

**STATE OF NEVADA  
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION (ESD)**

**Hearing to adopt the amended regulation for the  
2017 Unemployment Insurance (UI) Tax Rate Schedule for Nevada Employers**

**2017 Tax Rate Hearing**

Thursday, December 08, 2016; 10:00 A.M.

<b>Place of Meeting:</b>	<b><u>Live Meeting:</u></b>	<b><u>Video Conference to:</u></b>
	DETR – SAO Auditorium	DETR – Stan Jones Building, Conf. Rm. C
	500 East Third Street	2800 E. St. Louis Avenue
	Carson City, Nevada 89713	Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

**Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) Staff  
Present in Carson City**

Renee Olson, Employment Security Division (ESD) Administrator  
Edgar Roberts, Chief of Contributions, ESD/DETR  
Dave Schmidt, Bureau of Research & Analysis, DETR  
Laurie Trotter, ESD Senior Attorney  
Christina Guzman, ESD/DETR  
Joyce Golden, Administrative Office, ESD/DETR  
Mikki Reed, ESD/DETR  
Sonia Prazak, ESD/DETR  
Rosa Rogula, ESD/DETR  
Marko Markovic, ESD/DETR

**Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) Staff  
Present in Las Vegas**

Art Martinez, Contributions, ESD/DETR

**Members of the Public, Media and Other Agencies**

**Present in Carson City**

Cy Ryan, Las Vegas Sun

**Members of the Public, Media and Other Agencies**

**Present in Las Vegas**

Paul Moradkhan, Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

## 1 STATE OF NEVADA

## 2 EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION

3 December 8, 2016

4  
5 OLSON: Good Morning, My name is Renee Olson,  
6 Administrator for the Employment Security Division. I will go  
7 ahead and call this meeting to order. The purpose of this public  
8 hearing is to receive comments on the proposed regulation to  
9 establish the Unemployment Insurance Tax Rate Schedule for  
10 Calendar Year 2017.

11 NRS 612.550 requires the Administrator of the Employment  
12 Security Division to establish the tax rate schedule each year by  
13 regulation.

14 We'll start under Agenda Item 2 with opportunity for Public  
15 Comment. If you would like to provide public comment, please  
16 come forward. Please limit your comments to five minutes each  
17 and if you have any written testimony to present, you can provide  
18 that with staff. When speaking, please identify yourself by  
19 stating your name, who you represent and then proceed with your  
20 comments. Is there anybody that would like to provide public  
21 comment in Las Vegas at this time?

22 MORADKHAN: I would please.

23 OLSON: Please go ahead. Thank you.

24 MORADKHAN: All right. Thank you. My name is Paul  
25 Moradkhan, I'm Vice President of Government Affairs for Las Vegas

1 Metro Chamber of Commerce. From the Metro Chamber perspective,  
2 first we'd like to thank the Administrator regarding the outreach  
3 she's done as part of the annual process. The notifications, the  
4 workshops have been very beneficial for the business community.  
5 I know [inaudible] but this is an important issue to our  
6 employers and to our members. So, I do want to thank you for the  
7 process. It's one of the more robust outreach programs we see  
8 every year. Thank you for that. It is very beneficial and we  
9 appreciate those efforts on transparency.

10       Regarding the rate itself, on the average UI contribution  
11 rate recommendation, we would like to ask the Division to  
12 maintain at the 1.95% average rate for employers for 2017. We  
13 believe that is an appropriate rate for 2017 as unemployment  
14 drops and employers are hiring more workers and so forth, we  
15 think that would be helpful in those efforts in the local  
16 economy.

17       Thank you for your time this morning. Again, the Chamber  
18 would like to ask for the rate to be maintain at the 2016 rate  
19 for 2017. Thank you very much.

20       OLSON:               Okay, thank you. Thank you for attending  
21 today, we appreciate it. Anybody in Carson City? I don't see  
22 anybody in Carson City. How about on the phone? I think we're  
23 the only people on the phone.

24       Okay, so seeing no more public comment, I'll go ahead and  
25 move on to Agenda Item 3, Confirmation of Posting. Agenda Item

1 3, Confirmation of Posting, Mrs. Reed, for the record, was proper  
2 notice for this meeting given and did you receive proper  
3 confirmation of posting?

4 REED: Mikki Reed for the record, Management  
5 Analyst for the Management and Administration Support Service  
6 Unit. Yes, proper notice was provided for this meeting pursuant  
7 to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, NRS 241.020 and confirmation of  
8 posting was received.

9 OLSON: Thank you. Okay, under Agenda Item 4,  
10 Review of Written Comments. The Division received no written  
11 comments regarding the rate setting regulation process in  
12 relation to the Employment Security Council meeting held on  
13 October 3<sup>rd</sup>, or the small business workshop held on October 27<sup>th</sup>.  
14 Mrs. Golden, have any written comments been received in regard to  
15 this hearing?

16 GOLDEN: Joyce Golden for the record, Assistant to  
17 the Administrator. No written comments were received for this  
18 meeting.

19 OLSON: Thank you. Okay, under Agenda Item 5,  
20 review of amended regulations. A regulation workshop with the  
21 Employment Security Council to solicit comments from interested  
22 parties as well as the public was conducted on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, as  
23 required by NRS 233B.061 and NRS 233B.0608. At that meeting the  
24 Employment Security Council recommended that the Administrator

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1 maintain the average UI contribution rate of 1.95% for Calendar  
2 Year 2017.

3         The overall tax rate paid by Nevada employers will be 2.63%  
4 of wages subject to contributions on average. This increase is  
5 due to the UI bond contribution rate changing from 0.62% in 2016  
6 to 0.63% in 2017. The overall tax rate is comprised of the  
7 average regular unemployment insurance tax of—that we're  
8 discussing today of 1.95%, plus 0.05% for the career enhancement  
9 program tax. Then the bond rate tax of 0.63%. This would make  
10 the overall tax rate the 2.63%.

11         So this increase that we're talking about is not due to  
12 changes in the UI contribution rate which has remained stable at  
13 1.95%. No public comment was received at the Employment Security  
14 Council meeting.

15         On October 27, 2016, a Small Business Workshop was held to  
16 receive comments and from small businesses and other affected  
17 employers. Public comment was received from Justin Harrison,  
18 representing the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce. Mr.  
19 Harrison expressed support in maintaining the 1.95% UI  
20 contribution rate.

21         Moving on to Agenda Item 6, we have another opportunity for  
22 public comment if anybody would like to come forward at this time  
23 again. And seeing none, I'll close public comment—the second  
24 opportunity for public comment.

25

1           Therefore, we'll conclude the meeting. I, Renee Olson,  
2 Administrator of the Employment Security Division hereby adopt  
3 Regulation R152-16 to maintain the 2017 UI contribution tax rate  
4 at 1.95%. With that, I hereby adjourn this hearing. Thank you.  
5 Thank you for attending.

6           [end of meeting]

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MEMORANDUM

RE: 2017 Unemployment Insurance (UI) Tax Rate Regulation Hearing Public Notice

FROM: Martha Simas, Administrative Assistant III, ESD

*MS*

POST DATE: November 4, 2016; 8:00AM

MEETING DATE: December 8, 2106

Proper notice according to NRS 241- Open Meeting Law, for the 2017 Tax Rate Regulation Hearing was provided and properly documented in compliance with NRS 241.020(4).

ESD