

By the Committees on Appropriations; Commerce, Economic Opportunities, and Consumer Services; and Senators Wasserman Schultz and Diaz de la Portilla

309-2543-03

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to economic recovery; creating
 3 s. 443.0915, F.S.; providing a definition and
 4 an application of an alternative base period;
 5 providing requirements and limitations;
 6 providing an effective date.

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 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 10 Section 1. Section 443.0915, Florida Statutes, is
 11 created to read:

12 443.0915 Alternative base period; eligibility for
 13 benefits.--

14 (1) For a benefit year commencing on or after October
 15 1, 2003, if an individual is not monetarily eligible in his or
 16 her base period to qualify for benefits, the Agency for
 17 Workforce Innovation must designate his or her base period to
 18 be the alternative base period. As used in this section, the
 19 term "alternative base period" means the last four completed
 20 calendar quarters immediately before the first day of an
 21 individual's benefit year. Wages used in a base period to
 22 establish a monetarily eligible benefit year may not be
 23 applied to establish monetary eligibility in any subsequent
 24 benefit year. If information regarding wages for the calendar
 25 quarter or quarters immediately before the benefit year has
 26 not been input into the Agency for Workforce Innovation's
 27 database, the agency shall request the wage information from
 28 the employer. An employer must provide the requested wage
 29 information within 10 days after receiving a request from the
 30 Agency for Workforce Innovation. An employer who fails to
 31 provide the requested wage information within the required

1 time is subject to the penalty for delinquent reports provided
2 in s. 443.141(1)(b).

3 (2) For monetary determinations based on the
4 alternative base period under subsection (1), if the Agency
5 for Workforce Innovation is unable to access the wage
6 information through its database, the agency may base the
7 determination of eligibility for benefits on an affidavit
8 submitted by the individual with respect to wages for those
9 calendar quarters. The individual must furnish payroll
10 information, if available, in support of the affidavit. A
11 determination of benefits based upon an alternative base
12 period shall be adjusted when the quarterly report of wage
13 information from the employer is received, if that information
14 causes a change in the determination.

15 (3) Implementation of this section is contingent on a
16 specific appropriation in the annual General Appropriations
17 Act to the Agency for Workforce Innovation for operating costs
18 necessary to implement the alternative base period provision.

19 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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21 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
22 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
23 Senate Bill CS/SB 470

24 The committee substitute removes provisions relating to
25 economic-recovery training and a temporary increase in weekly
26 benefits. The alternative base period provision is retained
27 with implementation contingent on a specific appropriation in
28 the annual General Appropriations Act to the Agency for
29 Workforce Innovation for necessary operating costs.
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