



J. ELDRED HILL, JR. (DECEASED)

**FORMER COMMISSIONER, VIRGINIA
EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION**

**FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNEMPLOY-
MENT BENEFIT ADVISORS, INC. (UBA)
(NOW
STRATEGIC SERVICES FOR UNEMPLOY-
MENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION
(UWC))**

ACHIEVEMENT: Work leading to the enactment of The Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act (TEFRA) of 1982 (P.L. 97-248), which included an increase in the Federal Unemployment Tax Act (FUTA) wage base from \$6000 to \$7000, a 0.1% increase in the net FUTA tax rate, and an increase in the gross FUTA (permanent) tax from 3.5% to 6.0% accompanied by an increase in the offset credit from 2.7% to 5.4%.

In 1982, Eldred Hill was President of UBA (now UWC) which was the voice of business on unemployment insurance matters on Capitol Hill. Mr. Hill realized that an increase in FUTA revenues was necessary, and he devised a strategy by which that revenue increase also strengthened state UI tax experience rating and reduced the amount of benefits "socialized" because they were paid to workers whose former employers were at the maximum tax rate.

Mr. Hill had substantial credibility with the business community. Although there was some limited business lobbying against the FUTA provisions of TEFRA, Mr. Hill's support for them was sufficient to gain inclusion in the final bill that was enacted.

Mr. Hill was an advocate for business interests, but he was also an advocate for a strong state-based unemployment insurance program. Unlike some business representatives, he did not support lower taxes without regard for their consequences. Over his distinguished career, he supported strong and solvent state trust funds, equitable allocation of benefit costs through experience rating, and fair treatment of unemployed workers.