

taken into account for purposes of determining reduction of tax credits for subsequent taxable years.

§ 606.21 Criteria for cap.

(a) *Reduction in unemployment tax effort.* (1) For purposes of paragraph (a)(1) of § 606.20, a reduction in a State's unemployment tax effort will have occurred with respect to a taxable year if any action is or was taken (legislative, judicial, or administrative,) that is effective during the 12-month period ending on September 30 of such taxable year, which has resulted in or will result in a reduction of the amount of contributions paid or payable or the amounts that were or would have been paid or payable but for such action.

(2) Actions that will result in a reduction in tax effort include, but are not limited to, a reduction in the taxable wage base, the tax rate schedule, tax rates, or taxes payable (including surtaxes) that would not have gone into effect but for the legislative, judicial, or administrative action taken. Notwithstanding the foregoing criterion, a reduction in unemployment tax effort resulting from any provision of the State law enacted prior to August 13, 1981, will not be taken into account as a reduction in the State's unemployment tax effort for the purposes of this section.

(b) *Net decrease in solvency.* For purposes of paragraph (a)(2) of § 606.20, a net decrease in the solvency of the State's unemployment compensation system will have occurred with respect to a taxable year if any action is or was taken (legislative, judicial, or administrative), that is effective during the 12-month period ending on September 30 of such taxable year, which has resulted in or will result in an increase in benefits without at least an equal increase in taxes, or a decrease in taxes without at least an equal decrease in benefits. Notwithstanding the foregoing criterion, a decrease in solvency resulting from any provision of the State law enacted prior to August 13, 1981, will not be taken into account as a reduction in solvency of the State's unemployment compensation system for the purposes of this section.

(c) *State unemployment tax rate.* For purposes of paragraph (a)(3) of § 606.20,

the State unemployment tax rate is defined in § 606.3(j). If such percentage is not a multiple of 0.1 percent, the percentage shall remain unrounded.

(d) *State five-year average benefit cost ratio.* For purposes of paragraph (a)(3) of § 606.20, the average benefit cost ratio for the five preceding calendar years is the percentage determined by dividing the sum of the benefit cost ratios for the five years by five. If such percentage is not a multiple of 0.1 percent, the percentage shall remain unrounded.

§ 606.22 Application for cap.

(a) *Application.* (1) The Governor of the State shall make application, addressed to the Secretary of Labor, no later than July 1 of a taxable year with respect to which a State requests a cap on tax credit reduction. The Governor is required to notify the Department on or before October 15 of such taxable year of any action occurring after the date of the initial application and effective prior to October 1 of such year that would impact upon the State's application.

(2) The OWS Administrator will make a determination on the application on or before November 10 of such taxable year, will notify the applicant and the Secretary of the Treasury of such determination, and will cause notice of such determination to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) *Anticipated impact statement.* In support of the application by the Governor, there shall be submitted with the application (on or before October 15), for the purposes of the criteria described in §§ 606.20(a) (1) and (2) and 606.21 (a) and (b), a description of all statutory provisions enacted or amended, regulations adopted or revised, administrative policies and procedures adopted or revised, and judicial decisions given effect, which are effective during the 12-month period ending on September 30 of the taxable year for which a cap on tax credit reduction is requested, and an anticipated impact statement (AIS) for each such program action in the following respect—

(1) The estimated dollar effect on each program action upon expenditures for compensation from the State unemployment fund and for the amounts of

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contributions paid or payable in such 12-month period, including the effect of interaction among program actions, and with respect to program actions for which dollar impact cannot be estimated or is minor or negligible, indicate whether the impact is positive or negative;

(2) If a program action has no such dollar effect, an explanation of why there is or will be no such effect;

(3) A description of assumptions and methodology used and the basis for the financial estimate of the impact of each program action described in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section; and

(4) A comparison of the program actions described in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section with the program actions prior to the Federal fiscal year (as defined in § 606.3(f)) which ends on such September 30.

(c) *Unemployment tax rate.* With respect to the unemployment tax rate criterion described in §§ 606.20(a)(3) and 606.21(c), the application shall include an estimate for the taxable year with respect to which a cap on tax credit reduction is requested and actual data for the prior two years as follows:

(1) The amount of taxable wages as defined in § 606.3(k);

(2) The amount of total wages as defined in § 606.3(1); and

(3) The estimated distribution of taxable wages, as defined in § 606.3(k), by tax rate under the State law.

(d) *Benefit cost ratio.* With respect to the benefit cost ratio criterion described in §§ 606.20(a)(3) and 606.21(d), the application shall include for each of the five calendar years prior to the taxable year for which a cap on tax credit reduction is requested, the following data:

(1) The total dollar sum of compensation actually paid under the State law during the calendar year, including in such total sum all regular, additional, and extended compensation as defined in section 205 of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, but excluding from such total sum—

(i) The total dollar amount of such compensation paid for which the State is entitled to reimbursement or was re-

imbursed under the provisions of any Federal law;

(ii) The total dollar amount of such compensation paid which is attributable to services performed for a reimbursing employer, and which is not included in the total amount reported under paragraph (d)(1)(i) of this section;

(2) The total dollar amount of interest paid during the calendar year on any advance; and

(3) The total dollar amount of wages (as defined in § 606.3(1)) with respect to such calendar year.

(e) *Documentation required.* Copies of the sources of or authority for each program action described in paragraph (b) of this section shall be submitted with each application for a cap on tax credit reduction. In addition, a notation shall be made on each AIS of where all figures referred to are contained in reports required by the Department or in other data sources.

(f) *State contact person.* The Department may request additional information or clarification of information submitted bearing upon an application for a cap on tax credit reduction. To expedite requests for such information, the name and telephone number of an appropriate State official shall be included in the application by the Governor.

§ 606.23 Avoidance of tax credit reduction.

(a) *Applicability.* Subsection (g) of section 3302 of FUTA authorizes a State to avoid a tax credit reduction for a taxable year by meeting the three requirements of subsection (g). These requirements are met if the OWS Administrator determines that:

(1) Advances were repaid by the State during the one-year period ending on November 9 of the taxable year in an amount not less than the sum of—

(i) The potential additional taxes (as estimated by the OWS Administrator) that would be payable by the State's employers if paragraph (2) of section 3302(c) of FUTA were applied for such taxable year (as estimated with regard to the cap on tax credit reduction for which the State qualifies under §§ 606.20 to 606.22 with respect to such taxable year), and