195 195 (acrustus)

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION, 1985

ENROLLED

Committee Substitute for SENATE BILL NO. 195

(By Mr. Josephovich, Mr. Resident)

PASSED March 6, 1985
In Effect full 1, 1985
Passage

*ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

Senate Bill No. 195

(Mr. Tonkovich, Mr. President, original sponsor)

[Passed March 6, 1985; to take effect July 1, 1985.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact section ten, article five, chapter twenty-one-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended; to amend and reenact sections one and ten, article six of said chapter; and to amend and reenact section five, article six-a of said chapter, all relating to unemployment compensation; employer coverage and responsibility; experience ratings; decreased rates; adjustment of accounts and rates; debit balance account rates; three-year, one percent surtax on wages paid by debit balance employers and foreign corporations or businesses engaged in construction trades; reduction of certain debit balance employer's reserve balance; employee eligibility; benefits; eligibility qualifications; increase of minimum wage earned during base period to qualify for benefits; benefit rate-total unemployment; annual computation and publication of rates; reducing maximum duration for entitlement to benefits from twenty-eight to twenty-six weeks; changing the maximum weekly benefit rate; amending the benefit table; and increasing the total extended benefit amount.

^{*}Reprinted

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That section ten, article five, chapter twenty-one-a of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended and reenacted; and that sections one and ten, article six of said chapter be amended and reenacted; and that section five, article six-a, chapter twenty-one-a of said chapter be amended and reenacted, all to read as follows:

ARTICLE 5. EMPLOYER COVERAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY.

§21A-5-10. Experience ratings; decreased rates; adjustment of accounts and rates; debit balance account rates.

- On and after July one, one thousand nine hundred eightyone, an employer's payment shall remain two and seventenths percent, until:
- 4 (1) There have elapsed thirty-six consecutive months
 5 immediately preceding the computation date throughout
 6 which an employer's account was chargeable with benefits.
- 7 (2) His payments credited to his account for all past years 8 exceed the benefits charged to his account by an amount 9 equal to at least the percent of his average annual payroll as 10 shown in Column B of Table II. His rate shall be the amount 11 appearing in Column C of Table II on line with the 12 percentage in Column B.
 - When the total assets of the fund as of January one of a calendar year equal or exceed one hundred percent but are less than one hundred twenty-five percent of the average benefit payments from the trust fund for the three preceding calendar years, an employer's rate shall be the amount appearing in Column D of Table II on line with the percentage in Column B.
 - When the total assets of the fund as of January one of a calendar year equal or exceed one hundred twenty-five percent but are less than one hundred fifty percent, an employer's rate shall be the amount appearing in Column E of Table II on line with the percentage in Column B.
- When the total assets of the fund as of January one of a calendar year equal or exceed one hundred fifty percent, an employer's rate shall be the amount appearing in Column F of Table II on line with the percentage in Column B.

29	TABLE II						
	Col. A	Col. B Percentage of Average Annual Payroll By which Credits Exceed	Col. C	Col. D	Col. E	Col. F	
	Class	Charges	Rate				
30	(1)	0.0 to 6.0	4.5	3.5	2.5	1.5	
31	(2)	6.0	4.1	3.1	2.1	1.1	
32	(3)	7.0	3.9	2.9	1.9	0.9	
33	(4)	8.0	3.7	2.7	1.7	0.7	
34	(5)	9.0	3.5	2.5	1.5	0.5	
35	(6)	10.0	3.3	2.3	1.3	0.3	
36	(7)	10.5	3.1	2.1	1.1	0.1	
37	(8)	11.0	2.9	1.9	0.9	0.0	
38	(9)	11.5	2.7	1.7	0.7	0.0	
39	(10)	12.0	2.5	1.5	0.5	0.0	
40	(11)	12.5	2.3	1.3	0.3	0.0	
41	(12)	13.0	2.1	1.1	0.1	0.0	
42	(13)	14.0	1.9	0.9	0.0	0.0	
43	(14)	16.0	1.7	0.7	0.0	0.0	
44	(15)	18.0 and over	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	

All employer accounts in which charges for all past years exceed credits for such past years shall be adjusted effective June thirty, one thousand nine hundred sixty-seven, so that as of said date, for the purpose of determining such employer's rate of contribution, the credits for all past years shall be deemed to equal the charges to such accounts.

