



## 2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 684

January 29, 2014 - Introduced by Representative KNODL, cosponsored by Senator LASEE. Referred to Committee on Labor.

\*\*\*AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE\*\*\*

1     **AN ACT to amend** 93.135 (title), 93.135 (4), 108.04 (1) (hm), 108.22 (1) (a), 108.227  
2           (1) (e) 6., 108.227 (1) (e) 12., 108.227 (1) (f), 108.245 (1), 202.02 (4) (c), 202.03,  
3           628.097 (2m), 628.10 (2) (cm) and 628.93 (2) (title); and **to create** 108.227 (1)  
4           (e) 6m. of the statutes; **relating to:** various changes in the unemployment  
5           insurance law.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

This bill makes various changes in the unemployment insurance (UI) law. Provisions include:

#### ***License revocations based on UI contribution delinquencies***

Current law requires various state agencies and boards (licensing departments) that issue various licenses and other credentials (licenses) to revoke a license or deny an application for a license if the Department of Revenue (DOR) certifies that the license holder or applicant owes DOR delinquent taxes. Subject to certain limitations, current law, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 36, similarly requires licensing departments to revoke a license or deny an application for a license if the Department of Workforce Development (DWD) certifies that the license holder or applicant is liable for delinquent UI contributions. UI contributions are taxes employers must pay to DWD for deposit with the federal government, and which are then used to pay the claims of claimants for UI benefits. 2013 Wisconsin Act 20 (budget act) created and transferred the authority of various licensing departments

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to issue and administer certain licenses and modified accordingly various provisions related to license revocations due to liability of the licensees for delinquent taxes owed to DOR.

This bill makes similar changes related to license revocations due to liability of the licensees for delinquent UI contributions to the changes made by the budget act. Specifically, the bill does all of the following:

1. Requires the Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) to revoke or deny a registration to operate as a charitable organization, fund-raising counsel, professional fund-raiser, or professional employer organization if DWD certifies that the registrant is liable for delinquent UI contributions. Administration of these registrations was transferred from the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) to DFI by the budget act.

2. Requires the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) to revoke or deny a navigator license or navigator entity registration (for assistance to individuals in obtaining appropriate health insurance coverage) if DWD certifies that the license or registration holder is liable for delinquent UI contributions. The authority for OCI to issue navigator licenses and registrations was created by the budget act.

3. Requires the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to revoke a certification or registration of a person who works with tanks that contain hazardous substances and persons who perform assessments of sites where such tanks are located. The authority to issue these certifications or registrations was transferred to DATCP from DSPS by the budget act.

***Failure of claimants to comply with requests for information***

Currently, if a UI claimant fails to comply with a request by DWD to provide certain information relating to the claimant's eligibility and certain demographic information, the claimant is ineligible to receive UI benefits until the claimant complies or satisfies DWD that he or she had good cause for failure to comply with the request. This bill makes a claimant ineligible to receive benefits until the claimant complies, regardless of the cause for failure to comply. Under the bill, if the claimant later complies, the claimant is eligible to receive benefits as of the week in which the failure occurred, if otherwise qualified.

***Tardy filing fees***

Currently, each employer must file a quarterly report with DWD identifying the name of and wages paid to each employee who is employed by the employer in employment covered by the UI law during the most recent calendar quarter. With limited exceptions, if an employer is delinquent in filing the report, the employer must pay a tardy filing fee of \$100 or \$20 per employee, whichever is greater, but if the employer files the report within 30 days of its due date, the fee is reduced to \$50. This bill makes an employer eligible for the reduced tardy filing fee if the employer files its report within 30 days after DWD assesses a tardy filing fee to that employer.

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For further information see the *state* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

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*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

1           **SECTION 1.** 93.135 (title) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20,  
2 is amended to read:

3           **93.135 (title) License denial, nonrenewal, suspension or restriction**  
4 **based on failure to pay support or, taxes, or unemployment insurance**  
5 **contributions.**

6           **SECTION 2.** 93.135 (4) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, is  
7 amended to read:

8           93.135 (4) The department shall deny an application for the issuance or  
9 renewal of certification or registration under s. 168.23 (3), or shall suspend or restrict  
10 such a certification or registration, if the department of revenue certifies under s.  
11 73.0301 that the holder of the certification or registration is liable for delinquent  
12 taxes or if the department of workforce development certifies under s. 108.227 that  
13 the holder of the certification or registration is liable for delinquent unemployment  
14 insurance contributions.

