

An Act relating to labor; amending 40 O.S. 2001, Sections 1-208A, 1-209, 1-210, 1-218, 2-203, 2-207, 2-305, 2-402, 2-603, 2-613, 2-706, 2-707, 2-715, 2-802, 3-106, 3-401, 3-405, 4-508, 4-509, 4-608 and 5-102, which relate to the Employment Security Act of 1980; stating, in relation to Indian tribes and tribal units, definitions, exceptions to definitions and exclusions from definitions; providing basis for unemployment benefits; requiring payment of contributions; providing for payments in lieu of contributions; providing for tribal determination regarding reimbursement; providing for conflict of laws; requiring billing; stating consequences of failure to make payments; requiring notice; allowing time for correction of delinquency; providing for account termination and notice of action; requiring statement of protest rights; providing for reinstatement; stating loss of option for failure to make payments; stating circumstances for reinstatement of option; outlining content of notice; stating obligation of Indian tribe to finance benefits under specified circumstances; requiring notice to federal agencies; providing for transition; providing for election of coverage during certain time frame; providing for prospective coverage under certain circumstances; limiting change in election; construing specified provision of act; establishing and defining alternative base period; clarifying status of certain motor carriers; clarifying definition of employing unit; stating exclusions from definition of employment; modifying exclusions from definition of wages; defining, stating requirements for, and providing for approval of, supplemental unemployment benefit plan; restricting claim payment on basis of claimant's place of residence; providing for status of alternative base period; authorizing use of affidavit; providing for adjustment of determination of benefits; establishing employer's right to protest reported wages; limiting use of wages to establish claim; limiting application of alternative base period; modifying percentage deduction from income tax withholding; increasing penalties and providing for claimant disqualification for repeated fraud; authorizing filing of appeals by telephone; clarifying types of benefit overpayments and liabilities applicable to each; permitting waiver of interest on benefit overpayments; requiring notice of overpayment and providing for appeal; setting out procedures for collection of benefit overpayment; authorizing Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to issue warrant of levy and lien and establishing applicable procedures; providing for manner of service and notice of warrant; authorizing Commission to charge a fee when sheriff used to serve notice; defining terms; authorizing Oklahoma Employment Security Commission to collect amounts owed under specific circumstances and establishing procedures; deleting obsolete language; establishing criteria for eligibility for extended benefits; permitting specified information sharing between state agencies; modifying exclusions from employer's benefit wages; clarifying circumstance under, and stage in process at which, appeal may be filed; clarifying amount to be paid before an appeal is filed; directing establishment of an employee recognition program; authorizing payments; stating nature of recognition awards; authorizing and limiting value thereof; permitting the release of otherwise confidential information to public housing agencies, certain entities operating under the Workforce Investment Act One-Stop delivery system, and the wage record interchange system; adding to entities with access to certain information; providing for distribution of federal funds; creating penalty for repeated violations; making an appropriation to the Employment Security Administration Fund; providing for codification; providing for noncodification; providing effective dates; and declaring an emergency.