Monthly Wage Reporting

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Save Medicaid Access and Resources Together (SMART) Act

- Enacted in 2012 as part of legislative package to address estimated \$2.7B shortfall facing Illinois' Medicaid program.
- Included requirement for monthly submission of UI wage reports to improve ability to monitor Medicaid eligibility.
- Monthly Reporting considered preferable to New Hire reports in Illinois.

Agreed to by Illinois employer community.

Threshold for Monthly Reporting Requirement

- Monthly reporting requirement limited to employers required to report wages electronically.
- Electronic reporting threshold ultimately lowered from 250 or more employees to 25 or more.

Electronic/Monthly Reporting Period

- July 1 of calendar year through June 30 of immediately succeeding calendar year.
- Based on number of employees reported for last completed calendar year prior to start of reporting period.
- Allows time to identify and notify employers who will be subject to electronic/monthly reporting requirement.

- Worked closely with interested parties on content requirements.
- New reports for each of first two months of quarter.
- Traditional quarterly report would constitute report for third month.

- Reports for each of first two months submitted through file upload onto IDES's TaxNet system.
- Reports for each of first two months provide:
 - employer name, FEIN, UI account number, total wages

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• employee name, SSN, monthly wage

(S,John,Smith,123–45–6789,1000 S,John,Doe,124–53–9768,1000).

 Report for quarter submitted through FTP, manual entry or file import or upload onto TaxNet system.

Potential Benefits of Monthly Reporting

- Combined Medicaid savings from SMART Act initiatives estimated at \$1.1B (not just attributable to monthly wage reporting).
- Potential as UI integrity tool to detect claim fraud.
- For July December 2015, identified 13,197 claimants for whom wages reported for month and who received benefits for at least three weeks of month, including last week.
- Total potential overpayments of \$83M.
 - \$43M potentially preventable.
- Monthly reporting offers more granularity.

Other Efforts to Combat Waste, Fraud and Abuse

- Cross matches against state driver's license records.
- Call-in notices where remote claimant provides outof-state ID (will have to present or send copy of ID).
- Federal TOP initiative.
- Inmate cross matches.
- Social security cross matches.
- National Directory of New Hires.

Potential Future Wage Report Items

- PA 98–1133 authorized rulemaking to require employers subject to monthly reporting to report employee occupation; hours worked; hourly wage; work location.
- IDES would have to permit additional items to be submitted via "native files."