Effective on and after the computation date of June thirty, one thousand nine hundred sixty-eight, and notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), section seven of this article relating to the noncrediting of employers' accounts with the first seven tenths or with the first four tenths of one percent of contributions paid; for the purpose of determining whether or not an employer shall pay contributions at a rate in excess of two and seventenths percent as hereinafter set forth, but not for the purpose of determining such rate, the department shall, only for the purpose set forth herein and not as a credit to such account, add to the accounts of all employers having a

debit balance, contribution payments made by such 63 employers on and after July one, one thousand nine 64 65 hundred sixty-seven, which payments are not credited to employers' accounts by reason of the provisions contained 66 in subsection (1), section seven of this article. If, after such 67 contribution payments have been added to such employers' 68 accounts, such accounts continue to show a debit balance, 69 70 such employers shall make payments at a rate in excess of 71 four and five-tenths percent. If, after such contribution 72 payments have been added to such employers' accounts, such accounts show a credit balance, such employers shall 73 74 make payments at the rate of four and five-tenths percent. 75 If, under the conditions set forth in this paragraph, it is 76 determined that an employer shall pay contributions at a rate in excess of four and five-tenths percent, the rate in 77 78 excess of four and five-tenths percent at which an employer 79 shall pay contributions shall then be determined solely 80 under the conditions set forth in the following paragraphs of this section. The provisions contained in this paragraph 81 shall in no way be considered as providing for the crediting 82 to an employer's account, of amounts of employer 83 contribution payments which are expressly not credited to 84 employers' accounts in subsection (1), section seven of this 85 article. 86

87 Effective on and after the computation date of June thirty, one thousand nine hundred sixty-seven, all 88 employers with a debit balance account in which the 89 90 benefits charged to their account for all past years exceed the payments credited to their account for such past years 91 92 by an amount up to and including ten percent of their average annual payroll, shall make payments to the 93 unemployment compensation fund at the rate of three 94 95 percent of wages paid by them with respect to employment; except that effective on and after July one, one thousand 96 97 nine hundred eighty-one, all employers with a debit balance account in which the benefits charged to their 98 account for all past years exceed the payments credited to 99 100 their account for such past years by an amount up to and 101 including five percent of their average annual payroll, shall 102 make payments to the unemployment compensation fund at the rate of five and five-tenths percent of wages paid by 103 104 them with respect to employment.

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105 Effective on or after July one, one thousand nine hundred 106 eighty-one, all employers with a debit balance account in 107 which the benefits charged to their account for all past 108 years exceed the payments credited to their account for 109 such past years by an amount in excess of five percent but 110 less than ten percent of their average annual payroll, shall 111 make payments to the unemployment compensation fund at 112 the rate of six and five-tenths percent of wages paid by them 113 with respect to employment.

Effective on and after the computation date of June 115 thirty, one thousand nine hundred sixty-seven, all 116 employers with a debit balance account in which the 117 benefits charged to their account for all past years exceed 118 the payments credited to their account for such past years 119 by an amount of ten percent or above of their average 120 annual payroll, shall make payments to the unemployment 121 compensation fund at the rate of three and three-tenths percent of wages paid by them with respect to employment; 123 except that effective on and after July one, one thousand 124 nine hundred eighty-one, such payments to the unemployment compensation fund shall be at the rate of 126 seven and five-tenths percent of wages paid by them with 127 respect to employment or at such other rate authorized by 128 this article.

"Debit balance account" for the purpose of this section 130 means an account in which the benefits charged for all past years exceed the payments credited for such past years.

"Credit balance account" for the purposes of this section 133 means an account in which the payments credited for all past years exceed the benefits charged for such past years.

Once a debit balance account rate is established for an 135 136 employer's account for a year, it shall apply for the entire 137 year.

"Due date" means the last day of the month next 138 139 following a calendar quarter. In determining the amount in 140 the fund on any due date, contributions received, but not benefits paid, for such month next following the end of a 142 calendar quarter shall be included.