15           **SECTION 3.** 108.04 (1) (hm) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act  
16 36, is amended to read:

17           108.04 (1) (hm) The department may require any claimant to appear before it  
18 and to answer truthfully, orally or in writing, any questions relating to the claimant's  
19 eligibility for benefits or to provide such demographic information as may be  
20 necessary to permit the department to conduct a statistically valid sample audit of  
21 compliance with this chapter. A claimant is not eligible to receive benefits for any

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1 week in which the claimant fails to comply with a request by the department to  
2 provide the information required under this paragraph, or any subsequent week,  
3 until the claimant complies ~~or satisfies the department that he or she had good cause~~  
4 ~~for failure to comply with a~~ the request of the department under this paragraph.  
5 Except as provided in sub. (2) (e) and (f), if a claimant later complies with a request  
6 by the department within the period specified in s. 108.09 (2) (c), the claimant is  
7 eligible to receive benefits as of the week in which the failure occurred, if otherwise  
8 qualified.

9 **SECTION 4.** 108.22 (1) (a) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Act 36,  
10 is amended to read:

11 108.22 (1) (a) Except as provided in par. (cm), if any employer, other than an  
12 employer which has ceased business and has not paid or incurred a liability to pay  
13 wages in any quarter following the cessation of business, is delinquent in making by  
14 the assigned due date any payment to the department required of it under this  
15 chapter, the employer shall pay interest on the delinquent payment at that monthly  
16 rate that annualized is equal to 9 percent or to 2 percent more than the prime rate  
17 as published in the Wall Street Journal as of September 30 of the preceding year,  
18 whichever is greater, for each month or fraction thereof that the employer is  
19 delinquent from the date such payment became due. If any such employer is  
20 delinquent in filing any quarterly report under s. 108.205 (1) by the assigned due  
21 date, the department may assess a tardy filing fee to the employer for each  
22 delinquent quarterly report in the amount of \$100 or \$20 per employee, as reported  
23 on the employer's most recent quarterly report, whichever is greater, or, if the report  
24 is filed within 30 days ~~of its due date~~ after the date that the department assesses a  
25 tardy filing fee, in the amount of \$50. If the department cannot determine the

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1 number of the employer's employees from the employer's most recent quarterly  
2 report, the department may reasonably estimate the number of the employer's  
3 employees for purposes of this paragraph.

4 **SECTION 5.** 108.227 (1) (e) 6. of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act  
5 36, is amended to read:

6 108.227 (1) (e) 6. A license or certificate of registration issued by the  
7 department of financial institutions, or a division of it, under ss. 138.09, 138.12,  
8 138.14, 202.12 to 202.14, 202.22, 217.06, 218.0101 to 218.0163, 218.02, 218.04,  
9 218.05, 224.72, 224.725, 224.93 or under subch. IV of ch. 551.

10 **SECTION 6.** 108.227 (1) (e) 6m. of the statutes is created to read:

11 108.227 (1) (e) 6m. A certificate or registration issued under s. 168.23 (3).

12 **SECTION 7.** 108.227 (1) (e) 12. of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act  
13 36, is amended to read:

14 108.227 (1) (e) 12. A license issued under s. 628.04, 628.92 (1), 632.69 (2), or  
15 633.14, a registration under s. 628.92 (2), or a temporary license issued under s.  
16 628.09.

17 **SECTION 8.** 108.227 (1) (f) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 36,  
18 is amended to read:

19 108.227 (1) (f) "Licensing department" means the department of  
20 administration; the department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection; the  
21 board of commissioners of public lands; the department of children and families; the  
22 government accountability board; the department of financial institutions; the  
23 department of health services; the department of natural resources; the department  
24 of public instruction; the department of revenue; the department of safety and

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1 professional services; the office of the commissioner of insurance; or the department  
2 of transportation.

