

Original sponsor: Rules Committee by
request of the Governor

Offered: 6/2/78
Referred: Rules

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 550 (Finance)am

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

6 For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to unemployment insurance; and pro-
7 viding for an effective date."

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 * Section 1. AS 23.20.115 is amended to read:

10 Sec. 23.20.115. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION. A member
11 of the department, [OR] an employee of the department, or an agent of
12 the department who, in violation of sec. 110 of this chapter, makes a
13 disclosure of information obtained from an employing unit or from an
14 individual in the administration of this chapter, or a person who has
15 obtained a list of applicants for work or of claimants or recipients of
16 benefits under this chapter and who uses or permits the use of the list
17 for a purpose not authorized by sec. 110 of this chapter, upon convic-
18 tion, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$200, or by imprisonment
19 for not more than 90 days, or by both.

20 * Sec. 2. AS 23.20.175(a) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

21 (a) For the purposes of secs. 165 and 170 of this chapter, after
22 December 31, 1973 and through December 31, 1978, wages do not include
23 that part of remuneration paid during any calendar year to an individual
24 by an employer or by his predecessor which is in excess of \$10,000.

25 * Sec. 3. AS 23.20.175(c) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

26 (c) For the purposes of secs. 165 and 170 of this chapter, after
27 December 31, 1978 and through December 31, 1979, wages do not include
28 that part of remuneration paid during any calendar year to an individual
29 by an employer or by his predecessor which is in excess of 75 per cent

1 of the statewide average annual wage computed to the nearest multiple of
2 \$1,000. For the purposes of secs. 165 and 170 of this chapter, after
3 December 31, 1979, wages do not include that part of remuneration paid
4 during any calendar year to an individual by an employer or his prede-
5 cessor which is in excess of 100 per cent of the average annual wage
6 computed to the nearest multiple of \$1,000.

7 * Sec. 4. AS 23.20.190 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

8 (d) A person who fails to file a contribution report on the date
9 it is due may be required, at the discretion of the department, to file
10 a monthly contribution report, with payment, within 30 days of the close
11 of each month. This monthly contribution report is subject to the same
12 interest and penalty provisions as provided in (a) of this section and
13 sec. 185(a) of this chapter, but it may not be required for longer than
14 one year at a time.

15 * Sec. 5. AS 23.20.240 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

16 (f) In this section, "employer" includes, but is not limited to,
17 an officer or employee of a corporation or a member or employee of a
18 partnership who, as an officer, employee, or member, is under a duty to
19 perform the act in respect to which the violation occurs.

20 * Sec. 6. AS 23.20.285(b) is amended to read:

21 (b) For the purpose of computing quarterly decline quotients, the
22 department may, by regulation, prescribe (1) the manner in which wages
23 paid in the form of annual bonuses or other lump-sum payments for ser-
24 vice performed over a period of more than three months are apportioned
25 among the calendar quarters of the calendar year in which the service
26 was performed; and (2) the method for making adjustments in quarterly
27 payrolls to eliminate the effect upon quarterly decline quotients re-
28 sulting from unemployment which would not be compensable by reason of
29 the labor dispute provision of sec. 383 [380(9)] of this chapter.

* Sec. 7. AS 23.20.290(c) is amended to read:

(c) The rate of contributions payable by each eligible employer beginning January 1, 1974 and for each succeeding calendar year [THEREAFTER] is the rate opposite the rate class in that column of the table in this subsection [SECTION] which is appropriate for the calendar year as determined by the reserve multiple of the fund on September 30 of the preceeding calendar year.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	
	Employer's											
	Cumulative	If the Reserve Multiple of the Fund is:										
	Payroll	Equal to or										
	Limits											
	(Per cent	More										
	of State	Than	.33	.67	.85	1.0	1.15	1.35	1.5	2.0	3.0	
	Total											
	Rate	Less										
	Class	Payroll)	Than	.33	.67	.85	1.0	1.15	1.35	1.5	2.0	3.0
		Equal to										
	More	or Less										
	Than	Than										
1	0	10	3.0	2.6	2.3	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.1	.9	.8	.6
2	10	20	3.3	2.9	2.6	2.2	1.9	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	.9
3	20	30	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2
4	30	40	3.9	3.5	3.2	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5
5	40	50	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0
6	50	60	4.7	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.0	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3
7	60	70	5.0	4.6	4.3	3.9	3.6	3.3	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6
8	70	80	5.2	4.8	4.5	4.1	3.8	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.8
9	80	90	5.3	4.9	4.6	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.9

