By: Moss To: Labor; Ways and Means

## HOUSE BILL NO. 720 (As Passed the House)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 71-5-19, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO 2 REVISE THE PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN VIOLATIONS OF THE UNEMPLOYMENT 3 COMPENSATION LAW; TO AMEND SECTION 71-5-355, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, IN CONFORMITY THERETO; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 6 SECTION 1. Section 71-5-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 7 amended as follows: 71-5-19. (1) Whoever makes a false statement or 8 representation knowing it to be false, or knowingly fails to 9 10 disclose a material fact, to obtain or increase any benefit or other payment under this chapter or under an employment security 11 12 law of any other state, of the federal government or of a foreign 13 government, either for himself or for any other person, shall be punished by a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) 14 15 nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or by imprisonment for not longer than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and 16 17 imprisonment; and each such false statement or representation or failure to disclose a material fact shall constitute a separate 18 19 offense. 20 (2) Any employing unit, any officer or agent of an employing unit or any other person who makes a false statement or 21 22 representation knowing it to be false, or who knowingly fails to disclose a material fact, to prevent or reduce the payment of 23

benefits to any individual entitled thereto, or to avoid becoming

under this chapter, or who willfully fails or refuses to make any

contribution or other payment required from any employing unit

or remaining subject hereto, or to avoid or reduce any

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28 such contribution or other payment, or to furnish any reports

29 required hereunder or to produce or permit the inspection or

30 copying of records as required hereunder, shall be punished by a

- 31 fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than
- 32 One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by imprisonment for not
- 33 longer than sixty (60) days, or by both such fine and
- 34 imprisonment; and each such false statement, or representation, or
- 35 failure to disclose a material fact, and each day of such failure
- or refusal shall constitute a separate offense. <u>In lieu of such</u>
- 37 fine and imprisonment, the employing unit or representative, or
- 38 both employing unit and representative, if such representative is
- 39 <u>an employing unit in this state and is found to be a party to such</u>
- 40 <u>violation</u>, shall not be eligible for a contributions rate of less
- 41 than five and four-tenths percent (5.4%) for the tax year in which
- 42 <u>such violation is discovered by the commission and for the next</u>
- 43 <u>two (2) succeeding tax years.</u>
- 44 (3) Any person who shall willfully violate any provision of
- 45 this chapter or any other rule or regulation thereunder, the
- 46 violation of which is made unlawful or the observance of which is
- 47 required under the terms of this chapter and for which a penalty
- 48 is neither prescribed herein nor provided by any other applicable
- 49 statute, shall be punished by a fine of not less than One Hundred
- 50 Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00),
- or by imprisonment for not longer than sixty (60) days, or by both
- 52 such fine and imprisonment; and each day such violation continues
- 53 shall be deemed to be a separate offense. <u>In lieu of such fine</u>
- 54 and imprisonment, the employing unit or representative, or both
- 55 employing unit and representative, if such representative is an
- 56 employing unit in this state and is found to be a party to such
- 57 <u>violation, shall not be eligible for a contributions rate of less</u>
- 58 than five and four-tenths percent (5.4%) for the tax year in which
- 59 the violation is discovered by the commission and for the next two
- 60 (2) succeeding tax years.
- 61 (4) Any person who, by reason of the nondisclosure or
- 62 misrepresentation by him or by another of a material fact,
- 63 irrespective of whether such nondisclosure or misrepresentation
- 64 was known or fraudulent, or who, for any other reason has received

- 65 any such benefits under this chapter, while any conditions for the
- 66 receipt of benefits imposed by this chapter were not fulfilled in
- 67 his case, or while he was disqualified from receiving benefits,
- 68 shall, in the discretion of the commission, either be liable to
- 69 have such sum deducted from any future benefits payable to him
- 70 under this chapter or shall be liable to repay to the commission
- 71 for the unemployment compensation fund a sum equal to the amount
- 72 so received by him; and such sum shall be collectible in the
- 73 manner provided in Sections 71-5-363 to 71-5-383 for the
- 74 collection of past-due contributions. Provided, however, that no
- 75 such deduction shall be made, nor shall any action be taken for
- 76 the collection of any such overpayments, after five (5) years have
- 77 elapsed from the date of the receipt of the benefits at issue;
- 78 provided further that any such judgment against such person for
- 79 collection of such overpayments shall not be a lien upon the
- 80 property of the person for a longer period than five (5) years
- 81 from the date of the filing of the lien, and any such notice of
- 82 lien shall not be refiled by the commission.
- 83 (5) The commission, by agreement with another state or the
- 84 United States, as provided under Section 303(g) of the Social
- 85 Security Act, may recover any overpayment of benefits paid to any
- 86 individual under the laws of this state or of another state or
- 87 under an unemployment benefit program of the United States. Any
- 88 overpayments subject to this subsection may be deducted from any
- 89 future benefits payable to the individual under the laws of this
- 90 state or of another state or under an unemployment program of the
- 91 United States.
- 92 SECTION 2. Section 71-5-355, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 93 amended as follows:
- 94 71-5-355. (1) As used in this section, the following words
- 95 and phrases shall have the following meanings, unless the context
- 96 clearly requires otherwise:
- 97 (a) "Tax year" means any period beginning on January 1