3 **SECTION 9.** 108.245 (1) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 36, is  
4 amended to read:

5 108.245 (1) The Except as provided in sub. (2m), the department may  
6 commence an action to preserve and recover the proceeds of any payment from the  
7 fund not resulting from a departmental error, including any payment to which the  
8 recipient is not entitled, from any transferee or other person that receives, possesses,  
9 or retains such a payment or from any account, including an account at any financial  
10 institution, resulting from the transfer, use, or disbursement of such a payment. The  
11 department may also commence an action to recover from a claimant the amount of  
12 any benefits that were erroneously paid to another person who was not entitled to  
13 receive the benefits because the claimant or the claimant's authorized agent divulged  
14 the claimant's security credentials to another person or failed to take adequate  
15 measures to protect the credentials from being divulged to an unauthorized person.

16 **SECTION 10.** 202.02 (4) (c) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20,  
17 is amended to read:

18 202.02 (4) (c) The department may not disclose a social security number  
19 obtained under par. (a) to any person except the department of children and families  
20 to administer s. 49.22 and, the department of revenue to request certifications under  
21 s. 73.0301 and administer state taxes, and the department of workforce development  
22 to request certifications under s. 108.227.

23 **SECTION 11.** 202.03 of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act 20, is  
24 amended to read:

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1           **202.03 Registration denial, nonrenewal, or revocation based on tax**  
2           **delinquency delinquent taxes or unemployment insurance contributions.**

3           Notwithstanding ss. 202.12 to 202.14 and 202.22, the department shall deny an  
4           application for an initial registration or for registration renewal, or revoke a  
5           registration, if the department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the  
6           applicant or registrant is liable for delinquent taxes, ~~as defined in s. 73.0301(1)(e)~~  
7           or if the department of workforce development certifies under s. 108.227 that the  
8           applicant or registrant is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance  
9           contributions.

10           **SECTION 12.** 628.097 (2m) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Acts  
11           20 and 36, is amended to read:

12           **628.097 (2m)** FOR LIABILITY FOR DELINQUENT TAXES OR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE  
13           CONTRIBUTIONS. The commissioner shall refuse to issue a license, including a  
14           temporary license, under this subchapter or subch. V, or to register a navigator entity  
15           under subch. V, if the department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the  
16           applicant for the license or registration is liable for delinquent taxes or if the  
17           department of workforce development certifies under s. 108.227 that the applicant  
18           for the license or registration is liable for delinquent unemployment insurance  
19           contributions.

20           **SECTION 13.** 628.10 (2) (cm) of the statutes, as affected by 2013 Wisconsin Acts  
21           20 and 36, is amended to read:

22           **628.10 (2) (cm)** *For liability for delinquent taxes or unemployment insurance*  
23           *contributions.* The commissioner shall revoke the license of an intermediary or  
24           individual navigator, including a temporary license under s. 628.09, if the  
25           department of revenue certifies under s. 73.0301 that the intermediary or navigator

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1 is liable for delinquent taxes or if the department of workforce development certifies  
2 under s. 108.227 that the intermediary or navigator is liable for delinquent  
3 unemployment insurance contributions. An intermediary who is a natural person,  
4 or an individual navigator, whose license is revoked under this paragraph may have  
5 his or her license reinstated, or may be relicensed, as provided in sub. (5).

6 **SECTION 14.** 628.93 (2) (title) of the statutes, as created by 2013 Wisconsin Act  
7 20, is amended to read:

8 628.93 (2) (title) REFUSAL TO ISSUE LICENSE; FAILURE TO PAY SUPPORT OR TO COMPLY  
9 WITH SUBPOENA OR WARRANT; ~~TAX DELINQUENCY~~ DELINQUENT TAXES OR UNEMPLOYMENT  
10 INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS.

11 **SECTION 15. Initial applicability.**

12 (1) The treatment of sections 93.135 (title) and (4), 108.227 (1) (e) 6., 6m., and  
13 12. and (f), 202.02 (4) (c), 202.03, 628.097 (2m), 628.10 (2) (cm), and 628.93 (2) (title)  
14 of the statutes first applies to contributions, as defined in section 108.227 (1) (a) of  
15 the statutes, that are delinquent on the effective date of this subsection.

16 (2) The treatment of section 108.04 (1) (hm) of the statutes first applies with  
17 respect to determinations issued under section 108.09 of the statutes on the effective  
18 date of this subsection.

19 (3) The treatment of section 108.22 (1) (a) of the statutes first applies with  
20 respect to quarterly wage reports required to be filed for wages earned on the  
21 effective date of this subsection.

22 **SECTION 16. Effective date.**

23 (1) This act takes effect on the first Sunday after publication.

24 (END)