1	10	90	100	5.5	5.1	4.8	4.4	4.1	3.8	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.1
2	Employee Rate			.8	.8	.7	.7	.6	.6	.5	.5	.4	.3

3 * Sec. 8. AS 23.20.340(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) An examiner designated by the department shall take the claim.
5 The examiner shall take all evidence pertaining to the monetary eligi-
6 bility of the claimant and [AN INITIAL DETERMINATION ON THE CLAIM SHALL
7 BE MADE PROMPTLY AND SHALL INCLUDE A DETERMINATION WITH RESPECT TO
8 WHETHER BENEFITS ARE PAYABLE, THE WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT PAYABLE, AND THE
9 MAXIMUM DURATION OF BENEFITS. WHEN THE PAYMENT OR DENIAL OF BENEFITS IS
10 DETERMINED BY SEC. 380(9) OF THIS CHAPTER, THE EXAMINER] shall promptly
11 transmit all evidence [WITH RESPECT TO THAT SECTION] to the department.
12 The department, or a representative designated by it for the purpose,
13 shall, on the basis of the evidence submitted and any [THE] additional
14 evidence it requires, make an initial monetary determination of [AS TO]
15 the claim as to whether the claimant is eligible for benefits under sec.
16 350 of this chapter and the weekly benefit amount.

17 * Sec. 9. AS 23.20.340(b) is amended to read:

18 (b) Within one year from the date of the initial monetary deter-
19 mination, the department, on its own motion, may reconsider the monetary
20 determination if it finds an error in computation or identity or finds
21 that additional wages pertinent to the claimant's insured status have
22 become available, or that the initial monetary determination is a result
23 of a nondisclosure or misrepresentation of a material fact.

24 * Sec. 10. AS 23.20.340(c) is amended to read:

25 (c) The claimant [AND OTHER PARTIES TO THE DETERMINATION] shall be
26 promptly notified of the initial monetary determination (or of an
27 amended initial monetary determination) and the reasons for it.

28 * Sec. 11. AS 23.20.340(d) is amended to read:

29 (d) Unless the claimant is determined to be disqualified for

1 benefits under secs. 375 - 388 of this chapter, benefits [BENEFITS]
2 shall be promptly paid or denied in accordance with the initial monetary
3 determination.

4 * Sec. 12. AS 23.20.340(e) is amended to read:

5 (e) The claimant [OR OTHER PARTY TO THE DETERMINATION] may file an
6 appeal from the initial monetary determination within 10 days after
7 notification of the determination, or after the date the notice is
8 mailed to his last [KNOWN] address of record. The claimant may file an
9 appeal from that monetary redetermination within 10 days after noti-
10 fication of the redetermination or after the date the redetermination is
11 mailed to his last address of record. If the claimant is eligible for
12 benefits under sec. 350 of this chapter [BENEFITS ARE ALLOWED BY THE
13 INITIAL DETERMINATION], but the record of the case indicates that a
14 disqualification under secs. 375 - 388 exists [HAS BEEN ALLEGED] or may
15 exist, benefits may not be paid before a determination of the disquali-
16 fication has been made [THE EXPIRATION OF THE PERIOD FOR APPEAL].

17 * Sec. 13. AS 23.20.340(f) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

18 (f) If a determination of disqualification under secs. 375 - 388
19 of this chapter is made, the claimant shall be promptly notified of the
20 determination and the reasons for it. The claimant may appeal the
21 determination in the same manner prescribed in this chapter for appeals
22 of initial monetary determinations. Benefits may not be paid for weeks
23 with respect to which the determination of disqualification was made
24 while a determination is being appealed. If a final appeal decision
25 allows benefits to the claimant, those benefits must be paid promptly.