- 98 and ending on December 31 of a year.
- 99 (b) "Computation date" means June 30 of any calendar
- 100 year immediately preceding the tax year during which the
- 101 particular contribution rates are effective.
- 102 (c) "Effective date" means January 1 of the tax year.
- 103 (d) Except as hereinafter provided, "payroll" means the
- 104 total of all wages paid for employment by an employer as defined
- in Section 71-5-11, subsection H, plus the total of all
- 106 remuneration paid by such employer excluded from the definition of
- 107 wages by Section 71-5-351. For the computation of modified rates,
- 108 "payroll" means the total of all wages paid for employment by an
- 109 employer as defined in Section 71-5-11, subsection H.
- (e) For the computation of modified rates, "eligible
- 111 employer" means an employer whose experience-rating record has
- 112 been chargeable with benefits throughout the thirty-six (36)
- 113 consecutive calendar-month period ending on the computation date,
- 114 except that any employer who has not been subject to the
- 115 Mississippi Employment Security Law for a period of time
- 116 sufficient to meet the thirty-six (36) consecutive calendar-month
- 117 requirement shall be an eligible employer if his experience-rating
- 118 record has been chargeable throughout not less than the twelve
- 119 (12) consecutive calendar-month period ending on the computation
- 120 date. No employer shall be considered eligible for a contribution
- 121 rate less than five and four-tenths percent (5.4%) with respect to
- 122 any tax year, who has failed to file any two (2) quarterly reports
- 123 within the qualifying period by September 30 following the
- 124 computation date. <u>No employer or employing unit shall be eligible</u>
- 125 for a contribution rate of less than five and four-tenths percent
- 126 (5.4%) for the tax year in which the employing unit is found by
- 127 the commission to be in violation of Section 71-5-19(2) or (3) and
- 128 for the next two (2) succeeding tax years. No representative of
- 129 <u>such employing unit who was a party to a violation as described in</u>
- 130 <u>Section 71-5-19(2) or (3), if such representative was or is an</u>

131 <u>employing unit in this state, shall be eligible for a</u>

132 contributions rate of less than five and four-tenths percent

- 133 (5.4%) for the tax year in which such violation was detected by
- 134 the commission and for the next two (2) succeeding tax years.
- (f) With respect to any tax year, "reserve ratio" means
- 136 the ratio which the total amount available for the payment of
- 137 benefits in the Unemployment Compensation Fund, excluding any
- 138 amount which has been credited to the account of this state under
- 139 Section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended, and which has
- 140 been appropriated for the expenses of administration pursuant to
- 141 Section 71-5-457 whether or not withdrawn from such account, on
- 142 November 1 of each calendar year bears to the aggregate of the
- 143 taxable payrolls of all employers for the twelve (12) calendar
- 144 months ending on June 30 next preceding.
- 145 (g) "Modified rates" means the rates of employer
- 146 contributions determined under the provisions of this chapter and
- 147 the rates of newly subject employers, as provided in Section
- 148 71-5-353.
- (h) For the computation of modified rates, "qualifying
- 150 period" means a period of not less than the thirty-six (36)
- 151 consecutive calendar months ending on the computation date
- 152 throughout which an employer's experience-rating record has been
- 153 chargeable with benefits; except that with respect to any eligible
- 154 employer who has not been subject to this article for a period of
- 155 time sufficient to meet the thirty-six (36) consecutive
- 156 calendar-month requirement, "qualifying period" means the period
- 157 ending on the computation date throughout which his
- 158 experience-rating record has been chargeable with benefits, but in
- 159 no event less than the twelve (12) consecutive calendar-month
- 160 period ending on the computation date throughout which his
- 161 experience-rating record has been so chargeable.
- 162 (i) The "exposure criterion" (EC) is defined as the
- 163 cash balance of the Unemployment Compensation Fund which is

- 164 available for the payment of benefits as of November 1 of each calendar year, divided by the total wages, exclusive of wages paid 165 166 by all state agencies, all political subdivisions, reimbursable nonprofit corporations, and tax exempt public service employment, 167 168 for the twelve-month period ending June 30 immediately preceding such date. The EC shall be computed to four (4) decimal places. 169 170 (j) The "cost rate criterion" (CRC) is defined as Beginning with January 1974, the benefits paid for the 171 follows: 172 twelve-month period ending December 1974 are summed and divided by 173 the total wages for the twelve-month period ending on June 30, Similar ratios are computed by subtracting the earliest 174 175 month's benefit payments and adding the benefits of the next month 176 in the sequence and dividing each sum of twelve (12) months' benefits by the total wages for the twelve-month period ending on 177 the June 30 which is nearest to the final month of the period used 178 179 to compute the numerator. If December is the final month of the 180 period used to compute the numerator, then the twelve-month period ending the following June 30 will be used for the denominator. 181 182 The highest value of these ratios beginning with the ratio for benefits paid in calendar year 1974 is the cost rate criterion. 183 184 The cost rate criterion shall be computed to four (4) decimal places. Benefits and total wages used in the computation of the 185 186 cost rate criterion shall exclude all benefits and total wages
- 189 (k) "Size of fund index" (SOFI) is defined as the ratio
  190 of the EC to the CRC.

