

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 691

AN ACT

To repeal section 288.132, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to automation adjustments paid by employers subject to unemployment compensation laws, with a delayed effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI,
AS FOLLOWS:

Section A. Section 288.132, RSMo, is repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 288.132 and 288.133, to read as follows:

288.132. 1. There is hereby created in the state treasury the "Unemployment Automation Fund", which shall consist of money collected [under subsection 1 of section 288.131] pursuant to section 288.133, and such other state funds appropriated by the general assembly. The state treasurer shall be custodian of the fund and may approve disbursements from the fund in accordance with sections 30.170 and 30.180. Upon appropriation, money in the fund shall be used solely for the purpose of providing automated systems, and the payment of associated costs, to improve the administration of the state's unemployment insurance program. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33.080 to the contrary, all moneys remaining in the fund at the end of the biennium shall not revert to the credit of the general revenue fund. The state treasurer shall invest moneys in the fund in the same manner as other funds are invested. Any interest and money

earned on such investments shall be credited to the fund.

2. The unemployment automation fund shall not be used in whole or in part for any purpose or in any manner that would permit its substitution for, or a corresponding reduction in, federal funds that would be available in its absence to finance expenditures for the administration of this chapter, or cause the appropriate agency of the United States government to withhold any part of an administrative grant which would otherwise be made.

288.133. 1. Each employer liable for contributions pursuant to this chapter, except employers with a contribution rate equal to zero, shall pay an annual unemployment automation adjustment in an amount equal to fifteen one-thousandths of one percent of such employer's total taxable wages for the twelve-month period ending the preceding June thirtieth.

2. Notwithstanding subsection 1 of this section to the contrary, the division may reduce the automation adjustment percentage to ensure that the total amount of adjustment due from all employers under this section shall not exceed five million dollars annually.

3. Each employer liable to pay an automation adjustment shall be notified of the amount due under this section by March thirty-first of each year and such amount shall be considered delinquent thirty days thereafter. Delinquent unemployment automation adjustment amounts may be collected in the manner provided under sections 288.160 and 288.170. All moneys collected under this section shall be deposited in the unemployment automation fund established in section 288.132.

4. For the first quarter of each calendar year, the total amount of contribution otherwise due from each employer liable to pay contributions under this chapter shall be reduced by the dollar amount of unemployment automation adjustment due from such employer pursuant to subsection 1 of this section. However, the amount of contributions due from such employer for the first quarter of the calendar year in question shall not be reduced below zero.

Section B. Section A of this act shall become effective January 1, 2021.