SESSION LAWS, 1949.

Appropriation to committee. SEC. 3. There is hereby appropriated from the Motor Vehicle Fund the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000) or so much thereof as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

Emergency. SEC. 4. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 8, 1949.
Passed the Senate March 7, 1949.
Approved by the Governor March 19, 1949.

CHAPTER 214.

[ H. B. 487. ]

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.


Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Amendment. SECTION 1. Section 4 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-143, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Benefit year." Section 4. Benefit Year. "Benefit year" means the period beginning with the first full calendar week in July and ending the following calendar year with the last calendar week beginning in June.

Amendment. SEC. 2. Section 9 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-148, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Employer." Section 9. Employer. "Employer" means any individual or type of organization, including any
partnership, association, trust, estate, joint-stock company, insurance company, or corporation, whether domestic or foreign, or the receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, trustee, or the legal representative of a deceased person, having any person in employment or, having become an employer, has not ceased to be an employer as provided in this act.

Irrespective of any other inconsistent provisions of this act, any employing unit shall also be deemed to be an employer for the purposes of this act to the same extent that services performed for such employing unit constitute subject employment under the provisions of any Federal tax against which credit may be taken for contributions paid into a State Unemployment Compensation Fund.

SEC. 3. Section 18 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by section 5 of chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (section 9998-157, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 18. Maritime Service. The term "employment" shall include an individual’s entire service as an officer or member of a crew of an American vessel wherever performed and whether in intrastate or interstate or foreign commerce, if the employer maintains within this state at the beginning of the pay period an operating office from which the operations of the vessel are ordinarily and regularly supervised, managed, directed and controlled. The term “employment” shall not include services performed as an officer or member of the crew of a vessel not an American vessel and services on or in connection with an American vessel under a contract of service which is not entered into within the United States and during the performance of which the vessel does not touch at a port of the United States.
"American vessel," means any vessel documented or numbered under the laws of the United States; and includes any vessel which is neither documented or numbered under the laws of the United States nor documented under the laws of any foreign country if its crew is employed solely by one or more citizens or residents of the United States or corporations organized under the laws of the United States or of any state.

Amendment.

Sec. 4. Section 33 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by section 6 of chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (section 9998-171, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Wages."

Section 33. Wages. "Wages" means the first three thousand dollars of remuneration paid by one employer during any calendar year to an individual in its employment under this act or the unemployment compensation act of any other state.

"Remuneration." "Remuneration" means all compensation paid for personal services, including commissions and bonuses and the cash value of all compensation paid in any medium other than cash. The reasonable cash value of compensation paid in any medium other than cash and the reasonable value of gratuities shall be estimated and determined in accordance with rules prescribed by the Commissioner.

"Wage credits." "Wage credits" applicable to eligibility for benefits means the same as "wages."

Amendment.

Sec. 5. Section 34 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-172, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 34. Retirement and Disability Payments Excepted. The term "wages" shall not include the amount of any payment by an employing unit for or on behalf of an individual in its employ under a
plan or system established by such employing unit which makes provision for individuals in its employ generally, or for a class or classes of such individuals (including any amount paid by an employing unit for insurance or annuities or into a fund to provide for any payment) on account of retirement, sickness or accident disability, or medical and hospitalization expenses in connection with sickness or accident disability.

Sec. 6. Section 35 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-173, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 35. Death Benefits Excepted. The term "wages" shall not include the amount of any payment by an employing unit for or on behalf of an individual in its employ under a plan or system established by such employing unit which makes provision for individuals in its employ generally, or for a class or classes of such individuals (including any amount paid by an employing unit for insurance or annuities or into a fund to provide for any payment) on account of death, provided the individual in its employ

(a) has not the option to receive instead of provisions for such death benefits, any part of such payment, or, if such death benefit is insured, any part of the premium (or contributions to premiums) paid by his employing unit; and

