#### SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2222

## **101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

#### INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MCCREERY.

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

### AN ACT

To repeal section 143.121, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof ten new sections relating to leave from employment, with a referendum clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 143.121, RSMo, is repealed and ten new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 143.121, 285.400, 285.405, 285.410, 285.415, 285.420, 285.425, 285.430, 285.435, and 285.440, to read as follows:

143.121. 1. The Missouri adjusted gross income of a resident individual shall be the 2 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income subject to the modifications in this section.

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2. There shall be added to the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income:

4 (1) The amount of any federal income tax refund received for a prior year which 5 resulted in a Missouri income tax benefit. The amount added pursuant to this subdivision shall not include any amount of a federal income tax refund attributable to a tax credit 6 7 reducing a taxpayer's federal tax liability pursuant to Public Law 116-136 or 116-260, enacted by the 116th United States Congress, for the tax year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, 8 and ending on or before December 31, 2020, and deducted from Missouri adjusted gross 9 10 income pursuant to section 143.171. The amount added under this subdivision shall also not include any amount of a federal income tax refund attributable to a tax credit reducing a 11 taxpayer's federal tax liability under any other federal law that provides direct economic 12 13 impact payments to taxpayers to mitigate financial challenges related to the COVID-19 14 pandemic, and deducted from Missouri adjusted gross income under section 143.171;

15 (2) Interest on certain governmental obligations excluded from federal gross income 16 by 26 U.S.C. Section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended. The previous sentence

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

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17 shall not apply to interest on obligations of the state of Missouri or any of its political 18 subdivisions or authorities and shall not apply to the interest described in subdivision (1) of 19 subsection 3 of this section. The amount added pursuant to this subdivision shall be reduced 20 by the amounts applicable to such interest that would have been deductible in computing the 21 taxable income of the taxpayer except only for the application of 26 U.S.C. Section 265 of the 22 Internal Revenue Code, as amended. The reduction shall only be made if it is at least five 23 hundred dollars;

(3) The amount of any deduction that is included in the computation of federal
taxable income pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended
by the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002 to the extent the amount deducted
relates to property purchased on or after July 1, 2002, but before July 1, 2003, and to the
extent the amount deducted exceeds the amount that would have been deductible pursuant to
26 U.S.C. Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 as in effect on January 1, 2002;
(4) The amount of any deduction that is included in the computation of federal

taxable income for net operating loss allowed by 26 U.S.C. Section 172 of the Internal 31 32 Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, other than the deduction allowed by 26 U.S.C. Section 33 [<del>172(b)(1)(G)</del>] **172(b)(1)(F)** and 26 U.S.C. Section [<del>172(i)</del>] **172(h)** of the Internal Revenue 34 Code of 1986, as amended, for a net operating loss the taxpayer claims in the tax year in which the net operating loss occurred or carries forward for a period of more than twenty 35 36 years and carries backward for more than two years. Any amount of net operating loss taken 37 against federal taxable income but disallowed for Missouri income tax purposes pursuant to 38 this subdivision after June 18, 2002, may be carried forward and taken against any income on the Missouri income tax return for a period of not more than twenty years from the year of the 39 40 initial loss; and

41 (5) For nonresident individuals in all taxable years ending on or after December 31, 42 2006, the amount of any property taxes paid to another state or a political subdivision of 43 another state for which a deduction was allowed on such nonresident's federal return in the 44 taxable year unless such state, political subdivision of a state, or the District of Columbia 45 allows a subtraction from income for property taxes paid to this state for purposes of 46 calculating income for the income tax for such state, political subdivision of a state, or the 47 District of Columbia;

(6) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, any interest expense paid or accrued in a previous taxable year, but allowed as a deduction under 26 U.S.C. Section 163, as amended, in the current taxable year by reason of the carryforward of disallowed business interest provisions of 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended. For the purposes of this subdivision, an interest expense is considered paid or accrued only in the first taxable year the deduction would have been allowable under 26 U.S.C. Section 163, as amended, if thelimitation under 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended, did not exist.

