

Accompanying the third recommendation of the Division of Employment Security (House, No. 115). Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BENEFIT REFORM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Paragraph (a) of section 25 of said chapter 151A
2 is hereby amended by striking out the third sentence, as appearing
3 in the 1984 Official Edition.

1 SECTION 2. Section 47 of said chapter 151A is hereby
2 amended by striking out the first sentence, as appearing in the
3 1984 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following
4 sentence: — Whoever knowingly makes a false statement or
5 misrepresentation to obtain or increase any benefit or other
6 payment under any provision of this chapter, either for himself
7 or for any other person, shall be punished by a fine of not less
8 than one hundred nor more than one thousand dollars, or by
9 imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

1 SECTION 3. Subsection (a) of section 69 of said chapter 151A,
2 as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 adding the following new sentences: — If any individual fails to
4 pay when due any amount paid to said individual because of such
5 individual's failure knowingly to furnish accurate information
6 concerning any material fact, including amounts of remuneration
7 received, as provided in subsection (c) of section twenty-four, such
8 overdue amount shall carry interest at a per annum rate provided
9 by subsection (a) of section fifteen from the due date until paid.
10 The total amount of interest assessed shall not exceed fifty percent
11 of the total amount due.

1 SECTION 4. Subsection (d) of section 29 of chapter 151A of
2 the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the last
3 paragraph, as appearing in the 1984 Official Edition.

1 SECTION 5. Said chapter 151A is hereby further amended by
2 adding after section 69A the following section: —

3 Section 69B(a). If a back pay award to an individual is reduced
4 because of the receipt of unemployment benefits by the individual,
5 the employer against whom the back pay award was made shall
6 notify the director of the back pay award in such manner as
7 prescribed by the director. The employer must notify the director
8 in writing not later than the twelfth day on which the employer
9 learns about the reduction in the back pay award.

10 (b) An employer that has been assessed a back pay award which
11 has been reduced because of the receipt of unemployment benefits
12 by an individual shall reimburse the unemployment compensation
13 fund for the amount of benefits paid from such fund equal to the
14 amount of the reduction in the back pay award. The employer
15 is not liable under this section to reimburse the fund more than
16 the amount by which the director determines the individual was
17 overpaid unemployment benefits because of the back pay award.

18 (c) Any reimbursement of the fund by the employer pursuant
19 to subsection (b) shall be credited against the overpayment
20 resulting from the receipt of a back pay award. An individual who
21 has received a back pay award which has been reduced by the
22 receipt of unemployment benefits is not liable with respect to an
23 overpayment caused by receipt of said award that creates liability
24 for the employer under subsection (b).

25 (d) Any reimbursement of the fund by the employer pursuant
26 to subsection (b) shall be credited to the employer's account or
27 the solvency account in accordance with section fourteen as if the
28 reimbursement had been made by the individual who was
29 overpaid unemployment benefits. If the employer has elected to
30 make payments in lieu of contributions such credit shall be in
31 accordance with the provisions of section fourteen A as if the
32 reimbursement had been made by the individual who was
33 overpaid unemployment benefits.

1 SECTION 6. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act shall take effect upon
2 passage. Section 3 shall take effect with respect to amounts which
3 become due on or after the effective date of this Act. Section 4
4 shall take affect upon passage. Section 5 shall take effect with
5 respect to back pay awards assessed on or after the effective date
6 of this Act.

The first part of the document discusses the general principles of the proposed system. It is intended to provide a comprehensive overview of the various aspects involved in its implementation. The following sections will detail the specific components and their interrelationships.

The second section focuses on the organizational structure and the roles of the various departments. It outlines the hierarchy and the responsibilities of each key position, ensuring that all tasks are clearly defined and assigned.

The third section describes the financial aspects of the project, including the estimated costs, the sources of funding, and the projected revenue. This section is crucial for understanding the economic viability of the initiative.

The fourth section addresses the legal and regulatory requirements that must be met. It provides a detailed analysis of the relevant laws and regulations, and offers guidance on how to ensure full compliance throughout the process.

The fifth section discusses the timeline and the key milestones of the project. It provides a clear roadmap for the implementation, highlighting the critical path and the potential risks that may arise.

The sixth section covers the human resources aspect, including the recruitment strategy, the training program, and the performance evaluation system. This section is essential for ensuring that the organization has the right people in the right places.

The seventh section deals with the information systems and data management. It outlines the requirements for the IT infrastructure and the data security measures that must be in place to protect sensitive information.

The eighth section discusses the marketing and public relations strategy. It provides a detailed plan for how to promote the project and engage with the target audience, ensuring maximum visibility and support.

The ninth section covers the risk management and contingency planning. It identifies the potential risks and provides a clear plan for how to mitigate them, ensuring that the project can proceed smoothly even in the face of unforeseen circumstances.

The tenth and final section provides a summary of the key findings and recommendations. It reiterates the importance of the project and offers final thoughts on the way forward, emphasizing the need for continued communication and collaboration.