143 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, 144 every employer subject to the provisions of this chapter shall, in addition to any other tax provided for in this 146 section, pay contributions at the rate of one percent surtax

- 147 on wages paid by him with respect to employment,
- 148 beginning January first, one thousand nine hundred eighty-
- 149 one, until such time that the commissioner determines that
- 150 the fund assets equal or exceed the average benefits
- 151 payments from the fund for the preceding three calendar
- 152 years at which time such surtax shall be discontinued, and
- 153 the commissioner shall so notify the employers subject to
- 154 the provisions of this chapter.
- 155 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
- 156 every debit balance employer subject to the provisions of
- 157 this chapter, and any foreign corporation or business entity
- 158 engaged in the construction trades which has not been an
- 159 employer in the state of West Virginia for thirty-six
- 160 consecutive months ending on the computation date, shall,
- 161 in addition to any other tax provided for in this section, pay
- 162 contributions at the rate of one percent surtax on wages
- 163 paid by him with respect to employment for a period of
- 164 three years, beginning January first, one thousand nine
- 165 hundred eighty-six.
- 166 (c) Effective June thirty, one thousand nine hundred
- 167 eighty-five, and each computation date thereafter, the
- 168 reserve balance of a debit balance employer shall be
- 169 reduced to fifteen percent if such balance exceeds fifteen
- 170 percent. The amount of noncredited tax shall be reduced by
- 171 an amount equal to the eliminated charges. If the
- 172 eliminated charges exceed the amount of noncredited tax.
- 173 the noncredited tax shall be reduced to zero.

ARTICLE 6. EMPLOYEE ELIGIBILITY; BENEFITS.

§21A-6-1. Eligibility qualifications.

- 1 An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive
- 2 benefits only if the commissioner finds that:
- 3 (1) He has registered for work at and thereafter
- 4 continues to report at an employment office in accordance
- 5 with the regulations of the commissioner.
- 6 (2) He has made a claim for benefits in accordance with
- 7 the provisions of article seven of this chapter.
- **8** (3) He is able to work and is available for full-time work
- 9 for which he is fitted by prior training or experience and is
- 10 doing that which a reasonably prudent person in his
- 11 circumstances would do in seeking work.
- 12 (4) He has been totally or partially unemployed during

14 week for which he claims benefits for total or partial

- 15 unemployment.
- 16 (5) He has within his base period earned wages for
- 17 employment equal to not less than two thousand two
- 18 hundred dollars and must have earned wages in more than
- 19 one quarter of his base period.

§21A-6-10. Benefit rate — Total unemployment; annual computation and publication of rates.

- 1 Each eligible individual who is totally unemployed in any
- 2 week shall be paid benefits with respect to that week at the
- 3 weekly rate appearing in Column (C) in the Benefit Table in
- 4 this paragraph, on the line on which in Column (A) there is
- 5 indicated the employee's wage class, except as otherwise
- 6 provided under the term "total and partial unemployment"
- 7 in section three, article one of this chapter. The employee's
- 8 wage class shall be determined by his base period wages as
- 9 shown in Column (B) in the Benefit Table. The right of an
- 10 employee to receive benefits shall not be prejudiced nor the
- 11 amount thereof be diminished by reason of failure by an
- 12 employer to pay either the wages earned by the employee or
- 13 the contribution due on such wages. An individual who is
- 14 totally unemployed but earns in excess of twenty-five
- 15 dollars as a result of odd-job or subsidiary work in any16 benefit week shall be paid benefits for such week in
- 17 accordance with the provisions of this chapter pertaining to
- 18 benefits for partial unemployment.
- 19 The maximum benefit for each wage class shall be equal
- 20 to twenty-six times the weekly benefit rate.
- 21 On and after July one, one thousand nine hundred eighty-
- 22 five, and until July one, one thousand nine hundred eighty-23 eight, the maximum weekly benefit rate shall be seventy
- 23 eight, the maximum weekly benefit rate shall be seventy24 percent of the average weekly wage in West Virginia, which
- 25 average weekly wage shall not exceed three hundred and
- 26 twenty-two dollars per week; thereafter, the maximum
- 27 benefit rate shall be sixty-six and two-thirds percent of the
- 28 average weekly wage in West Virginia.
- 29 Beginning on July one, one thousand nine hundred
- 30 eighty-eight, the commissioner shall determine the 31 maximum weekly benefit rate upon the basis of the formula
- 32 set forth above and shall establish wage classes as are
- 33 required, increasing or decreasing the amount of the base

