

**Article - Labor and Employment**

8-103.

(A) To the extent necessary to ensure that the United States Secretary of Labor certifies this title under § 3304 of the Internal Revenue Code and unless this title clearly indicates an intent to the contrary, this title shall be construed in a manner consistent with the relevant provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, the Federal Social Security Act, the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970, and the Federal Trade Act of 1974.

(B) IF IMPLEMENTATION OF A PROVISION OF TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE (ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT - CONTESTED CASES) AFFECTS FEDERAL FUNDS OTHERWISE AVAILABLE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADVISE THE GOVERNOR AND REQUEST APPROPRIATE ACTION UNDER § 10-225 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

8-504.

(A) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE Board of Appeals shall adopt reasonable regulations, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-206 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, to govern appeals and hearings under this title.

(B) SECTION 10-206(E) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE DOES NOT APPLY TO REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS SECTION.

8-506.

(a) (1) A hearing examiner, special examiner, and the Board of Appeals shall conduct a hearing or appeal in a manner that ascertains the substantial rights of the parties.

(2) (I) A hearing examiner, special examiner, and the Board of Appeals are not bound by statutory or common law rules of evidence or technical rules of procedure.

(II) A HEARING EXAMINER, SPECIAL EXAMINER, AND THE BOARD OF APPEALS SHALL CONSIDER EVIDENCE OFFERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 10-213 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(b) (1) A person may not participate on behalf of the Board of Appeals in any proceeding in which the person has a direct or indirect interest.

(2) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO § 10-219 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(II) SECTION 10-219(D) OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE DOES NOT APPLY TO EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(c) (1) A hearing examiner, special examiner, or the Board of Appeals may consolidate claims by more than 1 individual or claims by a single individual for 2 or more weeks of unemployment if: