX) that are using bonds or other financing to repay Title XII loans. Idaho paid off the balance due on August 15, 2015. Ohio paid off its balance in August 2016 with state funds and added a one-time assessment in 2017 in order to repay the advanced funds; the loan from the state fund was repaid in June 2017. Illinois and Nevada discharged their bond obligations by the end of 2017.

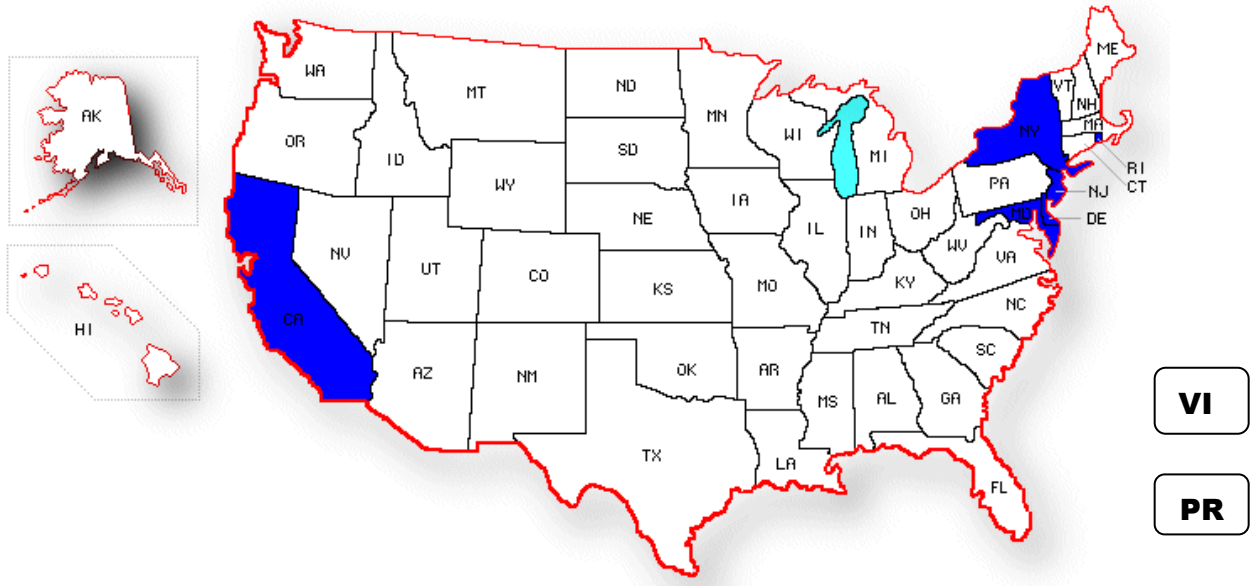
⁴ 1st Quarter 2019 data used (released by USDOL on June 14, 2019).

⁵ A number of states have acted to decrease the maximum number of weeks of regular state UC benefits. Decreases have been enacted in the following states: *Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Missouri, South Carolina* (existing provision in law limiting duration), *Michigan, Georgia, and North Carolina*. The 2017 and 2018 Rhode Island higher tax base is only for max rated employers.

⁶ Employers in states without outstanding loans and additional credit reduction had a FUTA tax rate of 0.6% (on the first \$7,000 of wages paid; approximately \$42 per employee) for 2018. Employers in states with a further credit reduction due to an outstanding balance of advances incurred a FUTA tax rate of 0.6% + FUTA credit reduction. The FUTA tax automatically increases by approximately \$21 per year each year in states that fail to repay federal loans. The size of the potential Benefit Cost Rate (BCR) Add On increase is determined by a formula in federal law that is tied to the state UI tax efforts in comparison to average benefit payout over a five-year period. Particularly in states where benefit payout was high but tax effort in comparison was low the additional Benefit Cost Rate (BCR) Add on increase is significant. The BCR is a potential issue for all states that have had 5 or more consecutive years during which they had outstanding Title XII loan balances as of January 1st. The Virgin Islands is the only state (jurisdiction) with a remaining balance.

4. State Legislation

a. Map of States with Legislative Activity in July 2019 (in blue)



b. States Enacting Bills in July 2019

Delaware – HB 148 was signed by Delaware Governor John Carney on June 30, 2019. The bill allows the Department of Labor ("Department") Division of Unemployment Compensation to deliver notice by methods other than through mail to reduce costs by using e-mail delivery for certain notices. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 148**.

HB 149 was signed by Delaware Governor John Carney on June 30, 2019. The bill: (1) disqualifies an individual who obtained an overpayment of benefits through fraud from receiving future unemployment benefits until the total overpayment, penalties, and interest are repaid in full; (2) states this change does not apply to fraud overpayments established by final decision before the effective date of this Act; (3) broadens the manner in which a notice of overpayment may be delivered and removes the 5 year deadline for filing actions to collect overpayments due to the Department; and (4) takes effect 60 days after its enactment into law. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 149**.

HB 198 was signed by Delaware Governor John Carney on June 30, 2019. The bill: (1) increases the maximum weekly benefit amount that would be payable to claimants seeking unemployment compensation benefits from the Delaware Division of Unemployment Insurance from \$330 a week to \$400 a week; (2) states the funds necessary to pay the increased weekly benefit amounts would be paid from the Unemployment Trust Fund; and (3) freezes the taxable wage base used by employers to determine what portion of employee's wages are subject to unemployment insurance tax assessments, for the period July 1, 2019 to October 29, 2020, to allow the Division of Unemployment Insurance and the Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council to analyze whether to revise the taxable wage base formula into the future. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 198**.

SB 127 was signed by Delaware Governor John Carney on June 30, 2019. The bill: (1) changes the penalty for an employer's failure to file a report required by the Division of Unemployment Insurance from \$17.25 to 15% of the total contributions paid or payable by the employer, unless 15% of the total contributions is less than \$100 or more than \$450; (2) states that if 15% of the total contributions is less than \$100, the penalty is \$100; (3) states that if 15% of the total contributions is more than \$450, the penalty is \$450; (4) states these reports are used to calculate the unemployment tax assessments due from employers and that tax assessments fund Delaware's Unemployment Trust Fund; and (5) states the amount of this penalty has not been adjusted for inflation in over 25 years. Click [here](#) for a copy of **SB 127**.

SB 128 was signed by Delaware Governor John Carney on June 30, 2019. The bill: (1) expands the collection procedures available to the Division of Unemployment Insurance to more closely match the collection procedures currently available to the Division of Revenue providing the Division of Unemployment Insurance with streamlined procedures to allow it to

more quickly and easily execute on judgments for unpaid unemployment insurance tax assessments; and (2) includes procedures such as (a) obtaining warrants for the levy and sale of property; (b) extending liens; (c) garnishments of wages, bank accounts, and other property; and (d) denying or suspending professional licenses of judgment debtors. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 128](#).

New York – AB 8419 was signed by New York Governor Andrew Cuomo on July 17, 2019. The bill: (1) enacts the Farm Laborers Fair Labor Practices Act; (2) grants collective bargaining rights to farm laborers; (3) requires employers of farm laborers to allow at least 24 consecutive hours of rest each week; (4) provides for an 8 hour work day for farm laborers; (5) requires overtime rate at one and one-half times normal rate; (6) *makes provisions of unemployment insurance law applicable to farm laborers*; (7) provides sanitary code shall apply to all farm and food processing labor camps intended to house migrant workers, regardless of the number of occupants; (8) provides for eligibility of farm laborers for workers' compensation benefits; (9) requires employers of farm laborers to provide such farm laborers with claim forms for workers' compensation claims under certain conditions; and (10) requires reporting of injuries to employers of farm laborers. Click [here](#) for a copy of [AB 8419](#).

c. States Passing Bills Through One Chamber of the Legislature

California – AB 1066 passed the California Assembly and was referred to committee in the Senate on May 29, 2019. The bill permits workers involved in a trade dispute to collect unemployment insurance after a four-week waiting period. Click [here](#) for a copy of [AB 1066](#).

AB 1812 passed the California Assembly and was referred to committee in the Senate on May 29, 2019. The bill increases the penalty for failing to report or reporting fraudulent information to the Employment Development Department (EDD), from \$1,000 to \$1,100. Click [here](#) for a copy of [AB 1812](#).

SB 271 passed the California Senate and was referred to committee in the Assembly on May 24, 2019. The bill clarifies that motion picture production workers working in other states may still access California Unemployment Insurance and State Disability Insurance benefits if they reside in California. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 271](#).

Indiana – HB 1054 was passed by the Indiana House and referred to the Senate on January 14, 2019. The bill: (1) provides that under the UI law a professional employer organization (PEO) that elects to use the PEO level reporting method is liable for all contributions, interest, penalties, and surcharges for the duration of a professional employer agreement or until the effective date of an election by the PEO to change to the client level reporting method; and (2) a client of a PEO is not considered to be a successor employer as a result of entering into a professional employer agreement with a PEO. Click [here](#) for a copy of [HB 1054](#).