(b) has not the right under the provisions of the plan or system or policy of insurance providing for such death benefits to assign such benefits or to receive a cash consideration in lieu of such benefits, either upon his withdrawal from the plan or system providing for such benefits or upon termination of such plan or system or policy of insurance or of his services with such employing unit.
Amendment. SEC. 7. Section 40 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-178, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 40. Commissioner's Duties and Powers. It shall be the duty of the Commissioner to administer this act. He shall have the power and authority to adopt, amend, or rescind such rules and regulations, to employ such persons, make such expenditures, require such reports, make such investigations, and to take such other action as he deems necessary or suitable to that end. Such rules and regulations shall be effective upon publication in the manner, not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, which the Commissioner shall prescribe. The Commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of this act, shall determine the organization and methods of procedure of the divisions referred to in this act, and shall have an official seal which shall be judicially noticed. Not later than the 1st day of July of each year, he shall submit to the Governor a report covering the administration and operation of this act during the preceding calendar year and shall make such recommendations for amendments to this act as he deems proper. Such report shall include a balance sheet of the moneys in the fund in which there shall be provided, if possible, a reserve against the liability in future years to pay benefits in excess of the then current contributions, which reserve shall be set up by the Commissioner in accordance with accepted actuarial principles on the basis of statistics of employment, business activity, and other relevant factors for the longest possible period. Whenever the Commissioner believes that a change in contribution or benefit rates will become necessary to protect the solvency of the fund, he shall promptly so inform the Governor and Legislature and make recommendations with respect thereto.
SEC. 8. Section 44 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-182, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 44. Reciprocal Benefit Arrangements. As used in this section the terms "other state" and "another state" shall be deemed to include any state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia and any foreign government and, where applicable, shall also be deemed to include the Federal government or provisions of a law of the Federal government, as the case may be.

As used in this section the term "claim" shall be deemed to include whichever of the following terms is applicable, to wit: "application for initial determination," "claim for waiting period credit," or "claim for benefits."

The Commissioner may enter into agreement with any other state whereby in the event an individual files a claim in another state against wages earned in employment in this state, or against wage credits earned in this state and in any other state or who files a claim in this state against wage credits earned in employment in any other state, or against wages earned in this state and in any other state, the claim will be paid by this state or another state as designated by the agreement in accordance with a determination on the claim as provided by the agreement and pursuant to the qualification and disqualification provisions of this act or under the provisions of the law of the designated paying state (including another state) or under such a combination of the provisions of both laws as shall be determined by the Commissioner as being fair and reasonable to all affected interests, and whereby the wages of such individual, if earned in two or more states (including another state) may be combined, and further, whereby this state or another state shall reimburse the paying state in an amount which shall bear the same

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ratio to the amount of benefits already paid as the amount of wage credits transferred by this state or another state, and used in the determination, bear to the total wage credits used in computing the claimant's maximum amount of benefits potentially payable.

Whenever any claim is filed by an individual involving the combination of wages or a reciprocal arrangement for the payment of benefits, which is governed by the provisions of this section, the Employment Security Department of this state, when not designated as the paying state, shall promptly make a report to the other state making the determination, showing wages earned in employment in this state. A copy of such report shall be sent to the individual's most recent employing unit as stated by the individual, if such employing unit is in this state. Re-examination of such report shall promptly be made upon receipt of a request therefor made by the individual or employing unit entitled to such report and a determination thereon be issued. Appeal from any determination by the Employment Security Department of this state may be had pursuant to the provisions of this act dealing with appeals relating to benefits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to make to another state and to receive from another state reimbursements from or to the Unemployment Compensation Fund in accordance with arrangements made pursuant to the provisions of this section.