55 3. There shall be subtracted from the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income the 56 following amounts to the extent included in federal adjusted gross income:

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(1) Interest received on deposits held at a federal reserve bank or interest or dividends 58 on obligations of the United States and its territories and possessions or of any authority, 59 commission or instrumentality of the United States to the extent exempt from Missouri 60 income taxes pursuant to the laws of the United States. The amount subtracted pursuant to this subdivision shall be reduced by any interest on indebtedness incurred to carry the 61 62 described obligations or securities and by any expenses incurred in the production of interest or dividend income described in this subdivision. The reduction in the previous sentence 63 64 shall only apply to the extent that such expenses including amortizable bond premiums are deducted in determining the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income or included in the 65 66 taxpayer's Missouri itemized deduction. The reduction shall only be made if the expenses total at least five hundred dollars; 67

68 (2) The portion of any gain, from the sale or other disposition of property having a 69 higher adjusted basis to the taxpayer for Missouri income tax purposes than for federal 70 income tax purposes on December 31, 1972, that does not exceed such difference in basis. If 71 a gain is considered a long-term capital gain for federal income tax purposes, the modification 72 shall be limited to one-half of such portion of the gain;

(3) The amount necessary to prevent the taxation pursuant to this chapter of any annuity or other amount of income or gain which was properly included in income or gain and was taxed pursuant to the laws of Missouri for a taxable year prior to January 1, 1973, to the taxpayer, or to a decedent by reason of whose death the taxpayer acquired the right to receive the income or gain, or to a trust or estate from which the taxpayer received the income or gain;

(4) Accumulation distributions received by a taxpayer as a beneficiary of a trust to theextent that the same are included in federal adjusted gross income;

(5) The amount of any state income tax refund for a prior year which was included inthe federal adjusted gross income;

(6) The portion of capital gain specified in section 135.357 that would otherwise beincluded in federal adjusted gross income;

85 (7) The amount that would have been deducted in the computation of federal taxable 86 income pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code as in effect on 87 January 1, 2002, to the extent that amount relates to property purchased on or after July 1, 88 2002, but before July 1, 2003, and to the extent that amount exceeds the amount actually

deducted pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 168 of the Internal Revenue Code as amended by theJob Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002;

91 (8) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2005, the amount of any income 92 received for military service while the taxpayer serves in a combat zone which is included in 93 federal adjusted gross income and not otherwise excluded therefrom. As used in this section, 94 "combat zone" means any area which the President of the United States by Executive Order 95 designates as an area in which Armed Forces of the United States are or have engaged in 96 combat. Service is performed in a combat zone only if performed on or after the date 97 designated by the President by Executive Order as the date of the commencing of combat 98 activities in such zone, and on or before the date designated by the President by Executive 99 Order as the date of the termination of combatant activities in such zone;

100 (9) For all tax years ending on or after July 1, 2002, with respect to qualified property 101 that is sold or otherwise disposed of during a taxable year by a taxpayer and for which an 102 additional modification was made under subdivision (3) of subsection 2 of this section, the 103 amount by which additional modification made under subdivision (3) of subsection 2 of this 104 section on qualified property has not been recovered through the additional subtractions 105 provided in subdivision (7) of this subsection;

106 (10) The amount contributed to the Missouri earned family and medical leave107 fund established under section 285.435;

108 (11) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, the amount of any 109 income received as payment from any program which provides compensation to agricultural 110 producers who have suffered a loss as the result of a disaster or emergency, including the:

- 111 (a) Livestock Forage Disaster Program;
- 112 (b) Livestock Indemnity Program;
- 113 (c) Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish;
- 114 (d) Emergency Conservation Program;
- 115 (e) Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program;
- 116 (f) Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Pilot Insurance Program;
- 117 (g) Annual Forage Pilot Program;
- 118 (h) Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Plan;
- (i) Livestock Gross Margin Insurance Plan;

120 [(11)] (12) For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2018, any interest 121 expense paid or accrued in the current taxable year, but not deducted as a result of the 122 limitation imposed under 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended. For the purposes of this 123 subdivision, an interest expense is considered paid or accrued only in the first taxable year the 124 deduction would have been allowable under 26 U.S.C. Section 163, as amended, if the 125 limitation under 26 U.S.C. Section 163(j), as amended, did not exist; and

126 [(12)] (13) One hundred percent of any retirement benefits received by any taxpayer 127 as a result of the taxpayer's service in the Armed Forces of the United States, including 128 reserve components and the National Guard of this state, as defined in 32 U.S.C. Sections 101 129 (3) and 109, and any other military force organized under the laws of this state.

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4. There shall be added to or subtracted from the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross 131 income the taxpayer's share of the Missouri fiduciary adjustment provided in section 143.351.

132 5. There shall be added to or subtracted from the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross 133 income the modifications provided in section 143.411.

134 6. In addition to the modifications to a taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income in this 135 section, to calculate Missouri adjusted gross income there shall be subtracted from the 136 taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income any gain recognized pursuant to 26 U.S.C. Section 137 1033 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, arising from compulsory or 138 involuntary conversion of property as a result of condemnation or the imminence thereof.

139 7. (1) As used in this subsection, "qualified health insurance premium" means the 140 amount paid during the tax year by such taxpayer for any insurance policy primarily 141 providing health care coverage for the taxpayer, the taxpayer's spouse, or the taxpayer's 142 dependents.

143 (2) In addition to the subtractions in subsection 3 of this section, one hundred percent 144 of the amount of qualified health insurance premiums shall be subtracted from the taxpayer's 145 federal adjusted gross income to the extent the amount paid for such premiums is included in 146 federal taxable income. The taxpayer shall provide the department of revenue with proof of 147 the amount of qualified health insurance premiums paid.

148 8. (1) Beginning January 1, 2014, in addition to the subtractions provided in this 149 section, one hundred percent of the cost incurred by a taxpayer for a home energy audit 150 conducted by an entity certified by the department of natural resources under section 640.153 151 or the implementation of any energy efficiency recommendations made in such an audit shall 152 be subtracted from the taxpayer's federal adjusted gross income to the extent the amount paid 153 for any such activity is included in federal taxable income. The taxpayer shall provide the 154 department of revenue with a summary of any recommendations made in a qualified home energy audit, the name and certification number of the qualified home energy auditor who 155 156 conducted the audit, and proof of the amount paid for any activities under this subsection for 157 which a deduction is claimed. The taxpayer shall also provide a copy of the summary of any 158 recommendations made in a qualified home energy audit to the department of natural 159 resources.

160 (2) At no time shall a deduction claimed under this subsection by an individual 161 taxpayer or taxpayers filing combined returns exceed one thousand dollars per year for

162 individual taxpayers or cumulatively exceed two thousand dollars per year for taxpayers163 filing combined returns.

164 (3) Any deduction claimed under this subsection shall be claimed for the tax year in 165 which the qualified home energy audit was conducted or in which the implementation of the 166 energy efficiency recommendations occurred. If implementation of the energy efficiency 167 recommendations occurred during more than one year, the deduction may be claimed in more 168 than one year, subject to the limitations provided under subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(4) A deduction shall not be claimed for any otherwise eligible activity under this
subsection if such activity qualified for and received any rebate or other incentive through a
state-sponsored energy program or through an electric corporation, gas corporation, electric
cooperative, or municipally owned utility.

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9. The provisions of subsection 8 of this section shall expire on December 31, 2020.

285.400. 1. The provisions of sections 285.400 to 285.440 shall be known and 2 may be cited as the "Missouri Earned Family and Medical Leave Act".

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2. As used in sections 285.400 to 285.440, the following terms shall mean:

4 (1) "Average state weekly pay", the total wages earned by all employees who 5 have contributed to the fund in the past twelve months, divided by the total number of 6 such employees, the quotient of which is divided by the average number of weeks 7 worked by all employees who have contributed to the fund in the last twelve months;

8 (2) "Average weekly pay", the total wages earned by an employee in the past 9 twelve months, divided by the number of weeks worked by the employee in such twelve-10 month period, or the weekly salary of the employee at the time that family or medical 11 leave is taken, whichever is greater provided that the average weekly pay shall never 12 exceed the average state weekly pay;

(3) "Care", includes, but is not limited to, physical care, emotional support,
visitation, assistance in treatment, transportation, arranging for a change in care,
assistance with essential daily living matters, and personal attendant services;