34 period wages required for each wage class by one hundred fifty dollars, establishing the weekly benefit rate for each 36 wage class by rounded dollar amount to be fifty-five percent of one fifty-second of the median dollar amount of 37 wages in the base period for such wage class, and 38 establishing the maximum benefit for each wage class as an 39 amount equal to twenty-six times the weekly benefit rate. 40 41 The maximum weekly benefit rate, when computed by the commissioner, in accordance with the foregoing provisions, shall be rounded to the next lowest multiple of one dollar. 43

BENEFIT TABLE

A Wage Class	B Wages in Base Period	C Weekly Benefit Rate	Maximum Benefit in Benefit Year for Total and/or Partial Un- employment
***************************************	Under \$2,200.0	0 Ineligible	
1	\$2,200.00— 2,349.9	9 \$24.00	\$624.00
2	2,350.00— $2,499.9$	9 25.00	650.00
3	2,500.00— $2,649.9$	9 27.00	702.00
4	2,650.00— 2,799.9	9 28.00	728.00
5	2,800.00— 2,949.9	9 30.00	780.00
6	2,950.00— 3,099.9	9 31.00	806.00
7	3,100.00— 3,249.9	9 33.00	858.00
8	3,250.00— 3,399.9	9 35.00	910.00
9	3,400.00— 3,549.9	9 36.00	936.00
10	3,550.00— 3,699.9	9 38.00	988.00
11	3,700.00— 3,849.9	9 39.00	1,014.00
12	3,850.00— 3,999.9	9 41.00	1,066.00
13	4,000.00— $4,149.9$	9 43.00	1,118.00
14	4,150.00— $4,299.9$	9 44.00	1,144.00
15	4,300.00— 4,449.9		$1,\!196.00$
16	4,450.00— $4,599.9$		$1,\!222.00$
17	4,600.00 - 4,749.9		$1,\!274.00$
18	4,750.00— 4,899.9		1,326.00
19	4,900.00— 5,049.9		1,352.00
20	5,050.00— $5,199.9$		1,404.00
21	5,200.00— $5,349.9$		1,430.00
22	5,350.00— $5,499.9$	9 57.00	1,482.00

68	23	5,500.00—	5,649.99	58.00	1,508.00
69	24	5,650.00-	5,799.99	60.00	1,560.00
70	25	5,800.00	5,949.99	62.00	1,612.00
71	26	5,950.00-	6,099.99	63.00	1,638.00
72	27	6,100.00-	6,249.99	65.00	1,690.00
73	28	6,250.00—	6,399.99	66.00	1,716.00
74	29	6,400.00—	6,549.99	68.00	1,768.00
75	30	6,550.00—	6,699.99	70.00	1,820.00
76	31	6,700.00—	6,849.99	71.00	1,846.00
77	32	6,850.00—	6,999.99	73.00	1,898.00
78	33	7,000.00—	7,149.99	74.00	1,924.00
79	34	7,150.00—	7,299.99	76.00	1,976.00
80	35	7,300.00—	7,449.99	78.00	2,028.00
81	36	7,450.00—	7,599.99	79.00	2,054.00
82	37	7,600.00—	7,749.99	81.00	2,106.00
83	38	7,750.00—	7,899.99	82.00	$2,\!132.00$
84	39	7,900.00—	8,049.99	84.00	$2,\!184.00$
85	40	8,050.00—	8,199.99	85.00	2,210.00
86	41	8,200.00—	8,349.99	87.00	$2,\!262.00$
87	42	8,350.00—	8,499.99	89.00	2,314.00
88	43	8,500.00—	8,649.99	90.00	2,340.00
89	44	8,650.00—	8,799.99	92.00	$2,\!392.00$
90	45	8,800.00—	8,949.99	93.00	2,418.00
91	46	8,950.00	9,099.99	95.00	2,470.00
92	47	9,100.00—	9,249.99	97.00	$2,\!522.00$
93	48	$9,\!250.00$ —	9,399.99	98.00	$2,\!548.00$
94	49	9,400.00—	9,549.99	100.00	2,600.00
95	50	9,550.00—	9,699.99	101.00	2,626.00
96	51	9,700.00—	9,849.99	103.00	2,678.00
97	52	9,850.00	9,999.99	104.00	2,704.00
98	53	10,000.00— 1	0,149.99	106.00	2,756.00
99	54	,	$0,\!299.99$	108.00	2,808.00
100	55	10,300.00— 1	0,449.99	109.00	2,834.00
101	56	•	0,599.99	111.00	2,886.00
102	57	10,600.00— 1	0,749.99	112.00	2,912.00
103	58	,	0,899.99	114.00	2,964.00
104	59	,	1,049.99	116.00	3,016.00
105	60	11,050.00 - 1	1,199.99	117.00	3,042.00
106	61	,	1,349.99	119.00	3,094.00
107	62		1,499.99	120.00	3,120.00
108	63	*	1,649.99	122.00	3,172.00
109	64	11,650.00 - 1	1,799.99	124.00	3,224.00