Sec. 9. Section 68 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-206, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 68. Benefit Eligibility Conditions. An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive waiting period credit or benefits with respect to any week only if the Commissioner finds that
(a) he has registered for work at, and there-
after has continued to report at, an employment
office in accordance with such regulation as the Com-
missioner may prescribe, except that the Commis-
sioner may by regulation waive or alter either or
both of the requirements of this subdivision as to
individuals attached to regular jobs and as to such
other types of cases or situations with respect to
which he finds that the compliance with such re-
quirements would be oppressive, or would be in-
consistent with the purposes of this act;
(b) he has filed an application for an initial de-
termination and made a claim for waiting period
credit or for benefits in accordance with the provi-
sions of this act;
(c) he is able to work, and is available for work
in any trade, occupation, profession, or business for
which he is reasonably fitted. To be available for
work an individual must be ready, able, and willing,
immediately to accept any suitable work which may
be offered to him and must be actively seeking work;
(d) he has been unemployed for a waiting period
of one week; and
(e) he has within the base year been paid wages
of not less than five hundred dollars.

Sec. 10. Section 69 of chapter 35 of the Laws of
1945 (section 9998-207, Remington's Revised Stat-
tutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as fol-
loows:

Section 69. Waiting Period Credit Limitation.
No week shall be counted as a waiting period week,
(a) if benefits have been paid with respect thereto, and
(b) unless the individual was otherwise eligible
for benefits with respect thereto, and
(c) unless it occurs within the benefit year which
includes the week with respect to which he claims
payment of benefits.
Repealing clause.

Sec. 11. Section 72 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-210, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby repealed.

Amendment.

Sec. 12. Section 73 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by section 15 of chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (section 9998-211, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 73. Disqualification for Voluntary Quit. An individual who has left work voluntarily without good cause shall be disqualified for benefits for a period of five (5) weeks in each of which he has filed a claim for waiting period credit or benefits and was otherwise eligible: Provided, That acceptance of subsequent work shall terminate the disqualification.

Amendment.

Sec. 13. Section 74 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by section 16 of chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (section 9998-212, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 74. Disqualification for Unemployment Due to Misconduct. An individual who has been discharged or suspended for misconduct connected with his work shall be disqualified for benefits for a period of five (5) weeks in each of which he has filed a claim for waiting period credit or benefits and was otherwise eligible: Provided, That acceptance of subsequent work shall terminate the disqualification.

Amendment.

Sec. 14. Section 75 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by section 17 of chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (section 9998-213, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 75. Disqualification for Misrepresentation. An individual shall be disqualified for benefits
for the calendar week with respect to which he has willfully made a false statement or representation or willfully failed to report a material fact to obtain any benefits under the provisions of this act and for the fifty-two next following weeks.

Sec. 15. Section 76 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-214, Remington’s Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 76. Disqualification for Refusal to Work. An individual shall be disqualified for benefits, if the Commissioner finds that he has failed without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work when so directed by the employment office or the Commissioner, or to accept suitable work when offered him, or to return to his customary self-employment (if any) when so directed by the Commissioner. Such disqualification shall continue for a period of five (5) weeks in each of which he has filed a claim for waiting period credit or benefits and was otherwise eligible: Provided, That acceptance of subsequent work shall terminate the disqualification.

Sec. 16. Section 80 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-218, Remington’s Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 80. Amount of Benefits. Subject to the other provisions of this act benefits shall be payable to any eligible individual during the benefit year in accordance with the weekly benefit amount and the maximum benefits potentially payable shown in the following schedule for such base year wages shown in the schedule as are applicable to such individual:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base Year Wages</th>
<th>Weekly Benefit Amount</th>
<th>Maximum Benefits Potentially Payable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$000—599.99</td>
<td>$00</td>
<td>$000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600—699.99</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>700—799.99</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>800—899.99</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
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</table>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base Year Wages</th>
<th>Weekly Benefit Amount</th>
<th>Maximum Benefits Potentially Payable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>900-999.99</td>
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<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000-1099.99</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>266</td>
</tr>
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<td>1100-1199.99</td>
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<td>598</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000-2099.99</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2100 and over</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amendment. SEC. 17. Section 81 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-219, Remington’s Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 81. Deduction from Weekly Benefit Amount. If an eligible individual is available for work for less than a full week, he shall be paid his weekly benefit amount reduced by one-seventh of such amount for each day that he is unavailable for work: Provided, That if he is unavailable for work for three days or more of a week, he shall be considered unavailable for the entire week.