SB 16 passed the Indiana Senate and was referred to Committee on [Employment, Labor and Pensions](#) on March 4, 2019. The bill provides that: (1) an individual is not subject to disqualification from eligibility for unemployment benefits because of discharge from the individual's employment due to circumstances directly related to the individual's filing of a petition for a protective order; and (2) an employee may bring a cause of action against an employer that terminates the employee for filing a petition for a protective order. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 16](#).

Iowa – HB 327 passed the Iowa House and Senate on March 25, 2019. The bill clarifies definitions related to franchisor and franchisee relationships for employment laws, including unemployment compensation. Click [here](#) for a copy of [HB 327](#).

HF 531 passed the Iowa House and was favorably recommended by the Senate Labor and Business Relations Committee on April 3, 2019. The bill: 1) reduces the benefits that are available to a claimant when the individual's employer goes out of business; 2) states the reduction is effective upon enactment and applies to any week of unemployment benefits beginning on or after the first Sunday after the effective date of this bill; 2) provides that effective July 1, 2020, landscaping employers will contribute to the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund at the same rate as construction employers; and 3) removes the requirement that a notice of the filing of an unemployment claim be sent by ordinary mail. Click [here](#) for a copy of [HF 531](#).

SB 561 passed the Iowa Senate and was read and referred to House Commerce on March 21, 2019. The bill amends the definition of misconduct under the UI law. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 561](#).

Maine – LD 1058 passed the Maine Assembly and was placed in the Senate legislative files after unfavorably being recommended by committee on May 14, 2019. The bill specifies that a governmental entity that elects to make payments in lieu of contributions into the UI fund is not liable to make payments with respect to an individual who voluntarily separates from employment. Click [here](#) for a copy of [LD 1058](#).

Maryland – **HB 336** passed the Maryland House and Senate and the House concurred in Senate amendments on March 14, 2019. The bill: (1) specifies that an individual who is a civilian employee of the federal government is eligible to receive unemployment benefits under certain circumstances; (2) authorizes the Governor to transfer funds from the Catastrophic Event Account to the Federal Government Shutdown Employees Assistance Loan Fund; and (3) provides the purpose of the Fund is to provide loans to civilian federal employees who are required to report to work at a site located in the State and who are not being paid because of a full or partial federal government shutdown. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 336**.

SB 391 passed the Maryland Senate and House on March 18, 2019. The bill, named the Civilian Federal Employees Unemployment Insurance Benefits and Federal Government Shutdown Employee Assistance Loan Fund (Federal Shutdown Paycheck Protection Act): 1) specifies that, notwithstanding certain provisions of law, an individual who is a civilian employee of the federal government is eligible to receive unemployment benefits under certain circumstances; and 2) requires the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to request certain documentation from the U.S. Department of Labor within 24 hours after the taking effect of the Act. Click [here](#) for a copy of **SB 391**.

Minnesota – **SB 1547** passed the Minnesota Senate and was scheduled for House floor calendar on May 6, 2019. The bill adopts UI modifications previously recommended by the UI Advisory Committee including: (1) changes to covered employment including: (a) 50 percent or more of employment during the quarter is performed in MN, and (b) 50 percent or more of the employment during the quarter is not performed in Minnesota or any other state or Canada, but some of employment is performed in MN and the employee's residence is in MN during 50 percent or more of the calendar quarter; (2) defines an "American employer" as set forth in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act; (3) defines non-covered employment to include employment of a foreign college or university student who works on a seasonal or temporary basis under the J-1 visa summer work travel program; (4) excludes taxes paid by employers assigned a tax rate equal to the maximum experience rated plus the applicable base tax rate from the UI tax reduction based on the state trust fund balance; (5) states that if there was an experience rating history transfer the successor employer must receive that portion of the predecessor employer's tax reduction equal to that portion of the experience rating history transferred; (6) requires the Commissioner to assess interest equal to one percent per month on any amount that remains unpaid after the due date, but interest is not assessed on unpaid interest; (7) eliminates base period calculation based on the most recent four completed calendar quarters if wage credits are insufficient to establish a benefit account; (8) adds an individual who is an employee under the Federal Insurance Contributions Act to the definition of employment; (9) eliminates good cause requirement for failure to timely file reports; (10) eliminates qualifications for vacation and sick payments relating to delay in receiving UI benefits; (11) adds disqualifying language for separation, severance, bonus, pension, or retirement payments that delay or offset UI benefits; and (12) eliminates a substantial lack of concern for the employment from the definition of employment misconduct. Click [here](#) for a copy of **SB 1547**.

Mississippi – **HB 757** passed the Mississippi House and was transmitted to the Senate on February 8, 2019. The bill reenacts Mississippi's Employment Security Law, including all provisions related to UI. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 757**.

Missouri – **HB 217** passed the Missouri House on March 25, 2019. The bill: 1) modifies the duration of unemployment compensation; 2) modifies the method to pay federal advances; and 3) raises the fund trigger causing contribution rate reductions. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 217**.

HB 278 passed the Missouri House and was scheduled for public hearing in the Senate on April 9, 2019. The bill: (1) allows the Division of Employment Security to serve, by certified mail, written notice to an employer that has failed to file certain reports required by law; and (2) extends the current probationary period from 28 days to 90 days. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 278**.

HB 332 passed the Missouri House and was scheduled for public hearing in the Senate on April 9, 2019. The bill: (1) increases from 28 to 90 days the time an individual must have been employed with an employer before the Division of Employment Security may charge the employer's account in respect to benefits paid to the individual; and (2) states that effective January 1, 2020, each employer shall pay an annual unemployment automation adjustment of up to .015%, but the total amount collected by the division may not exceed \$4 million per year and for each calendar year, the otherwise applicable unemployment contribution rate of each employer liable for contributions shall be reduced by .015%. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 332**.

SB 90 was passed by the Senate and House and was delivered to Missouri Governor Mike Parson for his signature on May 29, 2019. The bill: (1) states that a person claiming unemployment benefits is required to make three work search contacts during any week in which such benefits are claimed; (2) requires all employers of 50 or more workers are required to report quarterly wage information to the Division in an electronic format prescribed by the Division, provided that, if good cause is shown, the Director may permit filing in paper form; (3) requires any notice, determination, decision,

or other paper required under the employment security chapter may be transmitted solely by electronic means, unless an alternative manner is requested; (4) requires any function required to be performed by the Division may be performed by a computer or other automated means; (5) states that the records of the Division shall constitute prima facie evidence of the date of the electronic transmission of any notice, determination, or other paper electronically transmitted under the employment security chapter; and (6) requires certain notices to be served by certified mail directed to the last known address of the employer, except in the case of any notice of the assessment of contributions, interest, or penalties after an original assessment of contributions, interest, or penalties are not paid when due, in which case further notice may be sent by mail to the last known address of the employer. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 90](#).

New Hampshire – [SB 2](#) passed the New Hampshire Senate and was scheduled for House Executive Session on May 22, 2019. The bill: (1) reduces an employer's unemployment contribution rate and requires that a portion of the administrative contribution be deposited in the unemployment compensation fund; and (2) revises the job training programs offered by the department of business and economic affairs. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 2](#).

[SB 16](#) passed the New Hampshire Senate and was scheduled for a House Majority and Minority Committee Reports on May 22, 2019. The bill, for the purpose of assessing governmental performance and accountability moves the authorization date for the commissioner of the department of employment security to provide information to the Wage Record Interchange System, the Federal Employment Data Exchange System, or any other similar system or combination thereof from July 1, 2018 to on or before July 1, 2020. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 16](#).

[SB 62](#) passed the New Hampshire Senate and an amendment was adopted in the House on May 16, 2019. The bill exempts seasonal workers temporarily laid off from work search requirements in order to qualify for UI. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 62](#).

[SB 146](#) passed the New Hampshire Senate and off the House floor on May 8, 2019. The bill eliminates the waiting week period before eligibility to receive unemployment benefits. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 146](#).

New Jersey – [SB 1887](#) passed the New Jersey Assembly and the Senate was considering Assembly amendments as of May 24, 2019. The bill Directs Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development to establish a pilot program to assist certain unemployed and underemployed individuals to complete a career and technical education certificate program in 12 months. Click here for a copy of [SB 1887](#).

New York – [SB 4573](#) passed the New York Senate and was referred to the Assembly Labor Committee on May 1, 2019. The bill: (1) decreases the length of the suspension period applicable to certain individuals who lose their jobs due to a labor dispute, such as a strike, and who seek to obtain unemployment insurance benefits; (2) decreases the suspension period from seven consecutive weeks to seven consecutive calendar days; and (3) permits the waiting period to be served during a suspension period. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 4573](#).

[AB 8035](#) passed the New York Senate and was returned to the Assembly on June 19, 2019. The bill provides that, for the purposes of the unemployment insurance law, the entity which pays an individual shall be the employer even if the work or services are performed for a different entity. Click [here](#) for a copy of [AB 8035](#).

