



Senate Committee on Labor and Industry

Senator Kim L. Ward
Chairman

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Senate Bill 250 Printer's No. 541

Prime Sponsor: Ward
Committee: Labor and Industry

SYNOPSIS:

Amends the Unemployment Compensation (UC) Law to authorize up to \$15 million in employee contributions to be deposited in the Service and Infrastructure Improvement Fund (SIIF) to support improvement of UC system operations.

SUMMARY:

Allows the Department of Labor & Industry (L&I) to utilize up to \$15 million in calendar year 2017 to: improve the quality, efficiency and timeliness of services provided by the UC service center system to individuals filing claims under the law; for information management technology, communications technology and other infrastructure components, including technological upgrades to the UC benefits delivery system; and to pay the costs of collecting SIIF contributions.

Extends the deadline by which funds must be expended from December 31, 2018 to December 31, 2019 and extends the requirement to report how funds are expended to allow for a CY 2019 report if funds are expended that year.

Effective Date: Immediately

BILL HISTORY:

The SIIF is a restricted account, established by Act 34 of 2013. The SIIF is funded by a portion of employee contributions under the UC Law. The Act authorized contributions to the SIIF from 2013 through 2016. L&I received \$40 million in Calendar Year (CY) 2013, \$30 million in CY 2014, \$51.8 million in CY 2015 and \$56.5 million in CY 2016. Funds were used to supplement federal funds (allocated by formula) for state administration of UC programs.