

CHAPTER 525

S.B. No. 1340

AN ACT

relating to the use of electronic transfer methods for unemployment compensation insurance purposes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 9(c), Texas Unemployment Compensation Act (Article 5221b-7, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended to read as follows:

(c) Withdrawals: Moneys requisitioned from this State's account in the Unemployment Trust Fund shall be used exclusively for the payment of benefits and for refunds pursuant to Section 14 and this Section, except that money credited to this State's account pursuant to Section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended, may be requisitioned and used by the Commission only to the extent and under the conditions prescribed by said Section 903, as amended. The Commission shall from time to time requisition from the Unemployment Trust Fund such amounts, not exceeding the amounts standing to its account therein, as it deems necessary for the payment of benefits and refunds for a reasonable future period. Upon receipt thereof, the Treasurer shall deposit such moneys in the benefit account, and the Comptroller shall issue his warrants for payment of benefits solely from such benefit account. Expenditures of such moneys in the benefit account, and refunds from the clearing account, shall not be subject to any provision of law which may require itemization or other formal release by State officers of money in their custody. ~~[All warrants issued for the payment of benefits and refunds shall bear the signature of the Treasurer and the countersignature of a member of the Commission, or its duly authorized agent, for that purpose.]~~ Any balance of moneys requisitioned from the Unemployment Trust Fund which remains unclaimed or unpaid in the benefit account after the expiration of the period for which such sums were requisitioned, shall either be deducted from estimates for, and may be utilized for the payment of benefits and refunds during succeeding periods, or, in the discretion of the Commission, shall be redeposited with the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States of America, to the credit of this State's account in the Unemployment Trust Fund as provided in subsection (b) of this Section.

SECTION 2. Section 19, Texas Unemployment Compensation Act (Article 5221b-17, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is amended by adding Subsections (r) and (s) to read as follows:

(r) "Mail" means the United States Postal Service or any other method approved by the commission to provide actual notice, including an electronic transfer system.

(s) *“Warrant” means a written payment order or an electronic payment order that is a part of an electronic fund transfer system approved by the commission.*

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed the Senate on April 21, 1993: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House on May 21, 1993, by a non-record vote.

Approved June 8, 1993.

Effective Aug. 30, 1993, 90 days after date of adjournment.