

TITLE 42 - THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE
CHAPTER 7 - SOCIAL SECURITY
SUBCHAPTER IX - EMPLOYMENT SECURITY ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCING

§ 1104. Unemployment Trust Fund

(a) Establishment

There is hereby established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the “Unemployment Trust Fund”, hereinafter in this subchapter called the “Fund”. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to receive and hold in the Fund all moneys deposited therein by a State agency from a State unemployment fund, or by the Railroad Retirement Board to the credit of the railroad unemployment insurance account or the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund, or otherwise deposited in or credited to the Fund or any account therein. Such deposit may be made directly with the Secretary of the Treasury, with any depository designated by him for such purpose, or with any Federal Reserve Bank.

(b) Investments

It shall be the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to invest such portion of the Fund as is not, in his judgment, required to meet current withdrawals. Such investment may be made only in interest-bearing obligations of the United States or in obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States. For such purpose such obligations may be acquired

(1) on original issue at the issue price, or

(2) by purchase of outstanding obligations at the market price. The purposes for which obligations of the United States may be issued under chapter 31 of title 31 are hereby extended to authorize the issuance at par of special obligations exclusively to the Fund. Such special obligations shall bear interest at a rate equal to the average rate of interest, computed as of the end of the calendar month next preceding the date of such issue, borne by all interest-bearing obligations of the United States then forming part of the public debt; except that where such average rate is not a multiple of one-eighth of 1 per centum, the rate of interest of such special obligations shall be the multiple of one-eighth of 1 per centum next lower than such average rate. Obligations other than such special obligations may be acquired for the Fund only on such terms as to provide an investment yield not less than the yield which would be required in the case of special obligations if issued to the Fund upon the date of such acquisition. Advances made to the Federal unemployment account pursuant to section 1323 of this title shall not be invested.

(c) Sale or redemption of obligations

Any obligations acquired by the Fund (except special obligations issued exclusively to the Fund) may be sold at the market price, and such special obligations may be redeemed at par plus accrued interest.

(d) Treatment of interest and proceeds

The interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption of, any obligations held in the Fund shall be credited to and form a part of the Fund.

(e) Separate book accounts

The Fund shall be invested as a single fund, but the Secretary of the Treasury shall maintain a separate book account for each State agency, the employment security administration account, the Federal unemployment account, the railroad unemployment insurance account, and the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund and shall credit quarterly (on March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31, of each year) to each account, on the basis of the average daily balance of such account, a proportionate part of the earnings of the Fund for the quarter ending on such date. For the purpose of this subsection, the average daily balance shall be computed—

(1) in the case of any State account, by reducing (but not below zero) the amount in the account by the balance of advances made to the State under section 1321 of this title, and

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- (2) in the case of the Federal unemployment account—
- (A) by adding to the amount in the account the aggregate of the reductions under paragraph (1), and
- (B) by subtracting from the sum so obtained the balance of advances made under section 1323 of this title to the account.

(f) Payment to State agencies and Railroad Retirement Board

The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to pay out of the Fund to any State agency such amount as it may duly requisition, not exceeding the amount standing to the account of such State agency at the time of such payment. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to make such payments out of the railroad unemployment insurance account for the payment of benefits, and out of the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund for the payment of administrative expenses, as the Railroad Retirement Board may duly certify, not exceeding the amount standing to the credit of such account or such fund, as the case may be, at the time of such payment.

(g) Federal unemployment account; establishment

There is hereby established in the Unemployment Trust Fund a Federal unemployment account.

(Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, title IX, § 904, 49 Stat. 640; June 25, 1938, ch. 680, § 10(e)–(g), 52 Stat. 1104, 1105; Oct. 3, 1944, ch. 480, title IV, § 401, 58 Stat. 789; Aug. 6, 1947, ch. 510, § 5(a), 61 Stat. 794; Aug. 28, 1950, ch. 809, title IV, § 404(b), 64 Stat. 560; Aug. 5, 1954, ch. 657, § 5(b)–(f), 68 Stat. 673; Pub. L. 85–927, pt. II, § 204, Sept. 6, 1958, 72 Stat. 1782; Pub. L. 86–346, title I, § 104(3), Sept. 22, 1959, 73 Stat. 622; Pub. L. 86–778, title V, § 521, Sept. 13, 1960, 74 Stat. 976; Pub. L. 98–369, div. B, title VI, § 2663(d)(3), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 1167; Pub. L. 102–318, title V, § 531(d)(3), July 3, 1992, 106 Stat. 317.)

Amendments

1992—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 102–318 struck out after the first sentence the following: “There is hereby authorized to be appropriated to such Federal unemployment account a sum equal to (1) the excess of taxes collected prior to July 1, 1946, under title IX of this Act or under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, over the total unemployment administrative expenditures made prior to July 1, 1946, plus (2) the excess of taxes collected under the Federal Unemployment Tax Act after June 30, 1946, and prior to July 1, 1953, over the unemployment administrative expenditures made after June 30, 1946, and prior to July 1, 1953. As used in this subsection, the term ‘unemployment administrative expenditures’ means expenditures for grants under subchapter III of this chapter, expenditures for the administration of that subchapter by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Secretary of Labor, and expenditures for the administration of title IX of this Act, or of the Federal Unemployment Tax Act, by the Department of the Treasury, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, or the Secretary of Labor. For the purposes of this subsection, there shall be deducted from the total amount of taxes collected prior to July 1, 1943, under title IX of this Act, the sum of \$40,561,886.43 which was authorized to be appropriated by the Act of August 24, 1937 (50 Stat. 754), and the sum of \$18,451,846 which was authorized to be appropriated by section 361 (b) of title 45.”

1984—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 98–369 substituted “chapter 31 of title 31” for “the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended”.

1960—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 86–778 substituted “with any depository designated by him for such purpose, or with any Federal Reserve Bank” for “or with any Federal Reserve bank or member bank of the Federal Reserve System designated by him for such purpose”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 86–778 substituted “Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended” and “section 1323” for “section 752 of title 31” and “section 1322 (c)”, respectively, and inserted “made” after “Advances”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 86–778 provided for the maintenance of a separate book account for the employment security administration account and substituted “balance of advances made to the State under section 1321 of this title” for “aggregate of the outstanding advances under section 1321 of this title from the Federal unemployment account” in par. (1) and “balance of advances made under section 1323 of this title to the account” for “aggregate of the outstanding advances from the Treasury to the account pursuant to section 1322 (c) of this title”.

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 86–778 redesignated former subsec. (h) as (g).

1959—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 86–346 substituted “on original issue at the issue price” for “on original issue at par”.

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1958—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 85–927, § 204(a), inserted “or the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 85–927, § 204(b), substituted “the railroad unemployment insurance account, and the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund” for “and the railroad unemployment insurance account”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 85–927, § 204(c), substituted “railroad unemployment insurance account for the payment of benefits, and out of the railroad unemployment insurance administration fund for the payment of administrative expenses, as the Railroad Retirement Board may duly certify, not exceeding the amount standing to the credit of such account or such fund, as the case may be, at the time of such payment” for “fund as the Railroad Retirement Board may duly certify, not exceeding the amount standing to the railroad unemployment insurance account at the time of such payment”.

1954—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 5, 1954, § 5(b), substituted “or otherwise deposited in or credited to the Fund or any account therein” for “or deposited pursuant to appropriations to the Federal unemployment account”.

Subsec. (b). Act Aug. 5, 1954, § 5(c), inserted provision that advances to the Federal unemployment account pursuant to section 1323 of this title shall not be invested.