[SB 3062](#) passed the New York Senate and was referred the Assembly Labor Committee on June 12, 2019. The bill provides that spouses who voluntarily separate from employment to accompany a spouse who is the subject of a military transfer shall be eligible for unemployment benefits. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 3062](#).

North Dakota – [HB 1060](#) passed the North Dakota House and a failed to pass in the Senate March 22, 2019. The bill relates to surcharges paid by employers for employees who receive unemployment insurance benefits at a rate exceeding contributions paid into the system by the employer. Click [here](#) for a copy of [HB 1060](#).

[SB 2111](#) passed the North Dakota Senate, but failed to pass the House on February 28, 2019. The bill relates to electronic remittance of funds withheld under an income withholding order and new hire reporting. Click [here](#) for a copy of [SB 2111](#).

Oregon – [HB 2660](#) passed the Oregon House and Senate, and the House concurred in Senate amendments on June 5, 2019. The bill: 1) removes the prohibition on payment of unemployment insurance benefits to nonprofessional employees of educational institution providing facilities or janitorial services for weeks of unemployment commencing during period between two successive academic years or terms; 2) prohibits reimbursable employer from advising, or communicating conclusion to, employee about employee's eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits; 3) requires reimbursable employers to provide employees with any information about eligibility for benefits that is provided to employer by Employment Department; and 4) authorizes reimbursable employers to provide employees with any other information about eligibility for benefits that is approved by department. Click [here](#) for a copy of [HB 2660](#).

Pennsylvania – **HB 68** passed the Pennsylvania House and was referred to the Senate Labor and Industry Committee on May 24, 2019. The bill increases the current timeframe allotted for an employer to request relief from charges in UI from 15 to 30 days. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 68**.

Texas – **SB 1516** passed the Texas Senate and the House committee report was sent to calendars on May 16, 2019. The bill makes a person liable for the amount of an improper UI benefit obtained by the person because of Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) error, but states that if the TWC fails to notify the person of such an improper benefit on or before the 120th day after the date the person obtains the benefit, the benefit is not considered an improper benefit or recoverable by TWC. Click here for a copy of **SB 1516**.

Vermont – **HB 351** passed the Vermont House and Senate and the House concurred in Senate amendments on May 21, 2019. The bill repeals the unemployment insurance short-time compensation program. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 351**.

Washington – **SB 5716** passed the Washington Senate, but was returned to the Senate Rules Committee from the House Labor & Workplace Standards Committee on April 28, 2019. The bill states that an employee of a unit of federal government is "unemployed" in any week the individual is not receiving wages due to the failure of the federal government to appropriate the funding used to pay the individual's wages, regardless of whether the individual is performing any services for the unit of federal government at any time during the week. Click [here](#) for a copy of **SB 5716**.

West Virginia – **HB 2365** passed out of the West Virginia House and was scheduled for public hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee on March 7, 2019. The bill clarifies the definition of an employee for the purposes of unemployment compensation and workers' compensation. Click [here](#) for a copy of **HB 2365**.

SCR 56 passed the West Virginia Senate and was ordered to the House on March 9, 2019. The concurrent resolution requests a study of enacting laws clarifying definition of employee and independent contractor for unemployment compensation and workers' compensation. Click [here](#) for a copy of **SCR 56**.

5. Summary of State UI Legislation

The following list is a compilation of legislative activity for bills in state legislatures that have seen activity through July 2019. Two states, NJ and VA carried over legislation from 2018 to 2019.

State Bill #	Primary UI Objective(s) of Proposal	Status
AL HB364	Amends UI Benefits, Max Amount Contingent on Avg. UI Rate, Benefit Disqualification	Pending 3 rd Reading 4/18/19
AL SB193	Amends UI Benefits, Max Amount Contingent 4 Avg. UI Rate, Benefit Disqualification	Signed by Governor 5/14/19
AZ SB1210	Defines Temporary Services Employer and Unemployment Obligations for Employees	Second Senate Reading 1/29/19
AR SB298	Amends UI Taxable Wage Base Under the Department of Workforce Services Law	Signed by Governor 3/19/19
AR SB299	Amends UI Eligibility and Disqualification Under the Department of Workforce Services Law	Signed by Governor 3/13/19
AR SB300	Modifies Date of Retention of the Stabilization Tax Set Aside; Declare Emergency	Signed by Governor 3/13/19
AR SB302	Amends Distribution of UI Penalty Assessed on Fraudulent Overpayments and Credited to UI Fund	Signed by Governor 3/11/19
AR SB626	Modifies the Time an Employer has to Respond to an Application for UI Benefits	Senate Hearings 4/4/19
CA AB1066	Amends UI Extended Duration of Benefits	Re-referred to APPR. 7/10/19
CA AB1812	Increases the Civil Penalty for Fails to File or Supplies any False or Fraudulent Information from \$1,000 to \$1,100	Referred Senate Com. 5/29/19
CA SB271	Makes Motion Picture Production Workers Working in Other States Eligible for UI Benefits	Appropriations Hearing 7/10/19
CT HB5765	Establishes Loan Program for Federal Employees Government During Shutdown; Offsets UI	Signed by Governor 1/21/19
CT HB6112	Reforms UI Law to Protect the Solvency of the UI Trust Fund	Referred Joint Comm. 1/24/19
CT HB6119	Applies UI Coverage to Direct Sellers	Referred Joint Comm. 1/24/19
CT HB6338	Eligibility for UI Benefits and Protects Seasonal Agricultural Businesses from Disproportionate Taxation	Referred Joint Comm. 1/25/19
CT HB6725	Amends UI Benefit Eligibility While Receiving Severance Pay; Solvency of UI Trust Fund	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6728	Increases Minimum Earnings Necessary to Qualify for UI Benefits	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6729	Increases Min. Earnings Necessary Qualify for UI Benefits; Eligibility While Receiving Severance Pay	Public Hearing 2/7/19
CT HB6732	Threshold Amounts for False Statements/Failure to Disclose UI Benefits, Contributions or Payments	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6733	Establishes Loan Program for Federal Employees Government During Shutdown; Offsets UI	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6740	Amends UI Concerning Municipal Employers Reimbursement, UI and the Appeals Process	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6741	Provides Adequate Employer Notice When Employee Files for UI Benefits	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB6743	Amends UI Concerning Municipal Employers Reimbursement, UI and the Appeals Process	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT HB7239	Implements Recommendations of the Employment Security Advisory Board regarding UI	Public Hearing 3/5/19
CT SB357	Increases Min. Earnings Necessary Qualify for UI Benefits; Eligibility While Receiving Severance Pay	Referred Joint Comm. 1/29/19
CT SB511	Increases UI Benefits for Individuals Working Part-Time	Public Hearing 2/7/19
CT SB658	Provides Adequate Employer Notice When Employee Files for UI Benefits	Referred Joint Comm. 1/25/19
CT SB696	Concerns the Solvency of the UI Trust Fund	Public Hearing 2/7/19
CT SB762	Increases Min. Earnings Necessary Qualify for UI Benefits; Eligibility While Receiving Severance Pay	Referred Joint Comm. 1/28/19