16 (4) "Child", a biological, adopted, or foster son or daughter, a stepson or 17 stepdaughter, a legal ward, a son or daughter of a domestic or civil union partner, or the 18 person to whom the employee stands in loco parentis who is under nineteen years of age 19 or nineteen years of age or older but incapable of self-care because of mental or physical 20 impairment;

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(5) "Department", the department of labor and industrial relations;

(6) "Employee", any person performing service for remuneration unless it is
shown to the satisfaction of the department that such services were performed by an
independent contractor. In determining the existence of the independent contractor
relationship, the common law of agency right to control shall be applied. The common

26 law of agency right to control test shall include but not be limited to: if the alleged 27 employer retains the right to control the manner and means by which the results are to 28 be accomplished, the person who performs the service is an employee. If only the results 29 are controlled, the person performing the service is an independent contractor;

30 (7) "Employer", any person acting directly or indirectly in the interest of an 31 employer in relation to an employee;

32 (8) "Family member", a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse,
33 domestic or civil union partner, or household member, or any ward as that term is
34 defined in section 475.010;

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(9) "Family or medical leave", any of the following:

36 (a) Leave to bond with a minor child within the first year of the child's birth or
 37 placement in connection with foster care or adoption;

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(b) Leave to care for a family member who has a serious health condition;(c) Leave due to an employee's own serious health condition; or

40 (d) Leave to assume any familial responsibility because a spouse, child, or parent
41 of an employee is on, or has been notified of an impending call to, active duty in the
42 uniformed services;

43 (10) "Fund", the Missouri earned family and medical leave fund established in 44 section 285.435;

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(11) "Grandchild", a child of the employee's child;

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(12) "Grandparent", a parent of the employee's parent;

47 (13) "Health care provider", any physician, hospital, health maintenance 48 organization, ambulatory surgical center, long-term care facility including those 49 licensed under chapter 198, dentist, registered or licensed practical nurse, 50 optometrist, podiatrist, pharmacist, chiropractor, physical therapist, psychologist, 51 physician-in-training, and any other person or entity that provides health care 52 services under the authority of a license or certificate of this state or any other state 53 or foreign country;

(14) "Parent", a biological, foster, or adoptive parent, a parent-in-law, a
 stepparent, a legal guardian, or other person who stood in loco parentis to the employee
 when the employee was a child;

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(15) "Parent-in-law", the parent of a spouse or domestic or civil union partner;

58 (16) "Serious health condition", an illness, injury, impairment, or physical or 59 mental condition that involves inpatient care in a hospital, hospice, or residential health 60 care facility, or continuing medical treatment or continuing supervision by a health care 61 provider. The term shall include medical attention, services, or counseling for victims of 62 stalking, domestic violence, abuse, or sexual assault, as such terms are defined in section

455.010, or victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation as described in
 section 566.209;

(17) "Sibling", a person related to another person by blood, adoption, or affinity
 through a common legal or biological parent;

(18) "Spouse", a partner to a lawful marriage;

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(19) "Uniformed services":

(a) Active and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps,
or Coast Guard of the United States;

(b) The Merchant Marine, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service,
or the commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of
the United States; or

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(c) The Missouri National Guard.

285.405. 1. There is hereby established the "Missouri Earned Family and 2 Medical Leave Program" to provide up to six weeks of wage replacement benefits to 3 employees who take time off work for family or medical leave. The department shall 4 administer and implement the program and the provisions of sections 285.400 to 5 285.440, and shall pay Missouri family or medical leave benefits as specified in such 6 sections.

7 2. An employee shall be eligible to receive Missouri earned family or medical 8 leave program benefits equal to one hundred percent of his or her average weekly pay 9 for each full week during which he or she has taken family or medical leave. An 10 employee may take family or medical leave for a partial week and shall only be eligible 11 to receive the fraction of the average weekly pay which is equal to the number of days of 12 leave taken divided by the number of days for which such employee would have 13 otherwise worked in the respective week had the employee not taken family or medical 14 leave. Any leave taken shall be in full-day increments.

3. No more than six weeks of Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits
 shall be paid to an employee within any fifty-two-week period.