Subsec. (e). Act Aug. 5, 1954, § 5(d), inserted “For the purposes of this subsection, the average daily balance shall be computed—

“(1) in the case of any State account, by reducing (but not below zero) the amount in the account by the aggregate of the outstanding advances under section 1201 from the Federal unemployment account, and

“(2) in the case of the Federal unemployment account, (A) by adding to the amount in the account the aggregate of the reductions under paragraph (1), and (B) by subtracting from the sum so obtained the aggregate of the outstanding advances from the Treasury to the account pursuant to section 1202 (c).”

Subsec. (g). Act Aug. 5, 1954, § 5(e), repealed subsec. (g) which authorized Secretary of Treasury to make transfers from Federal unemployment account to account of any State in Unemployment Trust Fund.

Subsec. (h). Act Aug. 5, 1954, § 5(f), substituted a new cl. (2) in second sentence and repealed the third sentence: “Any amounts in the Federal unemployment account on April 1952, and any amounts repaid to such account after such date, shall be covered into the general fund of the Treasury.”

1950—Subsec. (h). Act Aug. 28, 1950, substituted “prior to July 1, 1951” for “prior to July 1, 1949”, “on July 1, 1951, and ending on December 31, 1951” for “on July 1, 1949, and ending on December 31, 1949” in cl. (2) of second sentence, and “April 1, 1952” for “April 1, 1950” in third sentence.

1947—Subsec. (h). Act Aug. 6, 1947, amended subsec. (h) generally, and, among other changes, changed the periods for which excess of tax collections over administrative expenditures could be appropriated to the unemployment account, limited authorized appropriations for the unemployment account to the excess collections for the period ending Dec. 31, 1949, provided for amounts in such account on Apr. 1, 1950, and any repayments to the account after such date be covered into the general fund of the Treasury, and provided for an additional deduction of \$18,451,846 from the total amount of taxes collected prior to July 1, 1943.

1944—Subsec. (a). Act Oct. 3, 1944, § 401(a), inserted “, or deposited pursuant to appropriations to the Federal unemployment account” after “unemployment insurance account” in second sentence.

Subsec. (e). Act Oct. 3, 1944, § 401(b), inserted “, the Federal unemployment account” after “a separate book account for each State agency”.

Subsecs. (g), (h). Act Oct. 3, 1944, § 401(c), added subsecs. (g) and (h).

1938—Subsec. (a). Act June 25, 1938, § 10(e), inserted “or by the Railroad Retirement Board to the credit of the railroad unemployment insurance account”.

Subsec. (e). Act June 25, 1938, § 10(f), inserted “and the railroad unemployment insurance account”.

Subsec. (f). Act June 25, 1938, § 10(g), inserted second sentence.

Effective Date of 1984 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 98–369 effective July 18, 1984, but not to be construed as changing or affecting any right, liability, status, or interpretation which existed (under the provisions of law involved) before that date, see section 2664(b) of Pub. L. 98–369, set out as a note under section 401 of this title.

Effective Date of 1958 Amendment

Amendment by Pub. L. 85–927 effective Sept. 6, 1958, except as otherwise indicated, see section 207(c) of Pub. L. 85–927, set out as a note under section 351 of Title 45, Railroads.

Effective Date of 1950 Amendment

Section 404(c) of act Aug. 28, 1950, provided that: "The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) of this section [amending this section and section 1321 of this title] shall be effective January 1, 1950."

Termination Date

Section 4 of act Aug. 6, 1947, provided: "Section 603 of the War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944 [formerly set out as a note under section 1651 of Appendix to Title 50, War and National Defense] (terminating the provisions of such Act [sections 1651 to 1678 of Appendix to title 50] on June 30, 1947) shall not be applicable in the case of the amendments made by title IV of such Act [amending sections 1666 and 1667 of Appendix to Title 50] to the Social Security Act [this section and section 1321 of this title]."

Payments to States

Act Aug. 24, 1937, ch. 755, 50 Stat. 754, provided for payments to States of 90 per cent of proceeds of the unemployment tax collected prior to Jan. 31, 1938, where State had enacted an approved unemployment-compensation law during 1937.