26 * Sec. 14. AS 23.20.350(a) is amended to read:

27 (a) To be eligible [QUALIFY] for benefits an individual must
28 [SHALL] have earned wages in his base period totaling not less than \$750
29 of which \$100 must have been earned in other than the calendar quarter

1 of his base period in which he earned the highest amount of wages, and
 2 at least eight times the weekly benefit amount must [SHALL] have been
 3 earned in employment, whether or not covered by this chapter, subsequent
 4 to the beginning of a preceding benefit year.

5 * Sec. 15. AS 23.20.350(b) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

6 (b) Except as provided in (a) and (e) of this section, an in-
 7 dividual's total weekly benefit amount is the amount shown in the table
 8 set out in this subsection in the applicable column opposite the amount
 9 of his total base period wages as shown in column A. Each individual
 10 who establishes a benefit year is entitled to a total weekly benefit
 11 amount as shown in columns B, C, D, or E of the tables set out in this
 12 subsection according to the number of dependents he has on the date he
 13 establishes his benefit year and shall be fixed for the duration of the
 14 benefit year, except that before benefits are paid for dependents the
 15 department shall ascertain that no other insured worker is receiving
 16 benefits for the same dependents and each individual seeking employment
 17 benefits shall produce evidence satisfactory to the department that the
 18 dependents claimed are dependents of that person. The amount payable to
 19 any insured worker during his benefit year shall be based on the table
 20 effective on the first day of the benefit year.

TOTAL BASE PERIOD WAGES		TOTAL WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT WITH THE FOLLOWING NUMBER OF DEPENDENTS			
Columns	(A)	None (B)	One (C)	Two (D)	Three or More (E)
\$	0 - 749.99	\$ 00	\$ 00	\$ 00	\$ 00
	750 - 1,999.99	45	55	65	75
	2,000 - 2,499.99	50	60	70	80
	2,500 - 2,999.99	60	70	80	90
	3,000 - 3,499.99	70	80	90	100

1	3,500 - 3,999.99	75	85	95	105
2	4,000 - 4,499.99	85	95	105	115
3	4,500 - 5,249.99	95	105	115	125
4	5,250 - 5,999.99	105	115	125	135
5	6,000 - 7,499.99	115	125	135	145
6	7,500 - 8,499.99	125	135	145	150
7	8,500 - 9,999.99	135	145	155	165
8	10,000 - 10,999.99	140	150	160	170
9	11,000 - 11,999.99	145	155	165	175
10	12,000 and over	150	160	170	175

11 * Sec. 16. AS 23.20.350(c) is repealed and re-enacted to read:

12 (c) The maximum duration of benefits payable under this chapter is
13 28 weeks for all claimants.

14 * Sec. 17. AS 23.20.350 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

15 (e) Benefits may not be denied or reduced to an individual solely
16 because he files a claim in another state or because he resides in
17 another state at the time he files a claim for unemployment compensa-
18 tion. However, benefits paid to an individual filing a claim in a state
19 other than Alaska which has an average weekly wage which differs from
20 Alaska's average weekly wage by 10 per cent or greater shall be equal to
21 the percentage his Alaska benefit amount bears to the applicable Alaska
22 average weekly wage multiplied by the applicable weekly wage of the
23 state in which he is filing a claim. In this subsection "average weekly
24 wage" of a state means the average annual wage of that state divided by
25 52.

26 (f) The average annual wage for each state under (e) of this
27 section will be computed after June 30 and before December 15 of each
28 year based on the four consecutive calendar quarters ending June 30.
29 The average annual wage will be rounded to the next higher thousand

1 before determining the average weekly wage to be used in (e) of this
2 section. This determination is the applicable average annual wage for
3 the period beginning January 1 of the next year and ending December 31.