CT SB673	Reforms UI Law to Protect the Solvency of the UI Trust Fund	Referred Joint Comm. 1/28/19
CT SB955	Exempts Individual Direct Sellers from UI Coverage	Public Hearing 3/5/19
DE HB148	Permits UI Notice Delivery by Methods Other Than Through Mail to Reduce Costs by Using E-mail	Signed by Governor 6/30/19
DE HB149	Disqualifies Individuals Obtaining UI Overpayment by Fraud Until Overpayment, Penalties, Interest Paid in Full	Signed by Governor 6/30/19
DE HB198	Increases Maximum WBA from \$330 a week to \$400 a week; Freezes Taxable Wage Base 7/1/19 to 10/29/20	Signed by Governor 6/30/19
DE SB127	Changes Employer Penalty for Failure to File Report; \$17.25 to 15% Total Contributions (min.\$100; max.\$450)	Signed by Governor 7/17/19
DE SB128	Expands UI Collection Procedures; Expedites Execution of Judgments for Unpaid UI Tax Assessments	Signed by Governor 7/18/19
DC B111	Supporting Essential Workers Unemployment Insurance Emergency Amendment Act of 2019	Approved/Expires 5/26/19
DC B133	Supporting Essential Workers Unemployment Insurance Amendment Act of 2019	Public Hearing 7/1/19
FL HB563	Prohibits Domestic Violence Victims from being Disqualified for UI Benefits	Signed by Governor 6/7/19
FL HB1149	Places Additional Requirements for Employers Intending to Relocate Out of State or Cease Operation	Introduced 3/5/19
FL HB1337	Provides Adjustment to Contribution Rate of Reemployment Assistance Tax to Specified Employers	Referred to Committee 3/8/19
FL SB638	Provides Adjustment to Contribution Rate of Reemployment Assistance Tax to Specified Employers	Introduced 3/5/19
FL SB640	Creates the Florida Business and Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund within the State Treasury	Introduced 3/5/19
FL SB990	Prohibiting Domestic Violence Victims from Being Disqualified for UI Benefits for Voluntarily Leaving Work	Laid on Table 4/29/19
GA SB27	Changes the Definition of 'Unemployed' Providing UI Eligibility for Furloughed Federal Workers	Senate Read/Referred 1/28/19
GA SB215	Changes the Definition of Employment to Include Services Performed by an Individual for Wages	Referred 2/28/19
HI HB1186	Appropriates Funds for the Unemployment Insurance Modernization Project	Report adopted 3/21/19
HI SB576	Permits Claimants for UI Benefits to Report in Person or Via Electronic Communication	Public Hearing 2/5/19
IL HB220	Establishes a Wage Insurance Program for UI Claimants When Reemployed by New Employer	Hearing 3/27/19
IL HB1406	Amends the Illinois Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Financing Act	Re-referred to Rules 4/12/19
IL HB1595	Creates Income Tax Credit (equal to 20% up to \$2,000) for Hiring UI Claimant	Hearing 3/28/2019
IL HB1642	Amends Unemployment Insurance Act Definitions of "Director" and "Department"	Assigned Exec. Comm. 3/19/19
IL HB1919	Amends Unemployment Insurance Act Powers and Duties of the Director of Employment Security	Re-referred to Rules 4/12/19
IL HB1920	Amends Unemployment Insurance Act Powers and Duties of the Director of Employment Security	Re-referred to Rules 4/12/19
IL HB1406	Makes Technical Changes to the Illinois UI Trust Fund Financing Act	Referred to Rules 1/29/19
IL HB2037	Limits Employer Credit to \$5,000 (instead of 20% of the gross wages) for Hiring Unemployed Veterans	Hearing 3/28/19
IL HB2561	Presumes No Reasonable Employment Assurance for Offer Conditioned on Enrollment/Funding/Prgm. Changes	Hearing 3/27/19
IL HB3271	Provides Employers Paying Admin. Fee Up to \$100 Ability to Pay Quarterly Contributions in Equal Installments	Hearing 3/27/19
IL HB3467	Adds Penalty for Fraudulently Obtaining Benefits is 125% (instead of 15%) of Amount Fraudulently Obtained	Hearing 3/27/19
IL SB964	Amends the UI Act - Makes a Technical Change in a Section Concerning the Short Title of the Act	Re-referred to Assign. 4/12/19
IL SB1167	Creates an Adult Vocational Community College Scholarship Program for Unemployed 30 Years or Older	Hearing 3/19/19
IL SB1648	Permits Employers to Pay Quarterly Contributions Due for Wages in Equal Installments for \$100 Admin Fee	Committee Deadline 3/28/19
IN HB1054	Clarifies UI law Related to Professional Employer Organization (PEO) Reporting Method and Liability	Referred 1/14/19
IN HB1062	Amends UI Law Confidentiality, Notice to Claimants and Employers, Removes Cap on Fund, Appeals	Signed by Governor 4/29/19
IN SB16	Provides No UI Disqualification from Eligibility Related to Filing a Petition for a Protective Order	Referred Committee 3/4/19
IN SB130	Amends UI Definition of "employment" Service Performed by Drive Away Operations Driver	Signed by Governor 4/24/19
IN SB231	Excludes Services by Direct Sellers from Definition of "Employment" under the UI System	Signed by Governor 4/3/19
IN SB371	Presumption that Worker Performing Work at a Licensed Premises is an Independent Contractor	Referred Committee 1/10/19
IA HB19	Prohibits Employment Discrimination Based on Unemployment Status; Provides Remedies	Subcommittee Selected 1/22/19
IA HB24	Increases Certain Penalties for Employers Willfully Misclassifying Employees for UI Purposes	Subcommittee Selected 1/22/19
IA HB327	Clarifies Definitions Related to Franchisor-Franchisee Relationships for Employment Laws	Signed by Governor 4/9/19
IA HB453	Excludes certain Temporary Employment by Governmental Entities from UI Eligibility	Subcommittee Meeting 3/4/19
IA HB531	Revises Unemployment Insurance Law; Effective date and applicability provisions	Senate Amendment 4/25/19
IA HSB42	Amends Duration of Benefits and the Shared Work Program under the UI Law	Favorably Recommend 2/21/19
IA SB34	Amends Notices by Department of Workforce Development Regarding UI Claims	Favorably Recommend 1/29/19
IA SB241	Requires Department to Provide UI Claimant Electronic Confirmation of Successful Claim Submission	Referred Committee 3/6/19
AIA SB309	Modifies Unemployment Compensation Benefits and Department-Approved Training	Referred Senate Comm. 2/19/19
IA SB510	Clarifies Definitions Related to Franchisor-Franchisee Relationships for Employment Laws	Withdrawn 3/25/19
IA SB561	Amends UI Disqualification from Eligibility Due to Discharge for Misconduct	Favorably Recommend. 4/3/19
IA SB566	An act relating to claims for unemployment insurance benefits and including applicability provisions.	Referred to Labor/Bus. 4/4/19
IA SSB1020	Amends Special Employment Security Contingency Fund and Insurance Fraud Bureau Special Fund	Subcommittee 1/23/19
IA SSB1088	Amends UI Disqualification from Eligibility Due to Discharge for Misconduct	Subcommittee Mtg. 3/5/19
IA SSB1110	Clarifies Definitions Related to Franchisor-Franchisee Relationships for Employment Laws	Subcommittee Meeting 2/7/19
IA SSB1149	Revises Unemployment Insurance Law; Effective Date and Applicability Provisions	Subcommittee Meeting 2/13/19
KS HB2148	Amends UI Law Related to Benefits for Privately Contracted School Bus Drivers	Referred House Comm. 2/6/19
KS HB2154	Making UI Benefits Available for Federal and State employees Who are Required to Work Without Pay	Re-referred Comm. 3/6/19
KS SB27	Removing a Restriction on Leasing of Certain Employees by Client Lessees of Lessor Employing Units	Referred Committee 2/28/19
KS SB38	Amends UI Law Related to Benefits for Privately Contracted School Bus Drivers	Hearing 3/15/19
KY HB53	Provides Legislative Findings and Recommendations due to Employee Misclassification Problems	Introduced in House 1/10/19
KY HB317	Reduces Weekly Benefit Rate %, Increases Trust Fund Balance Triggers; Reduces WBA from 26 to 20 weeks	Posted for Passage 2/25/19
ME LD201	Requires 120 Days Advance Notice of Closure of Call Centers; Daily Fine of \$10,000; Creates Call-Center List	Signed by Governor 5/16/19
ME LD784	Amends Eligibility for Unemployment Compensation Benefits	Referred to Comm. 2/12/19
ME LD1013	UI Disqualification for Claimant Terminated from Employment for Being Under the Influence of Marijuana	Signed by Governor 5/16/19
ME LD1058	Concerns Liability for Direct Reimbursement of Unemployment Benefits	Legislative Files (DEAD) 5/14/19
MD HB60	Renaming Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation to be the Maryland Department of Labor	Signed by Governor 4/18/19

