<u>S.B. NO. 1303</u>

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. Section 383-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 amended to read as follows:

3 "§383-123 Withdrawals; administrative use. (a) 4 Withdrawals. Moneys requisitioned from the State's account in 5 the unemployment trust fund shall be used exclusively for the payment of benefits and for refunds of contributions pursuant to 6 section 383-76 and section [+]383-7(a)(6)[+], except that moneys 7 credited to this State's account pursuant to section 903 of the 8 Social Security Act, as amended, shall be used exclusively as 9 10 provided in subsection (b). The director of finance shall from 11 time to time, with the approval of the department of labor and 12 industrial relations in accordance with rules prescribed by the 13 comptroller of the State, requisition from the unemployment trust fund such amounts, not exceeding the amount in the State's 14 15 account, as it deems necessary for the payment of benefits and 16 refunds of contributions for a reasonable future period. The moneys shall be deposited in the benefit account. Expenditures 17 18 of such moneys in the benefit account and refunds from the clearing account shall not be subject to any provisions of law 19

1 requiring specific appropriations or other formal release by 2 state officers of moneys in their custody. All benefits and refunds of contributions shall be paid from the fund upon 3 4 warrants drawn upon the director of finance by the comptroller of the State supported by vouchers approved by the department. 5 Any balance of moneys requisitioned from the unemployment trust 6 fund which remains unclaimed or unpaid in the benefit account 7 after the expiration of the period for which the sums were 8 9 requisitioned shall either be deducted from estimates for, and 10 may be utilized for the payment of, benefits and refunds during 11 succeeding periods, or, in the discretion of the department, 12 shall be redeposited with the Secretary of the Treasury of the 13 United States, to the credit of this State's account in the 14 unemployment trust fund, as provided in section 383-122.

Administrative use. Moneys credited to the account of 15 (b) 16 this State in the unemployment trust fund by the Secretary of 17 the Treasury of the United States pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended, may be requisitioned and used 18 19 for the payment of benefits and for the payment of expenses 20 incurred for the administration of this State's unemployment 21 compensation law and public employment offices pursuant to a 22 specific appropriation of the legislature; provided that the 23 expenses are incurred and the money is requisitioned after the 24 enactment of an appropriation law that:

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- (1) Specifies the purposes for which the moneys are
 appropriated and the amounts appropriated therefor;
 (2) Limits the period within which the moneys may be
 obligated to a period ending not more than two years
 after the date of the enactment of the appropriation
 law; and
- 7 (3) Limits the amount that may be obligated to an amount that does not exceed the amount by which the aggregate 8 9 of the amounts credited to the account of this State 10 pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act, as 11 amended, exceeds the aggregate of the amounts 12 obligated pursuant to this subsection and charged 13 against the amounts credited to the account of this 14 State.

Moneys credited to the account of this State pursuant to section 903 of the Social Security Act, as amended, may not be withdrawn or used except for the payment of benefits and for the payment of expenses for the administration of this chapter pursuant to this subsection.

The appropriation, obligation, and expenditure or other disposition of moneys appropriated under this subsection shall be accounted for in accordance with standards established by the United States Secretary of Labor. Moneys appropriated for the payment of expenses of administration pursuant to this Page 4

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1 subsection shall be requisitioned as needed for the payment of 2 obligations incurred under the law appropriating the moneys and, upon requisition, shall be deposited in the employment security 3 4 administration fund from which the payments shall be made. 5 Moneys so deposited, until expended, shall remain a part of the 6 unemployment compensation fund and, if not expended within one week after withdrawn from the unemployment trust fund, shall be 7 returned at the earliest practical date to the Secretary of the 8 9 Treasury of the United States for credit to this State's account 10 in the unemployment trust fund.

Notwithstanding subsection (b), moneys credited to the 11 (C)12 State's account in federal fiscal years ending in 2000, 2001, and 2002 shall be used solely for the administration of the 13 14 unemployment compensation program and are not subject to the specific appropriation requirements of subsection (b), except 15 16 that moneys credited in calendar year 2002 with respect to P.L. 17 107-147 shall not be subject to the conditions of this 18 subsection or the two-year limitation requirement specified in subsection (b). 19

20 (d) Notwithstanding subsection (b), moneys credited to the
21 account of this State pursuant to the special transfer made
22 under section 903(g) of the Social Security Act, as amended, in
23 2009 shall be used solely for the payment of expenses for the
24 administration of this chapter."

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SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: 23.72.

BY REQUEST

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SB. NO. 1303

Report Title:

Employment Security

Description:

Appropriates 2009 special administrative transfer for payment of Unemployment Insurance administration expenses.

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JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT:

TITLE:

PURPOSE:

Labor and Industrial Relations

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW.

The purpose of this bill is to designate the use of the special administrative transfer in the amount of \$2,180,480, which was distributed in March 2009 as a result of the Assistance for Unemployed Workers and Struggling Families Act, Title II of Division B of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Public Law No. 111-5.

Amend section 383-123, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Section 2003(a) of Public Law No. 111-5 added a new subsection (g) to section 903, Social Security Act (SSA), to provide a special transfer to all states. Currently, under section 383-123(b), moneys received under section 903, SSA, can be used for the payment of benefits. However, the 2009 special administrative transfer is not available for the payment of benefits and is restricted to certain administrative uses only. As such, section 383-123 must be amended to exclude the 2009 special administrative transfer from what is allowable under subsection (b) to preclude any violation of federal law.

The Unemployment Insurance (UI) Division is requesting the special administrative transfer moneys to cover expenses for new internet applications, improving the interactive voice response system, improving the tax system, improving the capability of the benefit system, enhancements to the UI website to respond to the claimants' and employers' need for information, and required systems security assessments.

MEANS:

JUSTIFICATION:

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Impact on the public: Improvements will facilitate easier filing by claimants and employers to comply with UI requirements.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Provide more automated improvements to eliminate data entry by staff and speed up the taking of claims and payment process.

GENERAL FUND:

None.

OTHER FUNDS: Federal.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION:

LBR-171.

OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES:

None.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon approval.