4 * Sec. 18. AS 23.20.360 is amended to read:

5 Sec. 23.20.360. EARNINGS DEDUCTED FROM WEEKLY BENEFIT AMOUNT. An
6 eligible individual who is unemployed in a week shall be paid with
7 respect to that week a benefit in an amount equal to his total [BASIC OR
8 AUGMENTED] weekly benefit amount less that part of the remuneration,
9 whether or not covered by this chapter, payable to him with respect to
10 that week which is in excess of \$50 [\$10 OR ONE-HALF OF HIS BASIC WEEKLY
11 BENEFIT AMOUNT, WHICHEVER AMOUNT IS GREATER]. If the adjusted benefit
12 amount is not a multiple of \$1, it is computed to the next higher mul-
13 tiple of \$1.

14 * Sec. 19. AS 23.20.370 is amended to read:

15 Sec. 23.20.370. BENEFITS OF DECEDENT OR INCOMPETENT. Benefits due
16 and payable to a deceased or judicially declared incompetent person
17 shall be paid, in accordance with regulations prescribed by the depart-
18 ment, to persons in the following order: spouse, child, [OR] parent,
19 sister or brother, aunt or uncle, payment to whom the department finds
20 will best carry out the purposes of this chapter. The regulations need
21 not conform to the statutes applicable to the descent and distribution
22 of decedents' estates. A receipt from the person to whom the department
23 makes payment fully discharges the fund and the department from liabili-
24 ty for the benefits.

25 * Sec. 20. AS 23.20.375(a) is amended to read:

26 Sec. 23.20.375. QUALIFICATION [ELIGIBILITY] FOR BENEFITS. (a) An
27 insured worker is qualified [ELIGIBLE] for and shall receive waiting-
28 week credit or benefits, as the case may be, for a week of his unemploy-
29 ment with respect to which he has not been determined to be disqualified

1 under secs. 378 - 388 [SEC. 380] of this chapter, if [THE WORKER HAS],
2 in accordance with regulations prescribed by the department, the worker
3 has, with respect to the week,

- 4 (1) filed a notice of his unemployment;
- 5 (2) registered for work; [AND]
- 6 (3) certified for waiting-week credit or filed a claim for
7 benefits, as the case may be; and
- 8 (4) agreed to accept the prevailing wage for his work in the
9 area in which he is filing.

10 * Sec. 21. AS 23.20.375(c) is amended to read:

11 (c) Benefits based on service in employment defined in sec. 525(a)
12 (4), (5), (6) and (14) of this chapter are payable in the same amount,
13 on the same terms and subject to the same conditions as compensation
14 payable on the basis of other service subject to this chapter, except
15 that, effective January 1, 1978, benefits based on service in any
16 [AN INSTRUCTIONAL, RESEARCH OR PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE] capacity
17 for an educational institution may not be paid to an individual for
18 any week of unemployment which begins during the period between two
19 successive academic years, or during a similar period between two
20 regular terms, whether or not successive, or during a period of paid
21 sabbatical leave provided for in the individual's contract, if the
22 individual performs services in the first of those academic years or
23 terms and if there is a contract or reasonable assurance that the
24 individual will perform services in the same or a similar capacity
25 for any educational institution in the second of those academic years
26 or terms, provided that the individual's salary and fringe benefits
27 are fixed in a negotiated agreement arrived at through collective
28 bargaining.

29 * Sec. 22. AS 23.20.375 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 (d) An insured worker may register for work with a referral agency
2 other than the department if that agency has a referral agreement with
3 the department made in accordance with regulations prescribed by the
4 department. A referral agency other than the department, before certi-
5 fying and providing documentation to an individual as being available
6 for work and as not having failed to accept offered suitable work, shall
7 require that the individual produce proper identification, or be per-
8 sonally known to agents or employees of the referral agency who are
9 actually present at the referral agency at the time of certifying.