Each eligible individual who is unemployed in any week shall be paid with respect to such week a benefit in an amount equal to his weekly benefit amount less that part of the remuneration (if any) payable to him with respect to such week which is in excess of five dollars. Such benefit, if not a multiple of one dollar, shall be computed to the next higher multiple of one dollar.

Amendment. SEC. 18. Section 89 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-227, Remington’s Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 89. Payment of Contributions. Contributions shall accrue and become payable by each employer for each calendar year in which he is subject
to this act at the rate of two and seven-tenths per centum of wages paid.

Contributions shall become due and be paid by each employer to the Treasurer for the Unemployment Compensation Fund in accordance with such regulations as the Commissioner may prescribe, and shall not be deducted, in whole or in part, from the remuneration of individuals in employment of the employer. Any deduction in violation of the provisions of this section shall be unlawful.

In the payment of any contributions, a fractional part of a cent shall be disregarded unless it amounts to one-half cent or more, in which case it shall be increased to one cent.

Sec. 19. Section 91 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-229, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 91. Contributions Erroneously Paid to the United States Government or to Another State. Payments of contributions erroneously paid to an unemployment compensation fund of another state or to the United States government which should have been paid to this state and which thereafter shall be refunded by such other state or the United States government and paid by the employer to this state, shall be deemed to have been paid to this state at the date of payment to the United States government or such other state.

Sec. 20. Section 98 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-236, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 98. Distraint Procedure. The Commissioner, upon making a distraint, shall seize the property and shall make an inventory of the property distrained, a copy of which shall be mailed to the owner of such property or personally delivered to
him, and shall specify the time and place when said property shall be sold. A notice specifying the property to be sold and the time and place of sale shall be posted in at least two public places in the county wherein the seizure has been made. The time of sale shall be not less than ten nor more than twenty days from the date of posting of such notices. Said sale may be adjourned from time to time at the discretion of the Commissioner, but not for a time to exceed in all sixty days. Said sale shall be conducted by the Commissioner or his authorized representative who shall proceed to sell such property by parcel or by lot at a public auction, and who may set a minimum price to include the expenses of making a levy and of advertising the sale, and if the amount bid for such property at the sale is not equal to the minimum price so fixed, the Commissioner or his representative may declare such property to be purchased by the Employment Security Department for such minimum price. In such event the delinquent account shall be credited with the amount for which the property has been sold. Property acquired by the Employment Security Department as herein prescribed may be sold by the Commissioner or his representative at public or private sale, and the amount realized shall be placed in the Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund.

In all cases of sale, as aforesaid, the Commissioner shall issue a bill of sale or a deed to the purchaser and said bill of sale or deed shall be prima facie evidence of the right of the Commissioner to make such sale and conclusive evidence of the regularity of his proceeding in making the sale, and shall transfer to the purchaser all right, title, and interest of the delinquent employer in said property. The proceeds of any such sale, except in those cases wherein the property has been acquired by the Employment Security Department, shall be first ap-
plied by the Commissioner in satisfaction of the delinquent account, and out of any sum received in excess of the amount of delinquent contributions and interest the administration fund shall be reimbursed for the costs of distraint and sale. Any excess which shall thereafter remain in the hands of the Commissioner shall be refunded to the delinquent employer. Sums so refundable to a delinquent employer may be subject to seizure or distraint in the hands of the Commissioner by any other taxing authority of the state or its political subdivisions.

Sec. 21. Section 101 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-239, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 101. Contractor's and Principal's Liability for Contributions. No employing unit which contracts with or has under it any contractor or subcontractor who is an employee under the provisions of this act shall make any payment to such contractor or sub-contractor for any indebtedness due until after the contractor or sub-contractor has paid, or has furnished a good and sufficient bond acceptable to the Commissioner for payment of contributions, including interest, due or to become due in respect to personal services which have been performed by individuals for such contractor or sub-contractor. Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall render said employing unit directly liable for such contributions and interest and the Commissioner shall have all of the remedies of collection against said employing unit under the provisions of this act as though the services in question were performed directly for said employing unit.