17 4. An employee shall file a claim for Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits with the department not later than the forty-first consecutive day following the 18 first compensable day with respect to which the claim is made for benefits, which time 19 20 shall be extended by the department upon a showing of good cause. If a first claim is not 21 complete, the claim form shall be returned to the employee for completion, and it shall 22 be completed and returned not later than the tenth consecutive day after the date it was 23 verifiably sent by the department to the employee, except that such time shall be 24 extended by the department upon a showing of good cause.

5. No employee shall be eligible for Missouri earned family and medical leave
 program benefits with respect to any day:

(1) That he or she is eligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits
under chapter 288 or under an unemployment compensation act of any other state or of
the federal government; or

30 (2) That he or she has received, or is entitled to receive, any other benefits under 31 chapter 287.

6. No employee shall be eligible for Missouri earned family and medical leave
benefits until such employee has paid into the Missouri earned family and medical leave
fund for fifty-two weeks.

7. An employee who is entitled to leave under the Missouri earned family and
medical leave act and the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) under 29 U.S.C.
Section 2601 et seq. shall take family or medical leave under sections 285.400 to 285.440
concurrent with leave taken under the FMLA.

39 8. The first payment of Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits shall 40 be made to an employee within two weeks after the completed claim is received by the 41 department or the day the family or medical leave began, whichever is later. 42 Subsequent payments shall be made bimonthly.

285.410. 1. (1) An employee shall establish eligibility for each uninterrupted family or medical care leave period by filing a first claim for benefits supported by the certificate of a treating health care provider that establishes the serious health condition of the family member that warrants the care of the employee, or that establishes the serious health condition of the employee. For subsequent periods of uninterrupted leave after the period covered by the initial certificate or any preceding continued claim, a claimant shall file a continued claim for those benefits supported by the certificate of a treating health care provider.

9 (2) For employees seeking leave in order to assume a familial responsibility due 10 to a spouse, child, or parent being on active duty in the uniformed services, eligibility for 11 leave shall be established by providing, in a manner satisfactory to the department, 12 proof of the family member being on active duty.

13 (3) For employees seeking leave due to a serious health condition related to 14 seeking medical attention, services, or counseling for victims of stalking, domestic 15 violence, abuse, or sexual assault, as such terms are defined in section 455.010, or 16 victims of trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation as described in section 566.209, 17 the certificate required by subdivision (1) of this subsection may be provided by any of 18 the following:

19 (a) A health care provider;

20 (b) A court which has jurisdiction over a judicial proceeding relating to the 21 serious health condition of the employee or the serious health condition of the family 22 member of the employee; or

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(c) A law enforcement officer with knowledge of the serious health condition of 24 the employee or the serious health condition of the family member of the employee.

25 2. The certificates required under subsection 1 of this section shall be developed 26 by the department. In order to establish medical eligibility of the serious health 27 condition of the family member that warrants the care of the employee, or to establish 28 medical eligibility of the serious health condition of the employee, the information on the 29 certificate shall be within the physician's or health care provider's knowledge and shall be based on a physical examination and documented medical history of the family 30 31 member or employee. The certificate shall contain all of the following:

32 (1) A diagnosis and diagnostic code prescribed in the International Classification 33 of Diseases or, if no diagnosis has yet been obtained, a detailed statement of symptoms;

(2) The date, if known, on which the condition commenced;

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(3) The probable duration of the condition;

36 (4) An estimate of the amount of time that the physician or health care provider 37 believes the employee needs to care for the family member or himself or herself; and

38 (5) If applicable, a statement that the serious health condition warrants the 39 participation of the employee to provide care for his or her family member.

40 3. The department shall develop a certificate form that is separate and distinct 41 from the certificate required in subsection 1 of this section for an employee taking leave to bond with a minor child within the first year of the child's birth or placement in 42 43 connection with foster care or adoption.

44 4. Any claim of an individual who obtains care and treatment outside the state 45 shall be supported by a certificate of a treating health care provider duly licensed or certified by the state or foreign country in which the claimant is receiving care and 46 47 treatment.