10 * Sec. 23. AS 23.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

11 Sec. 23.20.378. ABLE AND AVAILABLE. An insured worker is dis-
12 qualified for waiting-week credit or benefits for a week of his unem-
13 ployment if, with respect to that week, the department finds that he was
14 not able to work, not available for suitable work, or not actively
15 seeking work. An insured worker is not considered disqualified for
16 waiting-week credit or benefits for a week of his unemployment because
17 of failure to comply with the provisions of this section if

18 (1) he is unable to work because he is ill or disabled or he
19 resides in the state and is not available for work because of his non-
20 commercial fishing and hunting necessary for the survival of himself or
21 his dependents; and

22 (2) the condition described in (1) of this section occurs
23 during an uninterrupted period of unemployment which follows a week for
24 which he filed a compensable claim and no suitable work was offered him
25 for any part of that week before the beginning of the fishing, hunting,
26 illness, or disability; however, a waiver of disqualification on the
27 basis of illness is only available for a maximum of four consecutive
28 weeks.

29 Sec. 23.20.379. VOLUNTARY QUIT, DISCHARGE FOR MISCONDUCT, AND

1 REFUSAL OF WORK. (a) An insured worker is disqualified for waiting-
2 week credit or benefits for a week of his unemployment if he

3 (1) left his last suitable work voluntarily without good
4 cause;

5 (2) was discharged or suspended for misconduct connected with
6 his last work;

7 (3) failed without good cause to apply for available suitable
8 work to which he was referred by the employment office or other referral
9 agency which has an agreement with the department under sec. 375(d) of
10 this chapter during a week claimed; or

11 (4) failed to accept suitable work when offered to him during
12 a week claimed.

13 (b) The disqualification provided in (a) of this section continues
14 until terminated by one of the following:

15 (1) the individual has filed claims for six otherwise com-
16 pensable weeks of unemployment after the date the disqualifying act
17 occurred; or

18 (2) the individual has returned to full time covered employ-
19 ment and earned at least six times his weekly benefit amount.

20 * Sec. 24. AS 23.20.381 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

21 (e) An insured worker is disqualified for waiting-week credit or
22 benefits for a week of unemployment if, with respect to that week, the
23 department finds that for the week or any part of it he has received or
24 is seeking unemployment benefits under another unemployment security law
25 in a manner other than in accordance with the reciprocal arrangements
26 between the department and other states or the federal government. If
27 the appropriate agency makes a final determination that the worker is
28 not entitled to benefits under the other law, this subsection does not
29 apply.

1 (f) An insured worker whose occupation has been abolished due to
2 technological changes, as certified by the employment service office,
3 must be willing to be placed in any job for which he is fit by training
4 or experience, or he must be willing to be placed in a training program.
5 Failure of such an insured worker to comply with the requirements of
6 this section disqualifies him from benefits.

7 * Sec. 25. AS 23.20 is amended by adding new sections to read:

8 Sec. 23.20.383. LABOR DISPUTE DISQUALIFICATION. (a) An insured
9 worker is disqualified for waiting-week credit or benefits for a week of
10 his unemployment if, with respect to that week, the department finds his
11 unemployment is due to a stoppage of work because of a labor dispute at
12 the immediate factory, establishment, or other premises at which he is
13 or was last employed. For the purposes of this section, each separate
14 department of the same premises which is commonly conducted as a sepa-
15 rate business in separate premises is considered a separate factory,
16 establishment, or other premises.

17 (b) This section does not apply if the department finds that

18 (1) the insured worker was not participating in or directly
19 interested in the labor dispute which caused the stoppage of work, and
20 he did not belong to a grade or class of workers which, immediately
21 before the commencement of the stoppage, had members employed at the
22 premises at which the stoppage occurred and which had one or more mem-
23 bers participating in or directly interested in the dispute; or

24 (2) the labor dispute was caused by the failure or refusal of
25 an employer to conform to the provisions of an agreement or contract
26 between the employer and employee, or a law of the state or of the
27 United States pertaining to hours, wages or other conditions of work.