nonprofit corporations, and tax exempt PSE employment.

applicable to state agencies, political subdivisions, reimbursable

- 191 (1) No employer's contribution rate shall exceed five 192 and four-tenths percent (5.4%), nor be less than four-tenths of 193 one percent (.4%).
- 194 (2) Modified rates:

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195 (a) For any tax year, when the reserve ratio on the 196 preceding November 1, in the case of any tax year, equals or

- 197 exceeds four percent (4%), the modified rates, as hereinafter
- 198 prescribed, shall be in effect.
- 199 (b) Modified rates shall be determined for the tax year
- 200 for each eligible employer on the basis of his experience-rating
- 201 record in the following manner:
- 202 (i) The commission shall maintain an
- 203 experience-rating record for each employer. Nothing in this
- 204 chapter shall be construed to grant any employer or individuals
- 205 performing services for him any prior claim or rights to the
- 206 amounts paid by the employer into the fund.
- 207 (ii) Benefits paid to an eligible individual shall
- 208 be charged against the experience-rating record of his base period
- 209 employers in the proportion to which the wages paid by each base
- 210 period employer bears to the total wages paid to the individual by
- 211 all the base period employers, provided that benefits shall not be
- 212 charged to an employer's experience-rating record if the
- 213 commission finds that the individual:
- 1. Voluntarily left the employ of such
- 215 employer without good cause attributable to the employer,
- 216 2. Was discharged by such employer for
- 217 misconduct connected with his work,
- 3. Refused an offer of suitable work by such
- 219 employer without good cause, and the commission further finds that
- 220 such benefits are based on wages for employment for such employer
- 221 prior to such voluntary leaving, discharge or refusal of suitable
- 222 work, as the case may be, or
- 4. Had base period wages which included wages
- 224 for previously uncovered services as defined in Section
- 225 71-5-511(e) to the extent that the Unemployment Compensation Fund
- 226 is reimbursed for such benefits pursuant to Section 121 of Public
- 227 Law 94-566,
- 228 5. Extended benefits paid under the
- 229 provisions of Section 71-5-541 which are not reimbursable from

- 230 federal funds shall be charged to the experience-rating record of
- 231 base period employers,
- 232 6. Is still working for such employer on a
- 233 regular part-time basis under the same employment conditions as
- 234 hired. Provided, however, that benefits shall be charged against
- 235 an employer if an eligible individual is paid benefits who is
- 236 still working for such employer on a part-time "as-needed" basis,
- 7. Was hired to replace a United States
- 238 serviceman or servicewoman called into active duty and was laid
- 239 off upon the return to work by that serviceman or servicewoman,
- 240 unless such employer is a state agency or other political
- 241 subdivision or instrumentality of the state,
- 242 8. Was paid benefits during any week while in
- 243 training with the approval of the commission, under the provisions
- 244 of Section 71-5-B, or for any week while in training approved
- 245 under Section 236(a)(1) of the Trade Act of 1974, under the
- 246 provisions of Section 71-5-C.
- 9. Is not required to serve the one-week
- 248 waiting period as described in Section 71-5-505(2). In that
- 249 event, only the benefits paid in lieu of the waiting period week
- 250 may be noncharged.
- 251 (iii) The commission shall compute a benefit ratio
- 252 for each eligible employer, which shall be the quotient obtained
- 253 by dividing the total benefits charged to his experience-rating
- 254 record during the period his experience-rating record has been
- 255 chargeable, but not less than the twelve (12) consecutive
- 256 calendar-month period nor more than the thirty-six (36)
- 257 consecutive calendar-month period ending on the computation date,
- 258 by his total taxable payroll for the same period on which all
- 259 contributions due have been paid on or before the September 30
- 260 immediately following the computation date. Such benefit ratio
- 261 shall be computed to the tenth of a percent (.1%), rounding any
- 262 remainder to the next higher tenth.

263	If for the calendar year 199	5, or any calendar year
264	thereafter, the size of fund inde	x (SOFI), as defined in this
265	section, shall have computed for	such calendar year at 1.75 or
266	above, for purposes of adjustment	of the general experience rate
267	for such calendar year, then Tabl	e 6 or one of the tables
268	subsequent to Table 6 shall be ap	plied, according to their
269	provisions:	
270	TAE	ELE 1
271	ILLUSTRATES A .10% REDUCTION C	F THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
272	BASED ON A SOFI FACTOR OF 1.	51 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.55
273	A	В
274	If Benefit Ratio is The Ind	lividual Experience Rate is
275	0.0%	0.10%
276	0.1	0.10
277	0.2	0.10
278	0.3	0.20
279	0.4	0.30
280	0.5	0.40
281	0.6	0.50
282	0.7	0.60
283	0.8	0.70
284	0.9	0.80
285	1.0	0.90
286	1.1	1.00
287	1.2	1.10
288	1.3	1.20
289	1.4	1.30
290	1.5	1.40
291	1.6	1.50
292	1.7	1.60
293	1.8	1.70
294	1.9	1.80
295	2.0	1.90