MD HB241	Exempting a Vehicle Registration Applicant from Denial if has Unpaid Taxes or UI Contributions	Hearing Scheduled for 2/14/19
MD HB336	Federal Shutdown Paycheck Protection Act; Grants Federal Government Employees UI Eligibility	House Concurrence 3/14/19
MD HB453	UI Exemption From Covered Employment for Bulk Vending Item Assembly Employees	Died/Killed 2/25/19
MD HB1128	Outlines Required Information on all Contribution and Employment Reports (Workforce Data Act of 2019)	Hearings 2/26/19
MD SB391	Federal Shutdown Paycheck Protection Act; Grants Federal Government Employees UI Eligibility	Senate Returned Passed 3/18/19
MD SB444	UI Exemption From Covered Employment for Bulk Vending Item Assembly Employees	Unfavorable, Withdrawn 3/4/19
MD SB493	Outlines Required Information on all Contribution and Employment Reports (Workforce Data Act of 2019)	Hearing Scheduled 2/19/19
MA HB1093	Provides UI Benefits for Replacement Workers	Referred House Comm. 2/26/19
MA HB1592	Amends Employer UI Contributions Requirements	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA HB1610	An Act to prevent wage theft, promote employer accountability, and enhance public enforcement.	Hearing scheduled for 5/14/19
MA HB1627	Amends UI Eligibility for Workers with Fluctuating Work Schedules	Referred Ways & Means 4/25/19
MA HB1629	Amends UI Eligibility for Furloughed Federal Employees	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA HB1643	Amends UI Eligibility for Business Owners	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA HB1646	Amends Willingness to Work Requirements for UI Benefits	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA HB1662	Amends UI Eligibility During Labor Disputes	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA HD4158	Monthly Report of the Department of Unemployment Assistance - UI Trust Fund (end of February 2019)	Placed in file 5/9/19
MA SB1056	Reforms Municipal Unemployment Insurance Provisions	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SB1060	Amends Unemployment Insurance Benefits for Replacement Workers	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SB1061	Amends Unemployment Insurance Law	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SB1075	Amends Unemployment Insurance Law for Workers with Fluctuating Work Schedules	Referred Ways & Means 4/29/19
MA SB2152	Amends UI Eligibility for Furloughed Federal Employees	Referred to Committee 1/22/19
MA SD501	Amends UI Law Related to Benefits for Replacement Workers	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SD623	Provides UI Benefits for Furloughed Federal Employees	Status Unavailable Online
MA SD627	Amends Unemployment Insurance Law	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SD901	Amends UI Law Related to Wage Theft and Due Process	Hearing scheduled for 5/14/19
MA SD1462	Amends the UI Law for Workers with Fluctuating Work Schedules	Referred Ways & Means 4/29/19
MA SD1464	An Act to prevent wage theft, promote employer accountability, and enhance public enforcement.	(J) Hearing scheduled for 5/14/19
MA SD1607	Reforms Municipal Unemployment Insurance Provisions	Hearing scheduled 3/26/19
MA SD2299	February 2019 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report	Placed on file 2/21/19
MA SD2362	March 2019 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report	Placed on file 3/25/19
MA SD2400	April 2019 Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report	Placed on file 4/18/19
MN HB374	Proposes to Adopt the UI Advisory Committee 2018 Legislative Session Recommended Changes	Return House Comm. 2/7/19
MN HB2180	Modifies Wage Credits under the Unemployment Insurance Law	Referred to Committee 3/7/19
MN SB120	Prohibits Employer Discrimination Based on Unemployed Status of Individual	Referred to Committee 1/14/19
MN SB1547	Adopts UI Modifications Previously Recommended by UI Advisory Committee	House Calendar 5/6/19
MN SB1914	Alternative Measures of Unemployment Reporting Requirement	Hearing 3/20/19
MS HB438	Increases Weekly Benefit Amount (WBA) Annually by Percentage Equal to Previous Year Inflation Rate	Referred to Committee 1/14/19
MS HB757	Reenacts Mississippi's Employment Security Law and Related Statutes Including UI	Transmitted To Senate 2/8/19
MS SB2133	Reenacts the Mississippi Comprehensive Workforce Training and Education Consolidation Act	Approved by Governor 4/3/19
MO HB155	Repeals Prohibition that Persons Unlawfully in US from Receiving Benefits	Referred to Comm. 5/17/19
MO HB217	Modifies UI Duration, Method to Pay Federal Advances, Raises Trigger Causing Contribution Rate Reductions	Dropped from Calendar 5/9/19
MO HB278	Modifies Employment Security Provisions relating to Employer Reports	Senate Hearing 4/11/19
MO HB332	Modifies Employment Security Provisions relating to Employer Accounts	Senate Informal Calendar 5/7/19
MO HB371	Modifies Provisions Relating to Employment Security and Employer Records	Read Second Time 1/10/19
MO HB372	Modifies Provisions relating to Employment Security	Public Hearing 2/6/19
MO HB373	Modifies Provisions relating to Employment Security	Referred Special Comm. 1/17/19
MO HB375	Establishes New Provisions Related to Unemployment Automation Adjustment for Certain Employers	Hearing 3/13/19
MO HB539	Extends the Duration of UI Benefits	Referred to Comm. 5/17/19
MO SB90	Modifies Various Provisions Relating to Employment Security	Delivered to Governor 5/29/19
MO SB157	Creates New Provisions relating to UI Benefits Probationary Periods	Favorably Recommend 2/28/19
MO SB161	Modifies Provisions Related to Unemployment Automation Adjustment for Certain Employers	Formal Calendar 5/17/19
MO SB228	Modifies Methods of Service of Notice under Employment Security Laws	Bills with Amendments 5/17/19
MO SB238	Modifies Provisions relating to UI Eligibility	Referred Committee 2/7/19
MT HB67	Revises UI Benefits for Members of the Military	Signed by Governor 2/28/19
MT HB455	Provides UI Benefits for Certain Teachers and Adjunct School Personnel	Missed Transmittal 3/2/19
MT LC461	Revise the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board Membership	Senate Hearing 2/22/19
MT LC3210	Provides UI Benefit Eligibility for Teachers	Draft Request Received 1/22/19
MT LC3261	Confirm Governor's Appointees to the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board	Draft Request Received 2/5/19
MT SB77	Eliminates Federal Income Tax Deduction from UI Benefits	Signed by Governor 3/7/19
MT SB305	Revise the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board Membership	Signed by Governor 5/1/19
MT SR33	Confirm Governor's Appointees to the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board	Signed by Governor 3/19/19
NE LB306	Changes Provisions for "Good Cause" Voluntarily Leaving Employment under Employment Security Law	Placed on Final Reading 2/22/19
NE LB359	Change Provisions in the Employment Security Law and Nebraska Wage Payment and Collection Act	Signed by Governor 3/7/19
NE LB428	Amends UI Eligibility for Certain Construction Industry Workers	Signed by Governor 5/1/19
NH SB2	Reduces an Employer's UI Contribution Rate; Requires Portion of Admin. Contribution Deposited in UI Fund	House Executive Session 5/22/19
NH SB16	Relative to Information Provided from Employment Security to United States Department of Labor	House Comm. Reports 5/22/19