28 Sec. 23.20.387. DISQUALIFICATION FOR MISREPRESENTATION. (a) An
29 individual is disqualified for benefits for a period not to exceed 28

1 weeks if the department finds that the individual has knowingly made a
2 false statement or misrepresentation or knowingly failed to report a
3 material fact with intent to obtain or increase any benefits under this
4 chapter. The length of this period of disqualification and the time
5 when this period begins shall be determined at the department's discre-
6 tion, according to the circumstances in each case.

7 (b) No person may be disqualified from receiving benefits under
8 this section unless there is clear evidence that he has made a false
9 statement or a misrepresentation of material fact or has failed to
10 disclose the material facts with the intent to defraud. There must be
11 evidence of an intention to defraud and the act must be knowing and must
12 involve material facts before a determination of fraudulent misrepre-
13 sentation or nondisclosure may be made.

14 Sec. 23.20.388. DISQUALIFICATION FOR BENEFITS UPON CONVICTION OF
15 FRAUD IN OBTAINING BENEFITS. (a) A person who is guilty of making a
16 false statement or misrepresentation knowing it is false or of knowingly
17 failing to disclose a material fact to obtain any benefits or other
18 payments under this chapter, in addition to any penalties imposed by the
19 court, is

20 (1) disqualified for any further benefit payments in a cur-
21 rent benefit year starting with the week number in which the conviction
22 occurred;

23 (2) disqualified for benefits based upon wages paid to him in
24 the calendar quarter in which he was convicted and on all earlier cal-
25 endar quarters of wages which have not been used in a benefit determi-
26 nation.

27 (b) The provisions of this section are in addition and supple-
28 mental to all other provisions of this chapter pertaining to disquali-
29 fications and recovery of improper payment.

1 * Sec. 26. AS 23.20.390(b) is amended to read:

2 (b) As soon as the department has knowledge of payments of bene-
3 fits to an individual under the circumstances mentioned in this section,
4 it shall promptly prepare and deliver or mail to the individual at his
5 last [KNOWN] address of record a notice of determination of liability
6 declaring that the individual has been determined liable to refund the
7 amount of benefits paid under the circumstances mentioned in this sec-
8 tion. The amount, if not previously collected, shall be deducted from
9 future benefits payable to the individual. However, if the department
10 determines that an individual has died, or has acted in good faith in
11 claiming and receiving benefits to which he was not entitled, or [AND]
12 that great hardship would result from charging the individual with
13 repayment of the benefits, the department may absolve the individual
14 from liability to the fund for repayment of the benefits.

15 * Sec. 27. AS 23.20.407(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) The total extended benefit amount payable to any eligible
17 individual with respect to his applicable benefit year is the least of
18 the following amounts:

19 (1) 50 per cent of the total amount of total [REGULAR] bene-
20 fits [, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCES,] which were payable to him
21 under this chapter in his applicable benefit year;

22 (2) 13 weeks of compensation for [TIMES HIS AVERAGE WEEKLY
23 BENEFIT AMOUNT, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCES, WHICH WAS PAYABLE TO
24 HIM UNDER THIS CHAPTER FOR A WEEK OF] total unemployment in the appli-
25 cable benefit year; or

26 (3) 39 weeks of compensation for [TIMES HIS AVERAGE WEEKLY
27 BENEFIT AMOUNT, INCLUDING DEPENDENTS' ALLOWANCES, WHICH WAS PAYABLE TO
28 HIM UNDER THIS CHAPTER FOR A WEEK OF] total unemployment in the appli-
29 cable benefit year, reduced by the compensation for total unemployment

1 for the number of weeks [TOTAL AMOUNT] of total [REGULAR] benefits which
2 were paid or considered paid to him under this chapter with respect to
3 the benefit year.

4 * Sec. 28. AS 23.20.415(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A party entitled to notice of determination provided in sec.
6 340 of this chapter may file an appeal from the determination to an
7 appeal tribunal within the time specified in that section. However, an
8 appeal from a determination which involves sec. 383 [380(9)] of this
9 chapter shall be made to the department. The parties to an appeal from
10 a determination shall include all those entitled to notice of the deter-
11 mination and a properly designated representative of the department.

