

(E) EFFECT OF TRANSFER ON PREDECESSOR EMPLOYER.

A PREDECESSOR EMPLOYER SHALL CONTINUE TO PAY CONTRIBUTIONS AT THE PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED RATE IF THE PREDECESSOR EMPLOYER:

- (1) TRANSFERS ONLY PART OF THE ASSETS, BUSINESS, ORGANIZATION, OR TRADE OF THE PREDECESSOR EMPLOYER;
- (2) REMAINS IN BUSINESS; AND
- (3) HAS BEEN ASSIGNED A CONTRIBUTION RATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(F) QUALIFICATION FOR LOWEST RATE.

(1) TO QUALIFY FOR AN EARNED RATE THAT IS BASED ON A TRANSFER AND THAT IS LOWER THAN THE RATE OTHERWISE WOULD BE, WITHIN 120 DAYS AFTER THE TRANSFER, A SUCCESSOR EMPLOYER OR NEW EMPLOYER SHALL REPORT THE TRANSFER AND APPLY FOR THE LOWER RATE ON A FORM AND IN THE MANNER THAT THE SECRETARY PROVIDES.

(2) IF THE SUCCESSOR EMPLOYER OR NEW EMPLOYER DOES NOT COMPLY WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IN THE TIME REQUIRED, THE SECRETARY SHALL ADJUST THE EARNED RATE AS OF THE 1ST CALENDAR QUARTER AFTER COMPLIANCE.

(3) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPHS (1) AND (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, WHERE A TRANSFER RESULTS IN A HIGHER EARNED RATE TO THE SUCCESSOR EMPLOYER, THE SECRETARY MAY COMBINE THE EARNED RATING RECORD OF THE PREDECESSOR AND SUCCESSOR EMPLOYERS AND, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RATE DETERMINATION, TRANSFER TO THE SUCCESSOR EMPLOYER THE TAXABLE WAGES AND BENEFIT CHARGES OF THE PREDECESSOR EMPLOYER AT ANY TIME.

REVISOR'S NOTE: This section is new language derived without substantive change from former Art. 95A, § 8(c)(6), except for (ii)1.

The Labor and Employment Article Review Committee notes, for consideration by the General Assembly, that under former Art. 95A, § 8(c)(6)(i)1, the limitation "while remaining under substantially the same ownership" applied only to a reorganized employer that changes its trade name or business identity. The General Assembly may wish to consider whether the limitation also applies to a reorganized employer that alters its legal status.

The Committee also notes that subsection (d)(2) of this section is revised to apply only to situations in which the predecessor employer does not remain in business. This interpretation is based on the definite reference to "the