296	2.1	2.00
297	2.2	2.10
298	2.3	2.20
299	2.4	2.30
300	2.5	2.40
301	2.6	2.50
302	2.7	2.60
303	2.8	2.70
304	2.9	2.80
305	3.0	2.90
306	3.1	3.00
307	3.2	3.10
308	3.3	3.20
309	3.4	3.30
310	3.5	3.40
311	3.6	3.50
312	3.7	3.60
313	3.8	3.70
314	3.9	3.80
315	4.0	3.90
316	4.1	4.00
317	4.2	4.10
318	4.3	4.20
319	4.4	4.30
320	4.5	4.40
321	4.6	4.50
322	4.7	4.60
323	4.8	4.70
324	4.9	4.80
325	5.0	4.90
326	5.1	5.00
327	5.2	5.10
328	5.3	5.20

329	5.4	5.30
330	5.5 and above	5.40
331		TABLE 2
332	ILLUSTRATES A .20% RED	UCTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
333	BASED ON A SOFI FACT	OR OF 1.55 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.60
334	A	В
335	If Benefit Ratio is	The Individual Experience Rate is
336	0.0%	0.10%
337	0.1	0.10
338	0.2	0.10
339	0.3	0.10
340	0.4	0.20
341	0.5	0.30
342	0.6	0.40
343	0.7	0.50
344	0.8	0.60
345	0.9	0.70
346	1.0	0.80
347	1.1	0.90
348	1.2	1.00
349	1.3	1.10
350	1.4	1.20
351	1.5	1.30
352	1.6	1.40
353	1.7	1.50
354	1.8	1.60
355	1.9	1.70
356	2.0	1.80
357	2.1	1.90
358	2.2	2.00
359	2.3	2.10
360	2.4	2.20
361	2.5	2.30

362	2.6		2.40
363	2.7		2.50
364	2.8		2.60
365	2.9		2.70
366	3.0		2.80
367	3.1		2.90
368	3.2		3.00
369	3.3		3.10
370	3.4		3.20
371	3.5		3.30
372	3.6		3.40
373	3.7		3.50
374	3.8		3.60
375	3.9		3.70
376	4.0		3.80
377	4.1		3.90
378	4.2		4.00
379	4.3		4.10
380	4.4		4.20
381	4.5		4.30
382	4.6		4.40
383	4.7		4.50
384	4.8		4.60
385	4.9		4.70
386	5.0		4.80
387	5.1		4.90
388	5.2		5.00
389	5.3		5.10
390	5.4		5.20
391	5.5		5.30
392	5.6 and above		5.40
393		TABLE 3	

394 ILLUSTRATES A .30% REDUCTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE

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395	BASED ON A SOFI FACTOR OF 1.60 OR A	BOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.65
396	A	В
397	If Benefit Ratio is The Individual	Experience Rate is
398	0.0%	0.10%
399	0.1	0.10
400	0.2	0.10
401	0.3	0.10
402	0.4	0.10
403	0.5	0.20
404	0.6	0.30
405	0.7	0.40
406	0.8	0.50
407	0.9	0.60
408	1.0	0.70
409	1.1	0.80
410	1.2	0.90
411	1.3	1.00
412	1.4	1.10
413	1.5	1.20
414	1.6	1.30
415	1.7	1.40
416	1.8	1.50
417	1.9	1.60
418	2.0	1.70
419	2.1	1.80
420	2.2	1.90
421	2.3	2.00
422	2.4	2.10
423	2.5	2.20
424	2.6	2.30
425	2.7	2.40
426	2.8	2.50
427	2.9	2.60

428	3.0	2.70
429	3.1	2.80
430	3.2	2.90
431	3.3	3.00
432	3.4	3.10
433	3.5	3.20
434	3.6	3.30
435	3.7	3.40
436	3.8	3.50
437	3.9	3.60
438	4.0	3.70
439	4.1	3.80
440	4.2	3.90
441	4.3	4.00
442	4.4	4.10
443	4.5	4.20
444	4.6	4.30
445	4.7	4.40
446	4.8	4.50
447	4.9	4.60
448	5.0	4.70
449	5.1	4.80
450	5.2	4.90
451	5.3	5.00
452	5.4	5.10
453	5.5	5.20
454	5.6	5.30
455	5.7 and above	5.40
456		TABLE 4
457	ILLUSTRATES A .40% REDUC	TION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
458	BASED ON A SOFI FACTOR	OF 1.65 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.70
459	A	В
460	If Benefit Ratio is T	he Individual Experience Rate is

461	0.0%	0.10%
462	0.1	0.10
463	0.2	0.10
464	0.3	0.10
465	0.4	0.10
466	0.5	0.10
467	0.6	0.20
468	0.7	0.30
469	0.8	0.40
470	0.9	0.50
471	1.0	0.60
472	1.1	0.70
473	1.2	0.80
474	1.3	0.90
475	1.4	1.00
476	1.5	1.10
477	1.6	1.20
478	1.7	1.30
479	1.8	1.40
480	1.9	1.50
481	2.0	1.60
482	2.1	1.70
483	2.2	1.80
484	2.3	1.90
485	2.4	2.00
486	2.5	2.10
487	2.6	2.20
488	2.7	2.30
489	2.8	2.40
490	2.9	2.50
491	3.0	2.60
492	3.1	2.70
493	3.2	2.80

