LCB File No. R214-08

PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND REHABILITATION

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ACT UPON A REGULATION Notice of Hearing for the Adoption of a Regulation of the Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

The Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) will hold a public hearing at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, December 3, 2008 in the auditorium at 500 E. Third Street, Carson City, Nevada. The hearing is also available by videoconference at DETR's southern headquarters at 2800 E. St. Louis Avenue, Conference Room C, Las Vegas, Nevada. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from all interested persons regarding the amendment of a regulation that pertains to Chapter 612 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The following information is provided pursuant to the requirements of NRS 233B.0603:

1. Statement of need and purpose

The regulation is required to establish the schedule of unemployment insurance tax rates for those employers eligible for experience rating for calendar year 2009. The Administrator of the Employment Security Division is required to establish this schedule annually, pursuant to NRS 612.550.

2. How to obtain the revised text of regulation

You may obtain a copy of the proposed regulation as revised or approved by Legislative Counsel by writing to the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Employment Security Division, 500 E. Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713, or telephone Joyce Golden at (775) 684-3909.

3. Estimated Economic Effect

The balance in the unemployment insurance trust fund on September 30, 2008 is estimated to be \$745.2 million, which is \$184.7 million more than the estimated state solvency requirement of \$560.5 million, as provided in NRS 612.550. It is projected that the proposed tax rate schedule will produce an ending balance of \$492.1 million by September 30, 2009, which will be approximately \$77.5 million below the projected state solvency requirement of \$569.6 million. During times of high unemployment, the counter-cyclical purpose of the Trust Fund allows revenue collected during strong economic times to be used for increased benefits during downturns.

(a) <u>Effect on businesses</u>

The average tax rate will continue from last year, at the same rate of 1.33%. The immediate benefit to businesses is that they will not be required to pay higher unemployment insurance tax during the current economic downturn and period of high unemployment. The long-term benefit is that the Trust Fund will serve as a stabilizer, providing revenue collected during strong economic times to cover the increased demand for payments of unemployment benefits during downturns with no tax increases on employers. There are no known immediate or long-term adverse effects on large or small businesses.

(b) <u>Effect on the public</u>

The tax rate schedule will become effective January 1, 2009 and remains in effect for the calendar year. The immediate and long-term beneficial effect on the public is to ensure the payment of unemployment benefits to workers who are unemployed through no fault of their own. Unemployment benefits enable unemployed persons to purchase necessary basic goods and services. No immediate or long-term adverse effects on the public are known.

4. <u>Estimated cost</u>

There are no additional costs involved in enforcing the proposed regulation, since funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Labor to administer the Unemployment Insurance Program.

5. Overlap or duplication of regulations

The proposed regulation does not overlap or duplicate any regulations of other state or local government agencies.

6. More stringent than federal regulations

The proposed regulation is not required pursuant to federal law, nor is there a federal regulation that regulates the same activity.

7. Summary of provisions more stringent than the federal regulations

Not applicable.

8. New or increased fee

This regulation does not establish a new fee or increase an existing fee.

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed action of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Employment Security Division, may appear at the scheduled public hearing

or address their comments, data, views or arguments in written form to the Employment Security Division, 500 E. Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713. The Employment Security Division must receive all written submissions on or before December 3, 2008. If no person who is directly affected by the proposed action appears to request time to make an oral presentation, the Employment Security Division may proceed immediately to action upon any written submissions.

A copy of this notice and the regulation to be amended will be on file at the Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, Nevada, for inspection by members of the public during business hours. Additional copies of the notice and the regulation to be amended will be available at the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation, Employment Security Division, 500 E. Third Street, Carson City, Nevada 89713, and in all counties in which an office of the agency is not maintained, at the main public library, for inspection and copying by members of the public during business hours. This notice and the text of the proposed regulation are also available in the State of Nevada Register of Administrative Regulations, which is prepared and published monthly by the Legislative Counsel Bureau pursuant to NRS 233B.0653 and on the Internet at http://www.leg.state.nv.us. Copies of this notice and the proposed regulation will also be mailed to members of the public upon request. A reasonable fee may be charged for copies if it is deemed necessary. This does not apply to a public body subject to the Open Meeting Law.

Upon adoption of any regulation, the agency, if requested to do so by an interested person, either before adoption or within 30 days thereafter, will issue a concise statement of the principal reasons for and against its adoption or incorporate therein its reason for overruling the consideration urged against its adoption.

This notice of hearing has been posted at the following locations:

Legislative Building, 401 South Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Nevada State Library and Archives, 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Grant Sawyer State Building, 555 E. Washington Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89101

Legislative Counsel Bureau Web Site

Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation Web Site

All County Libraries in Nevada

Employment Security Division, Northern Administrative Office, 500 E. Third Street, Carson City, NV 89713

Employment Security Division Southern Administrative Office, 2800 E. St. Louis Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Unemployment Insurance Contributions, 1320 South Curry Street, Carson City, NV 89710

Reno Field Audit Office, 1325 Corporate Blvd, Suite B, Reno, NV 89502

Las Vegas Field Audit Office, 2800 E. St. Louis Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Reno Appeals Office, 1325 Corporate Blvd, Suite C, Reno, NV 89502

Las Vegas Appeals Office, 2800 E. St. Louis Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Reno Casual Labor Office, 420 Galletti Way, Sparks, NV 89431

Las Vegas Casual Labor Office, 1001 North A Street, Las Vegas, NV 89106

Nevada JobConnect-Carson City, 1929 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701

Nevada JobConnect-Elko, 172 Sixth Street, Elko, NV 89801

Nevada JobConnect-Ely, 480 Campton Street, Ely, NV 89301

Nevada JobConnect-Fallon, 121 Industrial Way, Fallon, NV 89406

Nevada JobConnect-Henderson, 119 Water Street, Henderson, NV 89015

Nevada JobConnect-Las Vegas, 3405 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89169

Nevada JobConnect-North Las Vegas, 2827 Las Vegas Boulevard North, Las Vegas, NV 89030

Nevada JobConnect-Pahrump, 2101 East Calvada Blvd., Pahrump, NV 89041

Nevada JobConnect-Reno Town Mall, 4001 South Virginia Street, Suite H-1, Reno, NV 89502

Nevada JobConnect-Sparks, 1675 E. Prater Way, Suite 103 Sparks, NV 89431

Nevada JobConnect-Winnemucca, 475 Haskell St., Suite 1, Winnemucca, NV 89445

October 30, 2008