Sec. 22. Sections 111, 112, 113, 114, 115 and 116 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945, as amended by chapter 215 of the Laws of 1947 (sections 9998-248, -249,
-250, -251, -252 and -253, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1947 Supp.) are hereby repealed.

Sec. 23. Section 119 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-257, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 119. Appeal from Order and Notice of Assessment. When an order and notice of assessment has been served upon or mailed to a delinquent employer, as heretofore provided, such employer may within ten days thereafter file a petition in writing with the appeal tribunal, stating that such assessment is unjust or incorrect and requesting a hearing thereon. Such petition shall set forth the reasons why the assessment is objected to and the amount of contributions, if any, which said employer admits to be due the Employment Security Department. If no such petition be filed with the appeal tribunal within said ten days, said assessment shall be conclusively deemed to be just and correct: Provided, That in such cases, and in cases where payment of contributions or interest has been made pursuant to a jeopardy assessment, the Commissioner may properly entertain a subsequent application for refund. The filing of a petition on a disputed assessment with the appeal tribunal shall stay the distraint and sale proceeding provided for in this act until a final decision thereon shall have been made, but the filing of such petition shall not affect the right of the Commissioner to perfect a lien, as provided by this act, upon the property of the employer.

Within ten days after notice of denial of refund or adjustment has been mailed or delivered (whichever is the earlier) to an employer, the employer may file a petition in writing with the appeal tribunal for a hearing thereon: Provided, That this right shall not apply in those cases in which assess-
ments have been appealed from and have become final. The petitioner shall set forth the reasons why such hearing should be granted and the amount which the petitioner believes should be adjusted or refunded. If no such petition be filed within said ten days, the determination of the Commissioner as stated in said notice shall be final.

Sec. 24. Section 121 of chapter 35 of the Laws of 1945 (section 9998-259, Remington's Revised Statutes, 1945 Supp.) is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 121. Contributions Appeals Procedure. In any proceeding before an appeal tribunal involving an appeal from a disputed order and notice of assessment (for contributions or interest due) a disputed denial of refund or adjustment (of contributions or interest paid) or a disputed experience rating credit, the appeal tribunal, after affording the parties a reasonable opportunity for hearing, shall affirm, modify or set aside the notice of assessment, denial of refund or experience rating credit. The parties shall be duly notified of such appeal tribunal's decision together with its reasons therefor which shall be deemed to be the final decision on the order and notice of assessment, denial of refund or experience rating credit, as the case may be, unless within ten days after the date of notification or mailing, whichever is the earlier, of such decision, further appeal is perfected pursuant to the provisions of this act relating to review by the Commissioner.

Sec. 25. An emergency exists and this act is necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare and shall take effect immediately: Provided, however, That the provisions
of sections 9 and 16 of this act shall not become effective until the 1st day of July, 1949.

Passed the House March 8, 1949.
Passed the Senate March 7, 1949.
Approved by the Governor March 19, 1949.

CHAPTER 215.
[ H. B. 249. ]

DIVORCE ACT.

AN ACT relating to the dissolution of marriage by divorce or annulment, separate maintenance, the custody of children, division of property, allowances for support, prescribing procedure and duties of prosecuting attorneys in connection therewith and repealing certain prior inconsistent statutes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. This act may be cited as the Divorce Act of 1949.

Sec. 2. Divorce may be granted by the Superior Court on application of the party injured for the following reasons:

1. When the consent to the marriage of the party applying for the divorce was obtained by force or fraud, and there has been no voluntary cohabitation after the discovery of the fraud, or when either party shall be incapable of consenting thereto, for want of legal age or a sufficient understanding.

2. For adultery on the part of the wife or of the husband, when unforgiven, and the application is made within one year after it shall have come to the knowledge of the party applying for a divorce.

3. Impotency.

4. Abandonment for one year.

5. Cruel treatment of either party by the other, or personal indignities rendering life burdensome.

6. Habitual drunkenness of either party.