494	3.3	2.90
495	3.4	3.00
496	3.5	3.10
497	3.6	3.20
498	3.7	3.30
499	3.8	3.40
500	3.9	3.50
501	4.0	3.60
502	4.1	3.70
503	4.2	3.80
504	4.3	3.90
505	4.4	4.00
506	4.5	4.10
507	4.6	4.20
508	4.7	4.30
509	4.8	4.40
510	4.9	4.50
511	5.0	4.60
512	5.1	4.70
513	5.2	4.80
514	5.3	4.90
515	5.4	5.00
516	5.5	5.10
517	5.6	5.20
518	5.7	5.30
519	5.8 and above	5.40
520		TABLE 5
521	ILLUSTRATES A .50% RED	UCTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
522	BASED ON A SOFI FACT	OR OF 1.70 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.75
523	А	В
524	If Benefit Ratio is	The Individual Experience Rate is
525	0.0%	0.10%
526	0.1	0.10

527	0.2	0.10
528	0.3	0.10
529	0.4	0.10
530	0.5	0.10
531	0.6	0.10
532	0.7	0.20
533	0.8	0.30
534	0.9	0.40
535	1.0	0.50
536	1.1	0.60
537	1.2	0.70
538	1.3	0.80
539	1.4	0.90
540	1.5	1.00
541	1.6	1.10
542	1.7	1.20
543	1.8	1.30
544	1.9	1.40
545	2.0	1.50
546	2.1	1.60
547	2.2	1.70
548	2.3	1.80
549	2.4	1.90
550	2.5	2.00
551	2.6	2.10
552	2.7	2.20
553	2.8	2.30
554	2.9	2.40
555	3.0	2.50
556	3.1	2.60
557	3.2	2.70
558	3.3	2.80
559	3.4	2.90

560	3.5	3.00
561	3.6	3.10
562	3.7	3.20
563	3.8	3.30
564	3.9	3.40
565	4.0	3.50
566	4.1	3.60
567	4.2	3.70
568	4.3	3.80
569	4.4	3.90
570	4.5	4.00
571	4.6	4.10
572	4.7	4.20
573	4.8	4.30
574	4.9	4.40
575	5.0	4.50
576	5.1	4.60
577	5.2	4.70
578	5.3	4.80
579	5.4	4.90
580	5.5	5.00
581	5.6	5.10
582	5.7	5.20
583	5.8	5.30
584	5.9 and above	5.40
585		TABLE 6
586	ILLUSTRATES A .60% RED	UCTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
587	BASED ON A SOFI FACT	OR OF 1.75 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.80
588	A	В
589	If Benefit Ratio is	The Individual Experience Rate is
590	0.0%	0.10%
591	0.1	0.10
592	0.2	0.10

593	0.3	0.10
594	0.4	0.10
595	0.5	0.10
596	0.6	0.10
597	0.7	0.10
598	0.8	0.20
599	0.9	0.30
600	1.0	0.40
601	1.1	0.50
602	1.2	0.60
603	1.3	0.70
604	1.4	0.80
605	1.5	0.90
606	1.6	1.00
607	1.7	1.10
608	1.8	1.20
609	1.9	1.30
610	2.0	1.40
611	2.1	1.50
612	2.2	1.60
613	2.3	1.70
614	2.4	1.80
615	2.5	1.90
616	2.6	2.00
617	2.7	2.10
618	2.8	2.20
619	2.9	2.30
620	3.0	2.40
621	3.1	2.50
622	3.2	2.60
623	3.3	2.70
624	3.4	2.80
625	3.5	2.90

626	3.6	3.00
627	3.7	3.10
628	3.8	3.20
629	3.9	3.30
630	4.0	3.40
631	4.1	3.50
632	4.2	3.60
633	4.3	3.70
634	4.4	3.80
635	4.5	3.90
636	4.6	4.00
637	4.7	4.10
638	4.8	4.20
639	4.9	4.30
640	5.0	4.40
641	5.1	4.50
642	5.2	4.60
643	5.3	4.70
644	5.4	4.80
645	5.5	4.90
646	5.6	5.00
647	5.7	5.10
648	5.8	5.20
649	5.9	5.30
650	6.0 and above	5.40
651		TABLE 7
652	ILLUSTRATES A .70% RED	UCTION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
653	BASED ON A SOFI FACT	OR OF 1.80 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.85
654	А	В
655	If Benefit Ratio is	The Individual Experience Rate is
656	0.0%	0.10%
657	0.1	0.10
658	0.2	0.10

659	0.3	0.10
660	0.4	0.10
661	0.5	0.10
662	0.6	0.10
663	0.7	0.10
664	0.8	0.10
665	0.9	0.20
666	1.0	0.30
667	1.1	0.40
668	1.2	0.50
669	1.3	0.60
670	1.4	0.70
671	1.5	0.80
672	1.6	0.90
673	1.7	1.00
674	1.8	1.10
675	1.9	1.20
676	2.0	1.30
677	2.1	1.40
678	2.2	1.50
679	2.3	1.60
680	2.4	1.70
681	2.5	1.80
682	2.6	1.90
683	2.7	2.00
684	2.8	2.10
685	2.9	2.20
686	3.0	2.30
687	3.1	2.40
688	3.2	2.50
689	3.3	2.60
690	3.4	2.70
691	3.5	2.80