48 5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude the department from requesting additional medical evidence to supplement any claim. Any cost incurred for 49 50 procuring additional medical evidence shall be paid by the employee. The department may require that the additional evidence include any or all of the following: 51

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- (1) Identification of diagnoses;
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(2) Identification of symptoms;

54 (3) A statement setting forth the facts of the serious health condition of the employee or such employee's family member, which shall be completed by any of the 55 following individuals: 56

57 (a) The health care provider treating the employee or family member of the 58 employee;

59 (b) The registrar, authorized medical officer, or other duly authorized official of 60 the hospital or health care facility treating the employee or family member of the 61 employee; or

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(c) An examining physician or other representative of the department;

(4) An affidavit from an employee averring that the employee or such
 employee's spouse gave birth to a child or has adopted or received a child in connection
 with foster care.

285.415. Employees shall provide at least thirty days advance notice to their employer before family and medical leave is to begin if the need for the leave is foreseeable. If thirty days' notice is not practicable, notice shall be given to the employer as soon as practicable.

285.420. 1. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section, an employee may file a notice of appeal from any determination of eligibility for benefits made by the department with the administrative hearing commission pursuant to chapter 621. Such appeal shall be made by mail or in person within thirty days after the date on which a copy of the department's decision was received by the employee.

6 2. The administrative hearing commission's proposed decision and order shall 7 be final and not subject to further appeal, unless within thirty days after the decision is 8 served on the interested parties, a party files a petition for judicial review as provided in 9 chapter 536.

3. A determination of the amount of benefits payable under sections 285.400 to 285.440 shall not serve as a basis for appeal under this section. However, the determination shall be subject to request by the employee on family or medical leave for redetermination by the department at any time within one year from the date of delivery or mailing of such determination, or any redetermination thereof. A redetermination shall be furnished to the individual in writing.

4. A denial of benefits shall become final in the absence of timely appeal therefrom. The department may redetermine a denial of benefits at any time within one year from delivery or mailing of such denial to correct an error in identity, omission of fact, or misapplication of law with respect to the facts.

5. A determination of allowance of benefits shall become final in the absence of timely appeal therefrom. The department may redetermine such allowance at any time within two years following the application year in which such allowance was made in order to recover any benefits for which recovery is provided under this section.

6. A redetermination of benefits may be made at any time for any of the following reasons:

26 (1) To conform to a final court decision applicable to either an initial 27 determination or a determination of denial or allowance of benefits;

(2) In the event of a back pay award or settlement affecting the allowance ofbenefits; or

30 31 (3) In the case of misrepresentation or willful failure to report a material fact.

32 Written notice of any such redetermination shall be promptly given by mail or delivered 33 to such interested parties as were notified of the initial determination of denial or 34 allowance of benefits and any new interested party or parties who, under such rule as 35 the department may adopt, would be an interested party.

285.425. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, it shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or in any other manner discriminate against an employee because the employee has made a claim for, indicated an intent to make a claim for, or received Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits.

5 2. (1) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection 1 of this section shall 6 be liable to any employee of such person who is affected by the violation for such 7 equitable relief as may be appropriate including employment, reinstatement, or 8 promotion and for damages equal to the sum of:

9 (a) The amount of:

a. Any wages, salary, employment benefits, or other compensation denied or lost
 to such individual by reason of the violation; or

b. In a case in which wages, salary, employment benefits, or other compensation have not been denied or lost to the individual, any actual monetary losses sustained by the individual as a direct result of the violation, such as the cost of providing care, up to a sum equal to sixty calendar days of wages or salary for the individual;

(b) The interest on the amount described in paragraph (a) of this subdivision,
such interest rate being equal to the market rate as determined by the director of the
division of finance under section 408.030; and

19 (c) An additional amount as liquidated damages equal to the sum of the amount 20 described in paragraph (a) of this subdivision and the interest described in paragraph 21 (b) of this subdivision, except that if a person who has violated subsection 1 of this 22 section proves to the satisfaction of the court that the act or omission was in good faith 23 and that the person had reasonable grounds for believing that the act or omission was 24 not a violation, such court may reduce the amount of such liquidated damages. (2) The court may additionally require reasonable attorney's fees, expert witness
 fees, and other court costs to be paid by a defendant.

