

Collection of Contributions.

1936 (Dec. Sp. Sess.), ch. 1, sec. 14. 1939, ch. 278, sec. 14.

14. (a) (Interest on Past-Due Contributions.) Contributions unpaid on the date on which they are due and payable, as prescribed by the Board, shall bear interest at the rate of 1 per centum per month from and after such date until payment plus interest is received by the Board. Interest collected pursuant to this sub-section shall be paid into the unemployment compensation fund.

(b) (Collection.) If, after due notice, any employer defaults in any payment of contributions or interest thereon, the amount due shall be collected by civil action in the name of the State, and the employer adjudged in default shall pay the costs of such action. Civil actions brought under this section to collect contributions or interest thereon from an employer shall be heard by the court at the earliest possible date and shall be entitled to preference upon the calendar of the court over all other civil actions except petitions for judicial review under this Article and cases arising under the workmen's compensation law of this State. The Board may proceed in the collection of contributions in the manner prescribed by Sections 154 to 159, inclusive, of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

(c) (Priorities Under Legal Dissolutions or Distributions.) In the event of any distribution of an employer's assets pursuant to an order of any court under the laws of this State, including any receivership, assignment for benefit of creditors, adjudicated insolvency, composition, or similar proceeding, contributions then or thereafter due shall be paid in full prior to all other claims except taxes and claims for wages of not more than \$250 to each claimant earned within six months of the commencement of the proceeding. In the event of an employer's death, claims for contributions shall be allowable against his estate as preferred debts, as in the case of taxes under Section 150, sub-section (c), of Article 81 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. In the event of an employer's adjudication in bankruptcy, judicially confirmed extension proposal, or composition, under the Federal Bankruptcy Act of 1898, as amended, contributions then or thereafter due shall be entitled to priority as a tax, as provided in Section 64 (a) of that Act (U. S. C. A., Title 11, sec. 104 (a), as amended).

(d) (Refunds.) If not later than two years after the date on which any contributions or interest thereon become due, an employer who has paid such contributions or interest thereon shall make application for an adjustment thereof in connection with subsequent contribution payments, or for a refund thereof because such adjustment cannot be made, and the Board shall determine that such contributions or interest or any portion thereof was erroneously collected, the Board shall allow such employer to make an adjustment thereof, without interest, in connection with subsequent contribution payments by him, or if such adjustment cannot be made the Board shall refund said amount, without interest from the fund. For like cause and within the same period, adjustment or refund may be so made on the Board's own initiative.

(e) (Liability of Successor.) Any individual or employing unit which acquires the organization, trade, or business or substantially all the assets thereof from an employer, shall notify the Board in writing by registered mail not later than five days prior to the acquisition. Unless such notice is given such acquisition shall be void as against the Board if, at the time