NH SB62	Exempts Seasonal Workers Temporarily Laid Off from Work Search Requirement to Qualify for UI	Amendment Adopted 5/16/19
NH SB146	Eliminates the Waiting Period before UI Eligibility	House Floor Vote 5/8/19
NJ AB3963	Concerns labor contractors	Referred to Labor 5/17/19
NJ AB4164	Establishes Pilot for Unemployed/Underemployed to Complete Career & Tech Ed Certificate Prg. in 12 months	Second Reading 5/20/19
NJ AB5177	Provides UI Eligibility for Certain Educational Institution Employees	Referred Committee 3/11/19
NJ SB741	Concerns UI Eligibility for Public Adjusters	Referred Committee 1/9/18
NJ SB745	Establishes Standards Regarding UI Disqualification for Misconduct	Referred Committee 1/9/18
NJ SB1887	Establishes Pilot for Unemployed/Underemployed to Complete Career & Tech Ed Certificate Prg. in 12 months	Consider Assembly Amd. 5/24/19
NJ SB3859	Provides Certain Educational Institutions Employees are Eligible for UI Benefits Under Certain Circumstances	Second Reading Senate 6/17/19
NY AB333	Provides UI Eligibility for Part-Time Municipal Elected Officials Who Lose their Primary Income	Referred to Labor
NY AB446	Amends Provisions Related to the Calculation of Weekly UI Benefits	Advanced 3 rd Reading 5/16/19
NY AB999	Provides a System of UI Benefits Based on the Number of Effective Weeks a Part-Time Employee Accrues	Referred to Labor 1/14/19
NY AB1004	Provides Employer's Account Not Charged when Employee Quits Without Good Cause	Referred to Labor 1/14/19
NY AB2158	Increases the Maximum Benefit Rate for UI	Referred to Labor 1/22/19
NY AB2461	Establishes a Job Creation Tax Credit Up to 12% Wages Paid For Hiring an Unemployment Claimant	Referred to Committee 1/22/19
NY AB2547	No Charging of Employer's UI Experience Rating Account for Claimant Returning After Family Leave	Referred to Labor 1/23/19
NY AB2750	Makes Provisions of UI Law Applicable to Farm Laborers	Referred to Labor 1/25/19
NY AB2882	Requires that Space be Provided on Applications for UI for Applicant to Register in the "Donate Life Registry"	Referred to Health 1/28/19
NY AB2984	Establishes "Retrain and Employ Unemployed Persons Program" Providing Grants to Community Colleges	Referred to Higher Ed 1/28/19
NY AB4088	Allows those Receiving UI to Work Part-Time while still Receiving Partial UI Benefits	Assembly Hearing 4/12/19
NY AB4860	Relates to UI Coverage for Employers of Agricultural Workers	Referred to Labor 2/5/19
NY AB6592	Decreases Suspension Period from 7 Weeks to 7 Days for Individuals Unemployed Due to Labor Dispute/Strike	Hearings 7/19/2019
NY AB6984	Makes UI Benefits Available to Essential Federal Workers During a Federal Government Shutdown	Referred to Labor 4/3/19
NY AB7057	Provides UI Eligibility for Federal Employees and Contractors During Covered Lapse in Appropriations by US	Referred to Labor 4/4/19
NY AB7619	Exempts Agricultural Employers from Paying UI for Alien Laborers Federally Ineligible from Receiving Benefits	Referred to Labor 5/14/19
NY AB8035	Provides Entity Paying an Individual is the UI Employer Even if Work/Services Performed for a Different Entity	Returned to Assembly 6/19/19
NY AB8419	Enacts the Farm Laborers Fair Labor Practices Act; Makes UI Applicable to Farm Laborers	Signed by Governor 7/17/19
NY AB8471	Establishes Work Opportunity Tax Credit for Businesses Under 50 Employees for Hiring Long Term Unemployed	Referred Ways & Means 7/8/19
NY SB541	Establishes a Job Creation Tax Credit Up to 12% Wages Paid For Hiring an Unemployment Claimant	Referred to Committee 1/9/19
NY SB768	Requires First Consideration of Unemployed When Hiring Positions Created from Economic Development Assist.	Referred to Committee 1/9/19
NY SB1113	No Charging of Employer's UI Experience Rating Account for Claimant Returning After Family Leave	Referred to Labor 1/11/19
NY SB1313	Authorizes a Credit to Non-Liable Employers for Certain Contributions made Toward UI	Referred to Labor 1/14/19
NY SB1826	Requires Prior Notice of Relocation of Call Center Jobs from New York to a Foreign Country; Prohibitions	2 nd Calendar 3/6/19
NY SB2231	Requires Regulations to Include Childcare Into UI Claimant's Efforts to Find Work	Referred to Labor 1/23/19
NY SB2525	Exempts Agricultural Employers from Paying for UI Coverage for Alien Farm Laborers (federally ineligible)	Referred to Labor 1/28/19
NY SB3062	Provides UI Benefits to Military Spouses Who Voluntarily Separate from Employment to Accompany Spouse	Referred Assembly Labor 6/12/19
NY SB3644	Relates to Expanding UI Eligibility for Furloughed Federal Employees	Referred to Labor 2/11/19
NY SB4573	Decreases Length of Suspension Period for UI Claimants Losing their Jobs Due to Labor Dispute	Referred to Labor 5/1/19
NY SB4992	Relates to penalties for willful false statements by employers to avoid payment of unemployment benefits.	Advanced to 3 rd Reading 4/29/19
NY SB5016	Requires Employers Relocating Out of State Continue UI Contributions When Former Employees Receive UI	Referred to Labor 4/3/19
NY SB5068	Establishes a Hire-Now Tax Credit; Provides Additional Credit When Hiring UI Claimant	Referred to Comm. 4/5/19
NY SB5754	Relates to the calculation of weekly UI and the repeal of certain provisions relating thereto	Referred to Labor 5/14/19
NY SB5823	Exempts Agricultural Employers from Paying UI for Alien Laborers Federally Ineligible from Receiving Benefits	Referred to Labor 5/15/19
NY SB6469	Provides Entity Paying an Individual is the UI Employer Even if Work/Services Performed for a Different Entity	Ordered 3 rd Reading 6/19/19
NY SB6784	Increases Agricultural Employer Threshold for Contributions If Paid \$80,000 in Remuneration in Calendar Quarter	Referred to Labor 3/20/19
NY SB6120	Provides Continuance of UI for Individual Providing Child Care Reasonable Efforts to Secure Alternative Care	Referred to Labor 5/16/19
ND HB1060	Amends Employer Surcharges for UI Claimant at Rate Exceeding Contributions Paid into the System	Failed to Pass 3/22/19
ND HCR3003	Resolution Requesting the Legislative Management Study the State's UI System - Emphasis on Job Training	Second reading 1/10/19
ND SB2111	Relates to Electronic Remittance of Funds Withheld Under an Income Withholding Order and New Hire Reporting	House Failed to Pass 2/28/19
OK SB335	Makes Wages Reported to IRS Same for Employment Security Law; Ex-military Claimant Re-employment Pgm.	Signed by Governor 4/30/19
OR HB2660	Removes Prohibition on Payment of UI Benefits to Nonprofessional Employees of Educational Institutions	House Concurrence 6/5/19
OR HB2946	Applies Common Paymaster Rule for Purposes of UI law to Limited Liability Companies (LLC)	Referred to Comm. 2/14/19
OR HB3120	Provides UI Eligibility for Voluntarily Leaving Work/Accepting Suitable Work If Victim of Crime of Intimidation	Signed by Governor 5/28/19
OR HB3416	Modifies Exclusion from for Sales of Consumer Goods/Services in home or Non-Permanent Retail Business	Hearing Scheduled 4/8/19
OR SB722	Provides Individual Continues to be Unemployed Until Earlier Regular Payday or Permanently Ceases Work	Public Hearing 3/7/19
PA HB68	Requires Employers Filing for Relief from Charges to do so in 30 days Rather than 15 days	Referred Senate Comm. 5/24/19
PA HB173	Construction Workplace Misclassification Act-Provides Improper Employee Classification and Criminal Penalties	Referred to Committee 1/28/19
PA HB280	Amends Determination of UI Compensation, Appeals, Reviews and Procedure	Re-reported 3/20/19
PA HB477	Amends Unemployment Compensation Board of Review	Referred to Committee 2/12/19
PA HB491	Amends Unemployment Compensation Law Providing for Reasonable Accommodations	Referred to Committee 2/12/19
PA HB621	Amends UI Definitions; Employer Contributions; Relief from Charges; Ineligibility for UI Benefits	Referred to Comm. 2/28/19
PA HB715	Construction Workplace Misclassification Act - Providing for Independent Contractors	Referred to LABOR 4/5/19
PA HB718	Construction Workplace Misclassification Act - Providing for Improper Classification of Employees	Referred to LABOR 4/5/19
PA HB1537	Amends Schedule for UI Benefit Modernization Payments to Vendor Working with L&I to Implement	Re-reported committed 6/12/19
PA SB68	Prohibits Discrimination Based on Unemployment Status; Imposing a Penalty for Violations	Referred to Committee 1/31/19
PA SB304	Makes Changes to UI Eligibility	Second consideration 4/10/19

RI HB5270	Increases Maximum WB Rate to Higher of 57.5% Average Weekly Wages Paid in Previous Year or \$636 per Week	Held Further Study 2/6/19
RI HB5316	Provides UI Benefits During Federal Government Shutdown	Referred to Finance 2/7/19
RI HB5441	Creates a Seasonal Employment Designation for Purposes of Unemployment Benefits	Scheduled for Hearing 3/13/19
RI HB5675	Expedites a Victim of Domestic Abuse UI Eligibility by Removing the Waiting Period and Other Impediments	Held for further study 3/20/19
RI SB192	Establishes Program that Assists Federal Employees Affected by a Federal Government Shutdown	Hearing Schedule 3/19/19
RI SB370	Increases Maximum WB Rate to Higher of 57.5% Average Weekly Wages Paid in Previous Year or \$636 per Week	Senate Passed 4/10/19
RI SB514	Creates a Seasonal Employment Designation for Purposes of Unemployment Benefits	Referred to Comm. 2/27/19
RI SB790	Expedites Victim of Domestic Abuse UI Eligibility by Removing the Waiting Period and other Impediments	Held for further study 5/15/19
RI SB910	Eliminates Requirement to Pay Attorney fees from Unemployment Administrative Fund	Referred to House Labor 6/19/19
SC HB4204	Enacts Protections for Employees of Call Centers Who Relocate/Intends to relocate to Foreign Country	Referred to Comm. 3/7/19
SD HB1034	Revise Certain Provisions Regarding UI Contribution Rates	Signed by Governor 3/20/19
SD HB1035	Renames the UI Program to the Reemployment Assistance Program	Signed by Governor 3/20/19
TN HB208	Redefines "Base Period" for Determining Weekly Benefit Amounts	Taken off notice 3/19/19
TN HB454	As introduced, extends the state unemployment compensation advisory council to June 30, 2023.	Comp. Pub. Ch. 289 5/13/19
TN HJR51	Supports establishment of a Full Employment National Trust Fund	Failed in Subcomm.3/19/19
TN SB122	Extends the State Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council to June 30, 2023	Signed by Governor 5/13/19
TN SB624	Exempts Out of State Employers Responding to Disasters from Obligations including UI	Signed by Governor 5/10/19
TX HB572	Modifies Eligibility for Employees who Leave the Workplace Due to Sexual Harassment	Left Pending in Comm. 4/9/19
TX HB1976	Relating to Liability for Obtaining Improper Unemployment Compensation Benefits	Scheduled for hearing 4/23/19
TX HB2242	Clarifies Worker Classification Under Unemployment Compensation Act; Providing an Administrative Penalty	Placed State Calendar 5/9/19
TX HB2322	Relates to UI Contributions Paid by Common Paymaster on Behalf of More than one Employer	Filed 2/25/19
TX HB2391	Clarifies Worker Classification Under Unemployment Compensation Act; Providing an Administrative Penalty	Public Hearing Scheduled 3/15/19
TX SB3927	Amends the Self-Employment Assistance Program for Unemployed Individuals	Referred to Comm. 3/21/19
TX SB1516	Amends Liability Provisions for Obtaining Improper Unemployment Compensation Benefits	Report Sent to Calendars 5/16/19
TX SB1868	Amends Classification of Workers for Texas Unemployment Compensation Act; Provides Administrative Penalty	Referred to Comm. 3/18/19
UT SB137	Establishes State Web Portal for People to Access Services from Multiple State Entities from a Single Source	Signed by Governor 3/22/19
VT HB220	Permits the Attorney General to Enforce Complaints of Employee Misclassification under UI and WC Laws	Referred to Comm. 2/22/19
VT HB296	Creates the Self-Employment Assistance Program	Referred to Committee 2/20/19
VT HB351	Repeals the Unemployment Insurance Short-Term Compensation Program	House Concurrence 5/21/19
VT SB15	Permits Reuse Prior Benefit Year Base Period to Qualify for UI Benefits if Unable to Work from Work injury	Senate Hearing 3/22/19
VA HB1746	Changes the Virginia Initiative for Employment Not Welfare to the Virginia Initiative for Education and Work	Signed by Governor 3/5/19
VA HB1821	Prohibits State Agencies from Contracting for Goods and Services from Employer Failing to Pay UI Taxes	Left in General Laws 2/5/19
VA HB2480	Requires All Employers to Submit Quarterly UI Tax and Payroll Reports Electronically by 1/1/2020	House Failed Report 1/17/19
WA HB1249	Reducing Business and Occupation Tax for Certain Manufacturers; Extends Tax Treatment for Timber Industry	Referred to Committee 1/17/19
WA HB1438	Concerning Unemployment Benefit Eligibility for Apprentices	Referred to Committee 1/22/19
WA HB1445	Making UI Benefits Accessible to Persons with Family Responsibilities and Other Availability Issues	Referred to Rules 2/28/19
WA HB1515	Makes Consistent Employee Status under Employer-Employee Relationship under UI Laws	Referred to Rules 2/22/19
WA HB1601	Creating the Universal Worker Protections Act; Clarifies Employment under UI Law	Hearings 2/5/19
WA HB1757	Clarifies Employer Status of Franchisors	Hearings 2/14/19
WA HB2118	Amends Misconduct for Purposes of Unemployment Insurance	Referred to Comm. 2/22/19
WA SB5326	Removes UI Exemptions for Businesses Structured using Booth Rental Agreements	Scheduled Public Hearing 1/28/19
WA SB5398	Concerning Unemployment Benefit Eligibility for Apprentices	Signed by Governor 4/17/19
WA SB5473	Provides UI Benefits to People with Family Responsibilities and Other Availability Issues	Public Hearing 2/4/19
WA SB5513	Makes Consistent Employee Status under Employer-Employee Relationship under UI Laws	Scheduled Public Hearing 1/28/19
WA SB5690	Clarifies Definition of "employee" and Provide a Regulatory and Benefits Structure for Nonemployee Workers	Referred to Committee 1/28/19
WA SB5716	Defining when Federal Government Employees are Unemployed for Purposes of UI Law	Returned to Senate Rules 4/28/19
WV HB2365	Clarifying Definition of Employee for Unemployment Compensation and Workers' Compensation	Senate Hearing 3/7/19
WV HB3083	Adds "Temporary Work During the Legislative Session" as an Exclusion to Employment for UI Purposes	Signed by Governor 3/19/19
WV HCR38	Requesting Joint Comm. on Govt. and Finance to study High Unemployment Rate Confronting African Americans	Referred House Rules 1/28/19
WV SCR56	Requesting Study of Clarifying Definition of Employee and Independent Contractor for UI and WC Law	Ordered to House 3/9/19
WY SB48	Providing UI Benefits Shall Not be Payable to an Employee of a Designated Seasonal Employer	No report CoW Cutoff 2/1/19

6. US DOL Report on UI Trust Fund Solvency - Are State Trust Funds Solvent Yet?

On February 26, 2019, the US DOL Office of Unemployment Insurance released its [UI Trust Fund Solvency Report](#). After years of economic recovery trust fund solvency has steadily improved, however, a number of state UI trust funds are not ready for the next recession.

The solvency levels of state UI trust funds in twenty-nine states are greater than the US DOL recommended minimum solvency standard.

- Twenty-four states and jurisdictions are below the USDOL recommended standard.
- One jurisdiction still has an outstanding Federal Title XII advance of approximately \$68 million – Virgin Islands
- Two states have outstanding private borrowing instruments of approximately \$1.7 billion – Michigan and Pennsylvania

The states that are at greatest risk of UI trust fund insolvency are

- California
- Connecticut
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Massachusetts
- Virgin Islands (outstanding Title XII Loan)
- New York
- Ohio
- *Texas
- West Virginia

Employers in two states continue to have outstanding debt for alternative financing. Although Michigan and Pennsylvania show higher UI trust fund balances, they continue to have costs associated with the outstanding debt. According to US DOL the outstanding alternative financing debt is

- Michigan \$715 million
- Pennsylvania \$987 million

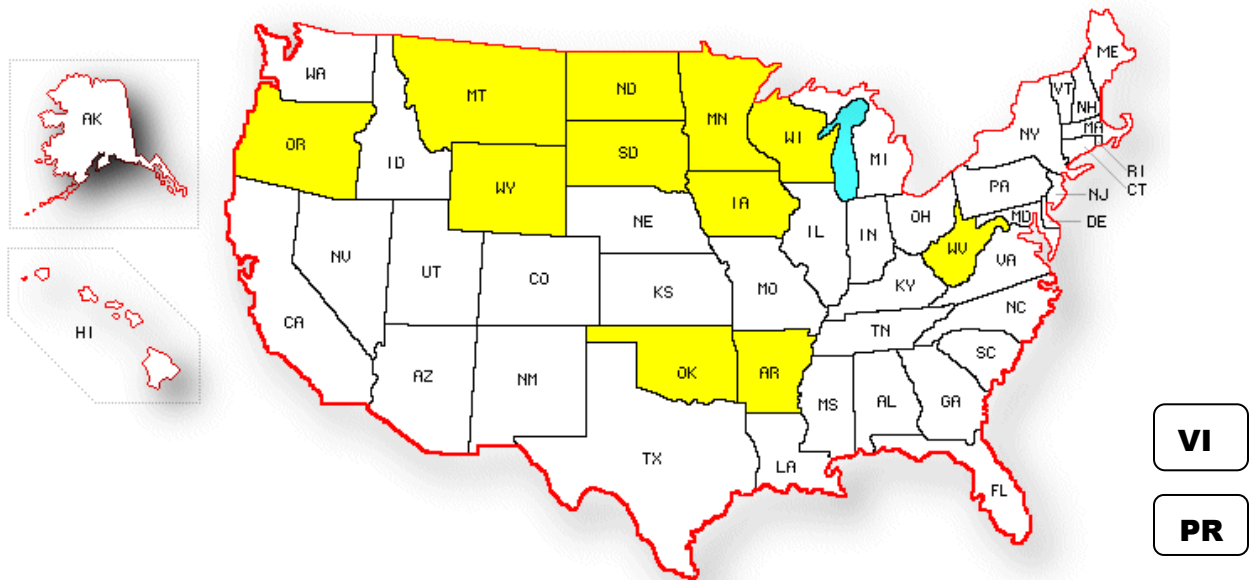
The solvency measurement used by US DOL is 1.0 times the Average High Cost Multiple (AHCM) which compares the state trust fund balance to amounts that were needed to pay benefits for a year in the average of the most recent twenty years or three recessions. This measurement does not take into consideration the availability of alternative financing that states may use to pay off outstanding Title XII debt. *Texas, in particular, uses alternative financing on a regular basis to assure state trust fund solvency and avoid reductions in the Federal Unemployment Tax offset credit. Amounts needed state by state may vary based on the volatility of state economies and policy judgments about the level of state UI tax and benefit amounts to be paid.

US DOL reviewed unemployment trust fund status at the National UI Issues conference on June 26-28, 2019 at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

7. Unemployment Initial Claims Increased in AR, IA, MN, MT, ND, OK, OR, SD, WV, WI and WY in July

After peak initial claims in January the number of claims typically trends down nationally. We are tracking the initial claims trends in comparison to 2018 to identify those states in which there are multiple weeks in which there was an increase in initial claims as compared to the previous year. The states with increasing numbers of initial unemployment claims filed for both the weeks of July 13th and 20th include Arkansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming. See <https://www.dol.gov/ui/data.pdf>

Reports of increased claims year over year at this time of year might be an indication of a slowing in the rate of economic growth in particular states.



8. U.S. House Passes Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization with added Federal Unemployment Compensation Mandates

On April 4, 2019 The U.S. House of Representatives passed the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act ([HR 1585](#)) by a vote of 263 to 158 with 1 present. The bill includes UI provisions that mandate states to pay unemployment compensation to UI claimants who voluntarily separate themselves from employment and claim that the separation is attributable to harassment. The entitlement does not require that the harassment was in connection with work. Some states adopted somewhat similar provisions in response to funding provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Other states chose not to adopt similar provisions. Unemployment compensation payments are charged to individual employer accounts and the state unemployment trust fund as provided under state law.

UWC raised a concern that the new UI provisions mandating that all states pay unemployment compensation in these cases did not have the benefit of review through the House Ways and Means Committee that normally has jurisdiction.

Elise Stefanik (R- NY) filed a motion on the House floor to recommit seeking an alternative substitute reauthorization but was defeated by a vote of 185 to 237.

The U.S. Senate is now in the process of developing its version of legislation to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. UWC is working with Senate staff to educate them about the UI provisions.