3. An action to recover the relief prescribed in subsection 2 of this section may be
maintained against any person in any court of competent jurisdiction by the employee
affected.

4. The department may bring an action seeking relief on behalf of an employee under this section. The right to bring an action provided under subsection 3 of this section shall terminate upon the filing of a complaint by the department. If any damages are recovered in such action, such damages shall be held in a special deposit account and paid directly to each employee affected.

5. An action may be brought under this section not later than three years after the date of the alleged violation for which the action is brought. An action brought under this section shall be considered to be commenced on the date when the complaint is filed.

285.430. 1. The department shall develop and implement an outreach program to ensure that employees who may be eligible to receive Missouri earned family and medical leave benefits under sections 285.400 to 285.440 are made aware of such benefits. Outreach information shall easily explain eligibility requirements, the claims process, weekly benefit amounts, maximum benefits payable, notice and medical certification requirements, reinstatement and nondiscrimination rights, confidentiality, and the relationship between employment protection, leave from employment, wage replacement benefits, and other laws, collective bargaining agreements, and employer policies.

10 2. Not later than three years after the effective date of sections 285.400 to 11 285.440, the state auditor shall submit to the general assembly a report on the Missouri 12 earned family and medical leave benefits paid for any month during the one-year period 13 beginning on January 1, 2025. The report shall include the following:

(1) An identification of the total number of applications for such benefits filed,
 and the average number of days between when an application is received and when a
 determination is made;

17 (2) An identification of the total number of requests for review of an initial 18 adverse determination of eligibility for such benefits made, and the average number of 19 days between when such review is requested and when a final determination of 20 eligibility is made; and

21 (3) An identification of the total number of monthly benefit claim reports for 22 such benefits filed, and the average number of days between the date such report is

23 received and the date on which the initial determination of eligibility with respect to the 24 claim report is made.

285.435. 1. (1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Missouri 2 Earned Family and Medical Leave Fund", which shall consist of moneys collected under 3 this section. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund. In accordance with 4 sections 30.170 and 30.180, the state treasurer may approve disbursements. The fund 5 shall be a dedicated fund and moneys in the fund shall be used solely by the department 6 of labor and industrial relations for the purpose of distributing Missouri earned family 7 and medical leave program benefits.

8 (2) The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as 9 other funds are invested. Any interest and moneys earned on such investments shall be 10 credited to the fund.

11 2. (1) In order to provide funding to implement the provisions of sections 12 285.400 to 285.440, employees shall contribute one quarter of one percent of their 13 average weekly pay to the Missouri earned family and medical leave fund beginning 14 January 1, 2023.

15 (2) For purposes of this section, in determining the average weekly pay of an 16 employee, the total wages of an employee shall not exceed the contribution and benefit 17 base established by the Commissioner of Social Security Administration under 42 18 U.S.C. 430.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 285.405 to the contrary, if there are
not sufficient resources in the fund, the department may, at its discretion, reduce the
benefit amount each employee is eligible to receive. If the benefit amount is reduced,
each employee shall receive the same percent of his or her average weekly wage.

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(4) No employee shall receive benefits from the fund until January 1, 2025.

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3. Under section 23.253 of the Missouri sunset act:

(1) The provisions of the new program authorized under sections 285.400 to
26 285.440 shall automatically sunset on December 31, 2028, unless reauthorized by an act
27 of the general assembly;

(2) If such program is reauthorized, the program authorized under sections
29 285.400 to 285.440 shall automatically sunset six years after the effective date of the
30 reauthorization of such sections; and

(3) Sections 285.400 to 285.440 shall terminate on September first of the
 calendar year immediately following the calendar year in which the program authorized
 under such sections is sunset.

285.440. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010,
that is created under the authority delegated in sections 285.400 to 285.435 shall become

3 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and,

4 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any

5 of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to

6 delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held 7 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or

8 adopted after the effective date of this section shall be invalid and void.

Section B. This act is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state for 2 approval or rejection at an election which is hereby ordered and which shall be held and 3 conducted on Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2022, pursuant to the 4 laws and constitutional provisions of this state for the submission of referendum measures by 5 the general assembly, and this act shall become effective when approved by a majority of the 6 votes cast thereon at such election and not otherwise.

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