110	65	11,800.00 - 11,949.99	125.00	3,250.00
111	66	11,950.00 - 12,099.99	127.00	3,302.00
112	67	$12,\!100.00 -\!\!\!-\!\!\!12,\!249.99$	128.00	3,328.00
113	68	$12,\!250.00 - 12,\!399.99$	130.00	3,380.00
114	69	12,400.00 - 12,549.99	131.00	3,406.00
115	70	12,550.00 - 12,699.99	133.00	3,458.00
116	71	12,700.00 - 12,849.99	135.00	3,510.00
117	72	12,850.00 - 12,999.99	136.00	3,536.00
118	73	13,000.00 - 13,149.99	138.00	3,588.00
119	74	13,150.00 - 13,299.99	139.00	3,614.00
120	75	13,300.00 - 13,449.99	141.00	3,666.00
121	76	13,450.00 - 13,599.99	143.00	3,718.00
122	77	13,600.00 - 13,749.99	144.00	3,744.00
123	78	13,750.00 - 13,899.99	146.00	3,796.00
124	79	13,900.00 - 14,049.99	147.00	3,822.00
125	80	14,050.00 - 14,199.99	149.00	3,874.00
126	81	$14,\!200.00 - 14,\!349.99$	150.00	3,900.00
127	82	14,350.00 - 14,499.99	152.00	3,952.00
128	83	14,500.00 - 14,649.99	154.00	4,004.00
129	84	14,650.00 - 14,799.99	155.00	4,030.00
130	85	14,800.00 - 14,949.99	157.00	4,082.00
131	86	14,950.00 - 15,099.99	158.00	4,108.00
132	87	15,100.00 - 15,249.99	160.00	4,160.00
133	88	15,250.00 - 15,399.99	162.00	4,212.00
134	89	15.400.00 - 15.549.99	163.00	4,238.00
135	90	15,550.00— 15,699.99	165.00	4,290.00
136	91	15,700.00— $15,849.99$	166.00	4,316.00
137	92	15,850.00 - 15,999.99	168.00	4,368.00
138	93	16,000.00 - 16,149.99	170.00	4,420.00
139	94	16,150.00— 16,299.99	171.00	4,446.00
140	95	16,300.00 - 16,449.99	173.00	4,498.00
141	96	16,450.00 - 16,599.99	174.00	4,524.00
142	97	16,600.00 - 16,749.99	176.00	4,576.00
143	98	16,750.00— 16,899.99	177.00	4,602.00
144	99	16,900.00 - 17,049.99	179.00	4,654.00
145	100	17,050.00 - 17,199.99	181.00	4,706.00
146	101	17,200.00 - 17,349.99	182.00	4,732.00
147	102	17,350.00 - 17,499.99	184.00	4,784.00
148	103	17,500.00 - 17,649.99	185.00	4,810.00
149	104	17,650.00 - 17,799.99	187.00	4,862.00
150	105	17,800.00 - 17,949.99	189.00	4,914.00
151	106	17,950.00 - 18,099.99	190.00	4,940.00