692	3.6	2.90
693	3.7	3.00
694	3.8	3.10
695	3.9	3.20
696	4.0	3.30
697	4.1	3.40
698	4.2	3.50
699	4.3	3.60
700	4.4	3.70
701	4.5	3.80
702	4.6	3.90
703	4.7	4.00
704	4.8	4.10
705	4.9	4.20
706	5.0	4.30
707	5.1	4.40
708	5.2	4.50
709	5.3	4.60
710	5.4	4.70
711	5.5	4.80
712	5.6	4.90
713	5.7	5.00
714	5.8	5.10
715	5.9	5.20
716	6.0	5.30
717	6.1 and above	5.40
718		TABLE 8
719	ILLUSTRATES A .80% REDUCT	ION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
720	BASED ON A SOFI FACTOR	OF 1.85 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.90
721	A	В
722	If Benefit Ratio is Th	e Individual Experience Rate is
723	0.0%	0.10%
724	0.1	0.10

725	0.2	0.10
726	0.3	0.10
727	0.4	0.10
728	0.5	0.10
729	0.6	0.10
730	0.7	0.10
731	0.8	0.10
732	0.9	0.10
733	1.0	0.20
734	1.1	0.30
735	1.2	0.40
736	1.3	0.50
737	1.4	0.60
738	1.5	0.70
739	1.6	0.80
740	1.7	0.90
741	1.8	1.00
742	1.9	1.10
743	2.0	1.20
744	2.1	1.30
745	2.2	1.40
746	2.3	1.50
747	2.4	1.60
748	2.5	1.70
749	2.6	1.80
750	2.7	1.90
751	2.8	2.00
752	2.9	2.10
753	3.0	2.20
754	3.1	2.30
755	3.2	2.40
756	3.3	2.50
757	3.4	2.60

758	3.5	2.70
759	3.6	2.80
760	3.7	2.90
761	3.8	3.00
762	3.9	3.10
763	4.0	3.20
764	4.1	3.30
765	4.2	3.40
766	4.3	3.50
767	4.4	3.60
768	4.5	3.70
769	4.6	3.80
770	4.7	3.90
771	4.8	4.00
772	4.9	4.10
773	5.0	4.20
774	5.1	4.30
775	5.2	4.40
776	5.3	4.50
777	5.4	4.60
778	5.5	4.70
779	5.6	4.80
780	5.7	4.90
781	5.8	5.00
782	5.9	5.10
783	6.0	5.20
784	6.1	5.30
785	6.2 and above	5.40
786		TABLE 9
787	ILLUSTRATES A .90% REDUCT	ION OF THE INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCE RATE
788	BASED ON A SOFI FACTOR	OF 1.90 OR ABOVE BUT LESS THAN 1.95
789	A	В
790	If Benefit Ratio is Th	e Individual Experience Rate is

791	0.0%	0.10%
792	0.1	0.10
793	0.2	0.10
794	0.3	0.10
795	0.4	0.10
796	0.5	0.10
797	0.6	0.10
798	0.7	0.10
799	0.8	0.10
800	0.9	0.10
801	1.0	0.10
802	1.1	0.20
803	1.2	0.30
804	1.3	0.40
805	1.4	0.50
806	1.5	0.60
807	1.6	0.70
808	1.7	0.80
809	1.8	0.90
810	1.9	1.00
811	2.0	1.10
812	2.1	1.20
813	2.2	1.30
814	2.3	1.40
815	2.4	1.50
816	2.5	1.60
817	2.6	1.70
818	2.7	1.80
819	2.8	1.90
820	2.9	2.00
821	3.0	2.10
822	3.1	2.20
823	3.2	2.30

824	3.3 3.4			2.40		
	3.4					
825				2.50		
826	3.5			2.60		
827	3.6			2.70		
828	3.7			2.80		
829	3.8			2.90		
830	3.9			3.00		
831	4.0			3.10		
832	4.1			3.20		
833	4.2			3.30		
834	4.3			3.40		
835	4.4			3.50		
836	4.5			3.60		
837	4.6			3.70		
838	4.7			3.80		
839	4.8			3.90		
840	4.9			4.00		
841	5.0			4.10		
842	5.1			4.20		
843	5.2			4.30		
844	5.3			4.40		
845	5.4			4.50		
846	5.5			4.60		
847	5.6			4.70		
848	5.7			4.80		
849	5.8			4.90		
850	5.9			5.00		
851	6.0			5.10		
852	6.1			5.20		
853	6.2			5.30		
854	6.3 and above			5.40		
855		TABLE	10			
856	ILLUSTRATES A 1.00% REDUC	CTION OF	THE	INDIVIDUAL	EXPERIENCE	RATE