9. US DOL Releases Proposed Guidance for New Grants to Fund UI Claimant Reemployment Services

On April 2, 2019 the House Ways and Means Committee voted to amend federal law providing authority to states to provide reemployment and eligibility assessment services to UI claimants as targeted by the state workforce agency. Although there has been short term authority to provide flexibility, this now would provide ongoing authorization to states to provide these services to claimants they identify and not just those who are determined to be likely to exhaust benefits. The explanation with links to the legislation is available by clicking [here](#).

UWC has supported increased flexibility to enable states to assist in returning UI claimants to work. The expanded flexibility will enable states to more effectively use increased appropriations that have been budgeted by Congress for these purposes.

On April 4, 2019 the US Department of Labor published for comment the proposed allocation guidance for new grants to states for reemployment services and eligibility assessments (RESEA). Click [here](#) for the guidance.

According to US DOL, the primary goals for the RESEA program are to:

- Improve employment outcomes for individuals that receive unemployment compensation (UC) and to reduce average duration of receipt of UC through employment;
- Strengthen program integrity and reduce improper payments;
- Promote alignment with the broader vision of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which is increased program integration and service delivery for job seekers
- Establish RESEA as an entry point to other workforce system partner programs for individuals receiving UC.

Core components of RESEA that must be included as part of the initial session with a claimant are:

- UI eligibility assessment, including review of work search activities, and referral to adjudication, as appropriate, if an issue or potential issue is identified;
- Providing labor market and career information that address the claimant's specific needs;
- Enrollment in Wagner-Peyser Act funded Employment Services;

The notice seeks comments from the public specifically with respect to:

- What are operational concerns about the RESEA program that the Secretary should consider in developing the funding formula?
- Do you have an alternative recommendation for calculating the base allocation?
- Do you have recommendations for distributing the outcome payments?
- What specific concerns or suggestions do you have regarding the DOL proposed formula, for allocating RESEA funding?
- What general concerns do you have regarding RESEA administrative funding?

The expanded flexibility to provide RESEA to a broader group of UC claimants combined with the increased appropriations budgeted over the next 10 years provides an opportunity to states, employers and their representatives to work together more effectively to reduce the duration of unemployment, return claimants to work, and reduce the cost of unemployment for employers and individuals who become unemployed.

Comments, suggestions, and responses related to this FRN and concerning RESEA program funding must be submitted to
U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration
Office of Unemployment Insurance
200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room S-4524
Washington, DC 20210
Attention: Lawrence Burns, or by email at DOLETAUI-FRN@dol.gov

10. President Trump's FY 2020 Budget would effectively mandate \$9.2 billion UI Tax/Solvency Increases and Create a National Paid Parental Leave Program

UI Tax Increase and Federal Solvency Requirement

The President's FY 2020 Budget proposes to effectively mandate that employers with employment in states with low balances in their state UI trust fund accounts pay higher FUTA taxes. The total of tax increase/solvency measures over the ten-year period ending 2029 is projected to generate an additional \$9.2 Billion. The general policy rationale for the tax increase is that some state unemployment trust funds have balances below the levels recommended to be solvent by US DOL. Click [here](#) to read the Budget Summary Document and click [here](#) for the UI Outlook details.

This imposes higher taxes on employers doing business in states with lower trust fund balances even though the individual employers in these states may have Unemployment Insurance account balances that are significantly higher than necessary to assure that they have funds available to cover charges associated with unemployment insurance benefits. The impact of the proposal will be largely on employers with operations in states with lower trust fund balances. It also could result in higher state UI taxes to reach mandated solvency levels and/or cuts in unemployment compensation benefits to reach solvency targets. Specifically, the proposal would establish a minimum solvency standard, which would apply the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) credit reduction rules to States that have an Average High Cost Multiple (AHCM) of less than 0.5 on two or more consecutive January firsts (rather than zero trust fund balance currently). Based on the most recent quarterly data reports from US DOL this means that employers in the following states would be at risk in two years of increases in the FUTA tax:

- California
- Connecticut
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Kentucky
- Massachusetts
- New York
- Ohio
- Texas
- Virgin Islands (already subject to FUTA offset credit reductions)
- West Virginia

Another group of states currently with balances below 1.0 AHCM would be at risk to more quickly trigger FUTA offset credit reductions early in an economic downturn.

- Arizona
- Delaware
- Georgia
- Maryland
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nevada
- New Jersey
- North Dakota
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Virginia
- Wisconsin

UWC has maintained a policy position for many years that states should be responsible for addressing the solvency of state unemployment trust funds. We have encouraged improved solvency so as to avoid having to raise taxes and borrow with interest during recessionary periods. UWC has opposed new federally mandated UI taxes.

Paid Parental Leave

The FY 2020 budget proposes to provide at least six weeks of paid family leave to new mothers and fathers, including adoptive parents, so all families can afford to take time to recover from childbirth and bond with a new child. The budget description has been modified to some extent from the FY 2019 proposal. The UI system is no longer specified as the system to use as a base. The proposal now allows States to establish paid parental leave programs in a way that is “most appropriate for their workplace and economy”.

Although not specifying UI as the base for the program the budget continues to show that revenue to offset the cost of the program would come from increased UI solvency taxes to be paid by employers and the UI system (see above). The budget assumes that such a parental leave program would cost approximately \$18.75 billion over 10 years and the cost would be partially offset by increases in unemployment taxes/solvency provisions (\$9.2 billion), improved integrity (\$1.7 Billion) and RES/REA services (\$3.3 Billion).

UWC has taken the position that the UI system is not the appropriate vehicle for administration of a new national paid leave program and that new UI solvency taxes are not an appropriate way to finance such a program. A number of states have programs that are financed outside of the UI trust fund, and the recent enactment of legislation in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 provides tax credits for employers who choose to provide paid family leave. There are also legislative proposals to permit employers to provide for paid leave through ERISA plans.

UWC is conferring with US DOL and congressional staff to raise concerns about the tax increase and the details of the proposal in the FY 2020 budget.

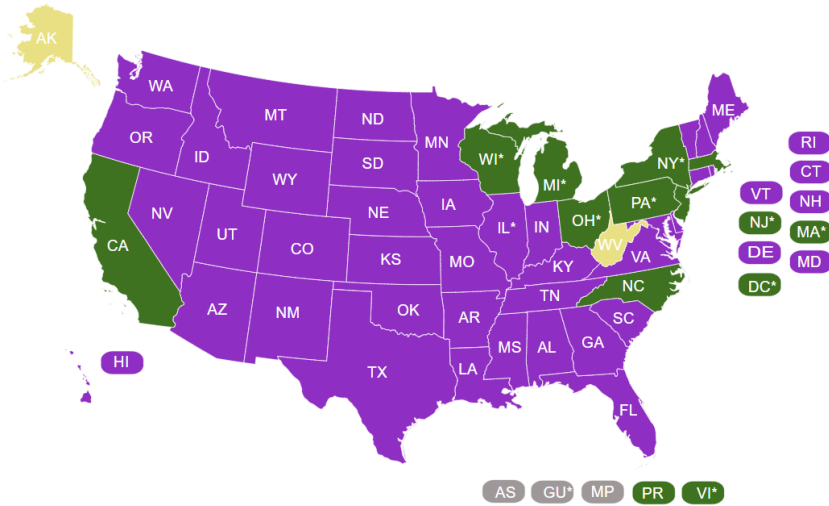
11. Save the date! 2020 National UI Conference – May 27-29, 2020 – Indianapolis, IN

The **2019 National UI Issues Conference - *Connecting to the Future of Unemployment Insurance*** is in the books. The conference was attended by unemployment professionals from all over the United States representing state UI agencies, businesses, trade associations, vendors and many more. Thank you to all of our 2019 conference presenters and sponsors including Deloitte, Equifax, Fast Enterprises, LexisNexis Risk Solutions, On Point Technology, Inc. and Sagitec.

The 2020 National UI Issues Conference will be held on May 27-29, 2020 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Registration and conference details will be posted on the UWC website later this year (<https://www.uwcstrategy.org/conferences/>), so mark your calendars and plan to attend next year’s conference!

12. Status of State Legislative Sessions

Organizational Session
In Session
In Special Session
In Regular/Special Session
Not Yet Convened
Adjourned



There are twenty-six states that began new legislative session and will not carry over legislation from 2018 to 2019 (even to odd years), including AK, CA, DE, GA, HI, IL, IA, KS, ME, MA, MI, MN, NE, NH, NY, NC, OH, OK, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, WA, WV and WI (RI technically does carry over bills, but typically will reintroduce legislation). Two states (NJ and VA) begin their legislative sessions in 2018 and will carry over legislation from 2018 to 2019 (even years to odd years). The remaining eighteen states do not carry over legislation, including AL, AZ, AR, CO, CT, FL, ID, IN, KY, LA, MD, MS, MO, NM, OR, SD, UT and WY. Four states hold biennial legislative sessions in odd years, including MT, NV, ND and TX, so there will be active legislative session in 2019. To see more detail on the status of state legislative sessions in 2019, click [here](#).

Contributing Author



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