152	107	18,100.00 - 18,249.99	192.00	4,992.00
153	108	18,250.00— 18,399.99	193.00	5,018.00
154	109	18,400.00— 18,549.99	195.00	5,070.00
155	110	18,550.00— 18,699.99	196.00	5,096.00
156	111	18,700.00— 18,849.99	198.00	5,148.00
157	112	18,850.00— 18,999.99	200.00	5,200.00
158	113	19,000.00 - 19,149.99	201.00	5,226.00
159	114	19,150.00 - 19,299.99	203.00	5,278.00
160	115	19,300.00— 19,449.99	204.00	5,304.00
161	116	19,450.00 - 19,599.99	206.00	5,356.00
162	117	19,600.00 - 19,749.99	208.00	5,408.00
163	118	19,750.00 - 19,899.99	209.00	5,434.00
164	119	19,900.00 - 20,049.99	211.00	5,486.00
165	120	20,050.00— 20,199.99	212.00	5,512.00
166	121	20,200.00— 20,349.99	214.00	5,564.00
167	122	20,350.00— 20,499.99	216.00	5,616.00
168	123	20,500.00— 20,649.99	217.00	5,642.00
169	124	20,650.00— 20,799.99	219.00	5,694.00
170	125	20,800.00— 20,949.99	220.00	5,720.00
171	126	20,950.00— 21,099.99	222.00	5,772.00
172	127	21,100.00— 21,249.99	223.00	5,798.00
173	128	21,250.00— and over	225.00	5,850.00

174 After he has established such wage classes, the 175 commissioner shall prepare and publish a table setting 176 forth such information.

177 Average weekly wage shall be computed by dividing the 178 number of employees in West Virginia earning wages in 179 covered employment into the total wages paid to employees 180 in West Virginia in covered employment, and by further 181 dividing said result by fifty-two, and shall be determined 182 from employer wage and contribution reports for the 183 previous calendar year which are furnished to the 184 department on or before June one following such calendar 185 year. The average weekly wage, as determined by the 186 commissioner, shall be rounded to the next higher dollar. The computation and determination of rates as aforesaid 187 188 shall be completed annually before July one, and any such 189 new wage class, with its corresponding wages in base 190 period, weekly benefit rate, and maximum benefit in a 191 benefit year established by the commissioner in the 192 foregoing manner effective on a July one, shall apply only to 193 a new claim established by a claimant on and after said July

- 194 one, and shall not apply to continued claims of a claimant
- 195 based on his new claim established before said July one.

ARTICLE 6A. EXTENDED BENEFITS PROGRAM.

§21A-6A-5. Total extended benefit amount.

- 1 The total extended benefit amount payable to any eligible
- 2 individual with respect to his applicable benefit year shall
- 3 be the least of the following amounts:
- 4 (1) Fifty percent of the total amount of regular benefits
- 5 which were payable to him under this chapter in his
- 3 applicable benefit year;
- 7 (2) Thirteen times his weekly benefit amount which was
- 8 payable to him under this chapter for a week of total
- 9 unemployment in the applicable benefit year: Provided,
- 10 That an individual filing for extended benefits through the
- 11 interstate benefit payment plan and residing in a state
- 12 where an extended benefit period is not in effect shall be
- 13 limited to payment for only the first two weeks of such
- 14 extended benefits.

Clerk of the Senate Clerk of the House of Delegat President of the Senate

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day of	1985.	1 1
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(1967年) 第(作成社(1988年) 2)2		Governor

Speaker House of Delegates

GOVERNOR Second Receipt

Date 4/3/85

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The Senate of West Virginia Chile

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OFFICE OF ML. VALLET OF SECRETARY OF STATE

March 29, 1985

TODD C. WILLIS

CLERK

CHARLESTON 25305
TELEPHONE 348-5172

The Honorable Arch A. Moore, Jr. Governor, State of West Virginia State Capitol Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Governor Moore:

We have discovered an error in Enrolled Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 195, which was forwarded to you on March 8 and approved by you on March 11, 1985.

On Page 8, Line 47, under Column B, "Wages in Base Period", second column, which reads 2,449.99 should be corrected to read 2,499.99.

We are sorry for this oversight and appreciate your cooperation in making this correction.

Respectfully,

TODD C. WILLIS, Clerk

TCW/ba

cc - Secretary of State V