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857	BAS	ED ON A SO	FI FA	CTOR OF 1.	95 OR ABOVE		
858	А				В		
859	If Benefit	Ratio is	The	Individual	Experience	Rate	is
860	0.0%				0.10%		
861	0.1				0.10		
862	0.2				0.10		
863	0.3				0.10		
864	0.4				0.10		
865	0.5				0.10		
866	0.6				0.10		
867	0.7				0.10		
868	0.8				0.10		
869	0.9				0.10		
870	1.0				0.10		
871	1.1				0.10		
872	1.2				0.20		
873	1.3				0.30		
874	1.4				0.40		
875	1.5				0.50		
876	1.6				0.60		
877	1.7				0.70		
878	1.8				0.80		
879	1.9				0.90		
880	2.0				1.00		
881	2.1				1.10		
882	2.2				1.20		
883	2.3				1.30		
884	2.4				1.40		
885	2.5				1.50		
886	2.6				1.60		
887	2.7				1.70		
888	2.8				1.80		
889	2.9				1.90		

890	3.0	2.00
891	3.1	2.10
892	3.2	2.20
893	3.3	2.30
894	3.4	2.40
895	3.5	2.50
896	3.6	2.60
897	3.7	2.70
898	3.8	2.80
899	3.9	2.90
900	4.0	3.00
901	4.1	3.10
902	4.2	3.20
903	4.3	3.30
904	4.4	3.40
905	4.5	3.50
906	4.6	3.60
907	4.7	3.70
908	4.8	3.80
909	4.9	3.90
910	5.0	4.00
911	5.1	4.10
912	5.2	4.20
913	5.3	4.30
914	5.4	4.40
915	5.5	4.50
916	5.6	4.60
917	5.7	4.70
918	5.8	4.80
919	5.9	4.90
920	6.0	5.00
921	6.1	5.10
922	6.2	5.20

943	0.3	
924	6.4 and above 5.40	
925	(iv) 1. The contribution rate for each eligible	
926	employer shall be the sum of two (2) rates: His individual	
927	experience rate in the range from zero percent (0%) to five and	
928	four-tenths percent (5.4%), plus a general experience rate. In	no
929	event shall the resulting rate be in excess of five and	
930	four-tenths percent (5.4%).	
931	2. The employer's individual experience ra	te
932	shall be equal to his benefit ratio as computed under subsection	
933	(2)(b)(iii) above.	
934	3. The general experience rate shall be	
935	determined in the following manner: The commission shall	
936	determine annually, for the thirty-six (36) consecutive	
937	calendar-month period ending on the computation date, the amount	
938	of benefits which were not charged to the record of any employer	
939	and of benefits which were ineffectively charged to the employer	'ន
940	experience-rating record. For the purposes of subsection	
941	(2)(b)(iv)3, the term "ineffectively charged benefits" shall	
942	include:	
943	The total of the amounts of benefits charged to the	
944	experience-rating records of all eligible employers which caused	
945	their benefit ratios to exceed five and four-tenths percent	
946	(5.4%), the total of the amounts of benefits charged to the	
947	experience-rating records of all ineligible employers which woul	d
948	cause their benefit ratios to exceed five and four-tenths percen	t
949	(5.4%) if they were eligible employers, and the total of the	
950	amounts of benefits charged or chargeable to the experience-rati	ng
951	record of any employer who has discontinued his business or whos	е
952	coverage has been terminated within such period; provided, that	
953	solely for the purposes of determining the amounts of	
954	ineffectively charged benefits as herein defined, a "benefit	
955	ratio" shall be computed for each ineligible employer, which sha	11

956 be the quotient obtained by dividing the total benefits charged to his experience-rating record throughout the period ending on the 957 958 computation date, during which his experience-rating record has been chargeable with benefits, by his total taxable payroll for 959 960 the same period on which all contributions due have been paid on 961 or before the September 30 immediately following the computation 962 date; and provided further, that such benefit ratio shall be 963 computed to the tenth of one percent (.1%) and any remainder shall be rounded to the next higher tenth. The ratio of the sum of 964 965 these amounts to the taxable wages paid during the same period by 966 all eligible employers whose benefit ratio did not exceed five and 967 four-tenths percent (5.4%), computed to the next higher tenth of one percent (.1%), shall be the general experience rate. 968

4. The general experience rate shall be adjusted by use of the size of fund index factor. This factor may be positive or negative, and shall be determined as follows: From the target SOFI of 1.50, subtract the simple average of the current and preceding years' exposure criterions divided by the cost rate criterion. The result is then multiplied by the product of the CRC and total wages for the twelve-month period ending June 30 divided by the taxable wages for the twelve-month period ending June 30. This is the percentage positive or negative added to the general experience rate. This percentage is computed to one (1) decimal place, and rounded to the next higher tenth.

980 5. Notwithstanding any other provisions of 981 subsection (2)(b)(iv), if the general experience rate for any tax 982 year as computed and adjusted on the basis of the size of fund 983 index is a negative percentage, it shall be disregarded.

