



Testimony for HB 2703
KS Senate Commerce Committee
Employment Security Law Reforms

Submitted on behalf of The Kansas State Council of the
Society for Human Resource Management (KS SHRM)

March 10, 2022 | Phillip M. Hayes



Chair Erickson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Phillip Hayes and I am back in front of you today on behalf of The Kansas State Council of the Society for Human Resource Management (KS SHRM) in **support of the technical cleanups regarding Kansas Employment Security Law outlined in HB 2703**. The following written statements are presented for your consideration regarding the trailer bill to HB 2196, which was the big UI bill passed last session. Please note, there have been ongoing conversations between the business community, the Kansas Department of Labor and the Kansas Department of Commerce in an effort to provide a streamlined, cleanup bill for the legislature's consideration. Following are the high points of HB 2703:

1. U.S. DOL Conformity Issue Relating to Out of State, Reimbursing Employers:

- a. Changes two instances of the word "the" to "a" regarding employment as it relates to FUTA.
 - Page 7, lines 14 & 15

2. Fund Control Table B Cleanup Regarding Solvency and Credit Schedule Triggers and Corresponding Adjustments:

- a. Adds 20 minus signs "-" to serve as technical clarification to the original intent passed in HB 2196.
 - Page 25, line 18 (2 instances); lines 27-32: (3 instances each)

3. Modify the Solvency and Credit Rate Schedules:

- a. Reduces and truncates the decimal places from 5 to 2 decimals. This will avoid unnecessary and costly development work on the mainframe system.
 - Pages 27-30

4. My Reemployment Plan Enhancements:

- a. Change the language around MRP to exclude anyone that is excluded from the work search requirement, as opposed to the existing carve-outs in statute.
 - Page 34, lines 9-13
- b. Changes "three continuous weeks" to "third week of benefits claimed in the current benefit year."
 - Page 34, line 17
- c. Seven days to 14 calendar days - Commerce indicated an increase will allow adequate processing time.
 - Page 34-35, line 26
- d. Additional efficiency enhancements
 - Pages 34-35

5. Requested Amendment: Change effective date to July 1, 2022, to provide adequate time to stand up the appointment scheduling platform/application.

- Page 36, lines 10-11

KS SHRM stands in agreement with the Kansas Departments of Labor and Commerce as we support the cleanup changes necessary to preserve and strengthen Kansas Employment Security Law. **We respectfully request your YES vote on HB 2703.** Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you. I am available by phone or email to address any future questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Phillip M. Hayes
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