12 * Sec. 29. AS 23.20.420 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (e) Hearings under this section shall be held in population and
14 transportation centers which are reasonably accessible to the parties as
15 determined by the department. If a party does not wish to travel to the
16 designated hearing location, he may reply to a written interrogatory
17 form or submit a brief.

18 * Sec. 30. AS 23.20.435(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) An appeal to the department by a party is a matter of right if
20 the decision of the appeal tribunal reverses or modifies the deter-
21 mination of the department, or if a question arising under sec. 383
22 [380(9)] of this chapter is presented. In all other cases further
23 appeal to the department is permitted only at the discretion of the
24 department.

25 * Sec. 31. AS 23.20.445 is amended to read:

26 Sec. 23.20.445. NOTICE OF DECISION OF DEPARTMENT AND JUDICIAL
27 REVIEW. Within 60 days after initiation of an appeal under sec. 435 of
28 this chapter, the department shall make its decision and each [EACH]
29 party, including the properly designated representative of the depart-

1 ment, shall be promptly given a copy of the decision and the supporting
2 findings and conclusions of the department. The decision is final un-
3 less a party initiates judicial review by filing an action in the su-
4 perior court for review within 30 days after the department's decision
5 has been mailed to each party at his last known address, or delivered to
6 him. For the purpose of judicial review, an appeal tribunal's decision
7 from which an application for appeal has been denied by the department
8 is considered the decision of the department, except that the time for
9 initiating judicial review runs from the date of the mailing or delivery
10 of the notice of the denial of the application for appeal by the depart-
11 ment.

12 * Sec. 32. AS 23.20.485 is amended to read:

13 Sec. 23.20.485. FALSE STATEMENT TO SECURE BENEFITS. A person who
14 makes a false statement or misrepresentation knowing it is false or who
15 knowingly fails to disclose a material fact, with intent to obtain or
16 increase a benefit or other payment under this chapter or under an
17 employment security law of another state, of the federal government, or
18 of a foreign government, either for himself or for another person, upon
19 conviction, is punishable by a fine of [OR] not more than \$500 [\$200],
20 or by imprisonment for not more than six months [60 DAYS], or by both.
21 Each false statement or misrepresentation or failure to disclose a
22 material fact is a separate offense.

23 * Sec. 33. AS 23.20.490 is amended to read:

24 Sec. 23.20.490. ACTS OF EMPLOYER PROHIBITED. (a) An employing
25 unit or referral agency or an officer or agent of an employing unit
26 or referral agency may not (1) make a false statement or representation
27 knowing it is false, (2) knowingly fail to disclose a material fact to
28 prevent or reduce the payment of benefits to an individual entitled to
29 them, or to avoid or reduce a contribution or other payment required

1 from an employing unit under this chapter, or (3) knowingly [WILFULLY]
2 fail or refuse to make a contribution or other payment, or to furnish a
3 report required by this chapter or by authority granted under this
4 chapter, or to produce or permit the inspection or copying of records as
5 required by this chapter.

6 (b) An employing unit or referral agency or officer or agent of an
7 employing unit or referral agency, upon conviction of violating (a) of
8 this section, is punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000 [\$200], or
9 by imprisonment for not more than one year [60 DAYS], or by both.

10 * Sec. 34. AS 23.20.520(2) is amended to read:

11 (2) "base period" means the first four of the last five com-
12 pleted calendar quarters immediately preceding the first day of an
13 individual's benefit year; except that an individual who, immediately
14 preceding the first day of his benefit year, was unable to work as a
15 result of injuries compensable under the workmen's compensation Act has
16 a base period consisting of the first four of the last five completed
17 quarters immediately preceding his injuries if those quarters were
18 completed within the three years immediately before the individual
19 claims benefits;

20 * Sec. 35. AS 23.20.520(12) is amended to read:

21 (12) "employing unit" means one or more departments or other
22 agencies of the state, a political subdivision of the state, an indivi-
23 dual, or a type of organization, partnership, association, trust,
24 estate, joint trust company, insurance company or domestic or foreign
25 corporation, or the receiver, referee in bankruptcy, trustee, or succes-
26 sor of one of these, or the legal representative of a deceased person,
27 which has or, after January 1, 1937, had one or more individuals per-
28 forming service for it in the state; if an employing unit maintains two
29 or more separate establishments inside the state which fall into