984 6. The commission shall include in its annual 985 rate notice to employers a brief explanation of the elements of 986 the general experience rate, and shall include in its regular 987 publications an annual analysis of benefits not charged to the 988 record of any employer, and of the benefit experience of employers

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- 989 by industry group whose benefit ratio exceeds four percent (4%),
- 990 and of any other factors which may affect the size of the general
- 991 experience rate.
- 992 (v) When any employing unit in any manner succeeds
- 993 to or acquires the organization, trade, business or substantially
- 994 all the assets thereof of an employer, excepting any assets
- 995 retained by such employer incident to the liquidation of his
- 996 obligations, whether or not such acquiring employing unit was an
- 997 employer within the meaning of Section 71-5-11, subsection H,
- 998 prior to such acquisition, and continues such organization, trade
- 999 or business, the experience-rating and payroll records of the
- 1000 predecessor employer shall be transferred as of the date of
- 1001 acquisition to the successor employer for the purpose of rate
- 1002 determination.
- 1003 (vi) When any employing unit succeeds to or
- 1004 acquires a distinct and severable portion of an organization,
- 1005 trade or business, the experience-rating and payroll records of
- 1006 such portion, if separately identifiable, shall be transferred to
- 1007 the successor upon:
- 1008 1. The mutual consent of the predecessor and
- 1009 the successor,
- 1010 2. Approval of the commission,
- 1011 3. Continued operation of the transferred
- 1012 portion by the successor after transfer, and
- 1013 4. The execution and the filing with the
- 1014 commission by the predecessor employer of a waiver relinquishing
- 1015 all rights to have the experience-rating and payroll records of
- 1016 the transferred portion used for the purpose of determining
- 1017 modified rates of contribution for such predecessor.
- 1018 (vii) If the successor was an employer subject to
- 1019 this chapter prior to the date of acquisition, it shall continue
- 1020 to pay contributions at the rate applicable to it from the date
- 1021 the acquisition occurred until the end of the then current tax

1022 year. If the successor was not an employer prior to the date of 1023 acquisition, it shall pay contributions at the rate applicable to 1024 the predecessor or, if more than one (1) predecessor and the same 1025 rate is applicable to both, the rate applicable to the predecessor 1026 or predecessors, from the date the acquisition occurred until the 1027 end of the then current tax year. If the successor was not an 1028 employer prior to the date the acquisition occurred and simultaneously acquires the businesses of two (2) or more 1029 1030 employers to whom different rates of contributions are applicable, 1031 it shall pay contributions from the date of the acquisition until the end of the current tax year at a rate computed on the basis of 1032 1033 the combined experience-rating and payroll records of the 1034 predecessors as of the computation date for such tax year. In all 1035 cases the rate of contributions applicable to such successor for each succeeding tax year shall be computed on the basis of the 1036 1037 combined experience-rating and payroll records of the successor 1038 and the predecessor or predecessors. (viii) The commission shall notify each employer 1039 1040 quarterly of the benefits paid and charged to his 1041 experience-rating record; and such notification, in the absence of 1042 an application for redetermination filed within thirty (30) days after the date of the mailing of such notice, shall be final, 1043 1044 conclusive and binding upon the employer for all purposes. A 1045 redetermination, made after notice and opportunity for a fair hearing, by a hearing officer designated by the commission who 1046 1047 shall consider and decide these and related applications and protests; and the finding of fact in connection therewith may be 1048 1049 introduced into any subsequent administrative or judicial proceedings involving the determination of the rate of 1050 1051 contributions of any employer for any tax year, and shall be 1052 entitled to the same finality as is provided in this subsection 1053 with respect to the findings of fact in proceedings to redetermine 1054 the contribution rate of an employer.

1055	(ix) The commission shall notify each employer of
1056	his rate of contribution as determined for any tax year as soon as
1057	reasonably possible after November 1 of the preceding year. Such
1058	determination shall be final, conclusive and binding upon such
1059	employer unless, within thirty (30) days after the date of the
1060	mailing of such notice to his last known address, the employer
1061	files with the commission an application for review and
1062	redetermination of his contribution rate, setting forth his
1063	reasons therefor. If the commission grants such review, the
1064	employer shall be promptly notified thereof and shall be afforded
1065	an opportunity for a fair hearing by a hearing officer designated
1066	by the commission who shall consider and decide these and related
1067	applications and protests; but no employer shall be allowed, in
1068	any proceeding involving his rate of contributions or contribution
1069	liability, to contest the chargeability to his account of any
1070	benefits paid in accordance with a determination, redetermination
1071	or decision pursuant to Sections 71-5-515 through 71-5-533 except
1072	upon the ground that the services on the basis of which such
1073	benefits were found to be chargeable did not constitute services
1074	performed in employment for him, and then only in the event that
1075	he was not a party to such determination, redetermination,
1076	decision or to any other proceedings provided in this chapter in
1077	which the character of such services was determined. The employer
1078	shall be promptly notified of the denial of this application or of
1079	the redetermination, both of which shall become final unless,
1080	within ten (10) days after the date of mailing of notice thereof,
1081	there shall be an appeal to the commission itself. Any such
1082	appeal shall be on the record before said designated hearing
1083	officer, and the decision of said commission shall become final
1084	unless, within thirty (30) days after the date of mailing of
1085	notice thereof to the employer's last known address, there shall
1086	be an appeal to the Circuit Court of the First Judicial District
1087	of Hinds County, Mississippi, in accordance with the provisions of

1088 law with respect to review of civil causes by certiorari.

1089 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from

1090 and after July 1, 2000.