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

AN ACT concerning employment security; creating the unemployment compensation modernization and improvement council; providing for development of a new unemployment insurance information technology system; claimant tax information; website publication of trust fund data; maximum benefit period; charging of employer accounts for benefits paid; employer contribution rate determination and schedules; abolishing the employment security interest assessment fund; crediting employer accounts for fraudulent or erroneous payments; transferring moneys from the state general fund to the unemployment insurance trust fund for improper benefit payments; services performed by petroleum landmen; lessor employment unit employee leasing restrictions; relating to other unemployment trust fund provisions; shared work compensation program; amending K.S.A. 44-758 and K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 44-703, 44-704, 44-710, 44-710a, 44-710b and 44-757 and repealing the existing sections.

New Section 1. (a) (1) There is hereby created the unemployment compensation modernization and improvement council. The council shall consist of 11 members appointed as follows:

(A) Two members who, on account of their vocation, employment or affiliations, may be classed as representative of employers, to be selected by the workers compensation and employment security boards nominating committee established under K.S.A. 44-551, and amendments thereto, and appointed by the governor;

(B) Two members who, on account of their vocation, employment or affiliation, may be classed as representative of employees, to be selected by the workers compensation and employment security boards nominating committee and appointed by the governor;

(C) The chairpersons of the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives to which legislation pertaining to the employment security law is customarily referred, appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives, respectively;

(D) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate, one of whom is a member of the majority party and one of whom is a member of the minority party;

(E) One member of the house of representatives, one of whom is appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives and one of whom is appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

(F) Three members representing the public interest, to be appointed by the governor, one of whom shall be the selected by the governor, one of whom shall be a member of the majority party and one of whom shall be a member of the minority party.
(E) two members of the house of representatives appointed by the 
speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom is a member of the 
majority party and one of whom is a member of the minority party; and
(F) the secretary of labor or a designee of the secretary who has 
administrative responsibilities with respect to the unemployment insurance 
compensation system of the department of labor.

(2) In the event the governor fails to appoint a member selected by 
the workers compensation and employment security boards nominating 
committee, the committee may replace that selection with another, subject 
to the same appointment requirements. Members of the council appointed 
by the governor shall serve for a term of four years, and each term shall 
end on the same day as the date of their original appointment. When an 
employer representative vacancy or employee representative vacancy on 
the council occurs, the workers compensation and employment security 
boards nominating committee shall convene and submit a nominee to the 
governor for appointment.

(3) Legislative members shall serve during the legislative session in 
which they are appointed to the council and shall remain members of the 
legislature in order to retain membership on the council. Vacancies of 
legislative members during a term shall be filled in the same manner as the 
original appointment only for the unexpired part of the term.

(b) Each member of the council shall be entitled to receive 
compensation for the member's services, together with the member's travel 
and other necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of the 
member's official duties, in accordance with rules and regulations adopted 
by the council. Members' compensation and expenses shall be paid from 
the employment security administration fund or any account of the state 
general fund of the department of labor, as designated by the secretary.

(c) The members who are the chairpersons of the standing 
committees of the senate and the house of representatives to which 
legislation pertaining to employment security law is customarily referred 
shall jointly call the first meeting of the council. The council shall annually 
organize itself and select a chairperson. Six members shall constitute a 
quorum, and the council shall act only on the affirmative vote of six 
members. A vacancy on the council shall not impair the right of a quorum, 
to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the council. The 
council shall meet as often as necessary to perform its duties.

(d) The council shall examine and recommend changes to the 
unemployment compensation system to include current limitations, new 
features and benefits, system enhancements and dynamic, accurate 
reporting for the benefit of both employers and individuals. The council 
shall also examine the process by which an individual files a claim for and 
receives benefits and any changes made to that process after the effective 

(4) The members of the council shall be appointed and the 
council shall hold its first meeting within 30 days of the effective date of this act.