1 different major divisions, as defined in the Standard Industrial Classi-
2 fication Manual, each such establishment is considered as a separate
3 employing unit for the purpose of this chapter [AN INDIVIDUAL PERFORMING
4 SERVICES IN THE STATE FOR AN EMPLOYING UNIT WHICH MAINTAINS TWO OR MORE
5 SEPARATE ESTABLISHMENTS IN THE STATE IS CONSIDERED AS EMPLOYED BY A
6 SINGLE EMPLOYING UNIT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS CHAPTER]; notwithstanding
7 any provision in this chapter, any employing unit which employs indivi-
8 duals whose services must be covered by the unemployment insurance laws
9 of this state after December 31, 1971 as a condition of approval of the
10 unemployment insurance laws of this state under sec. 3304(a) of the U.S.
11 Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, will be considered an em-
12 ployer as to those individuals and is subject to contributions on all
13 wages paid after December 31, 1971, or reimbursement payments to cover
14 benefits paid based on services performed after December 31, 1971,
15 depending on the applicable law;

16 * Sec. 36. AS 23.20.520 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

17 (27) "prevailing wage" means the prevailing rate of wages
18 issued by the department in accordance with AS 36.05.010; if no pre-
19 vailing rate of wages has been determined for a particular type of work
20 or for a particular area, the department shall make such a determination
21 in accordance with regulations adopted by it;

22 (28) "average annual wage" means the amount determined by the
23 research and analysis section of the department by dividing the total
24 wages paid by covered employers during a 12-month period by the average
25 monthly employment reported by covered employers.

26 * Sec. 37. AS 23.20.340(g) and 23.20.380 are repealed.

27 * Sec. 38. Pending a final judicial determination as to the propriety of
28 the United States Secretary of Labor's action, AS 23.20.350(e) and (f),
29 enacted in sec. 17 of this Act, are suspended upon the condition and at the

1 time that a withholding, withdrawal, or refusal of certification of the
2 Alaska Employment Security Act by the United States Secretary of Labor under
3 26 U.S.C. 3304(c) on the grounds that the Alaska Employment Security Act does
4 not comply with the requirements of 26 U.S.C. 3304(a)(9)(A) takes effect.

5 * Sec. 39. AS 23.20.350(e) and (f), enacted in sec. 17 of this Act, are
6 repealed upon the condition and at the time that a final judicial determina-
7 tion is made that the provisions of those subsections are not consistent with
8 the requirements of 26 U.S.C. 3304(a)(9)(A) and that the United States
9 Secretary of Labor may properly withhold, withdraw, or refuse certification
10 of the Alaska Employment Security Act under 26 U.S.C. 3304(c) on the grounds
11 that the Alaska Employment Security Act does not comply with the requirements
12 of 26 U.S.C. 3304(a)(9)(A).

13 * Sec. 40. In the event that any of the conditions for obtaining addi-
14 tional benefits for dependents, enacted in the third sentence of AS 23.20.-
15 350(b) contained in sec. 15 of this Act, are enjoined or are found to be void
16 by a final judicial determination, columns C, D and E of the tables set out
17 in AS 23.20.350(b), enacted in sec. 15 of this Act, are repealed.

18 * Sec. 41. Section 1 of this Act takes effect immediately in accordance
19 with AS 01.10.070(c).

20 * Sec. 42. Sections 6, 8 - 13, 19 - 26, 28 - 34, 36, and 37 of this Act
21 take effect on July 1, 1978.

22 * Sec. 43. Sections 2 - 5, 7, 18, and 35 of this Act take effect on
23 January 1, 1979.

24 * Sec. 44. Sections 14 - 17 and 27 of this Act take effect on January 1,
25 1979 and are applicable to all individuals establishing a benefit year on or
26 after that date.