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# STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

#### IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### **JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012**

### AN ACT

#### RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

Introduced By: Representatives Carnevale, Slater, Palumbo, and Menard

Date Introduced: February 16, 2012

Referred To: House Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 28-42-38.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 28-42 entitled

"Employment Security - General Provisions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

28-42-38.1. Quarterly wage reports. -- (a) (1) The department of labor and training is

designated and constituted the agency within this state charged with the responsibility of

collecting quarterly wage information, as required by 42 U.S.C. section 1302b-7. Each employer

shall be required to submit a detailed wage report to the director, for all calendar quarters within

thirty (30) days after the end of each quarter in a form and manner prescribed by the director,

8 listing each employee's name, social security account number, the total amount of wages paid to

each employee, and any other information that the director deems necessary. All reports shall be

in addition to those now required by the department.

(2) The department will utilize the quarterly wage information that it collects from

employers to establish an individual's eligibility for unemployment insurance benefits and to

determine the amount and duration of benefits for all new claims filed.

(3) Notwithstanding any provisions of chapters 42 -- 44 of this title to the contrary, the

department may utilize employee quarterly wage information submitted by employers to measure

the progress of the state in meeting the performance measures developed in response to United

17 States Public Law 105-220, the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (see 29 U.S.C. section 2801 et

seq.), further provided however, that the department may verify certain employee quarterly wage

information for the local workforce investment board and provide it with the verified data under

procedures established by rules and regulations promulgated by the director. The director shall

also make the quarterly wage information available, upon request, to the agencies of other states

in the performance of their public duties under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 in that

state. This information shall be made available only to the extent required by the Secretary of

Labor and necessary for the valid administrative needs of the authorized agencies, and all

agencies requesting this data shall protect it from unauthorized disclosure. The department shall

be reimbursed by the agencies requesting the information for the costs incurred in providing the

8 information.

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(4) Notwithstanding any provisions of chapters 42 -- 44 of this title to the contrary, the

department may provide quarterly wage information to the United States Census Bureau for the

purpose of participating in a joint local employment dynamics program with the United States

Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(b) Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of chapters 42 -- 44 of this title, an

employer who fails to file a detailed wage report in the manner and at the times required by

subsection (a) of this section for any calendar quarter shall pay a penalty of twenty-five dollars

(\$25.00) for each failure or refusal to file. An additional penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)

shall be assessed for each month the report is delinquent; provided, that this penalty shall not

exceed one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) for any one report. This penalty shall be paid into the

employment security tardy account fund and if any employer fails to pay the penalty, when

assessed, it shall be collected by civil action as provided in section 28-43-18.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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# EXPLANATION

# BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

# AN ACT

# RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

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This act would allow the department of labor and training to verify employee quarterly
wage report information for the Workforce Investment Board.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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