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Some Workers Are Eligible for Unemployment Tax Refunds

JUNEAU – Some Alaska workers may be eligible for unemployment tax refunds if they worked for more than one employer during 2006, according to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

"Workers who had more than \$146.37 in unemployment taxes deducted for the year because they had more than one employer can apply for a refund of any deduction over that amount," said Labor Commissioner Click Bishop.

For 2006, Alaska was one of three states, with New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where both the employer and worker contributed to the Unemployment Compensation Fund, from which unemployment benefits are paid. Alaska law provides for a refund to any worker who contributes more than the annual contribution maximum of \$146.37 per employee.

Unemployment taxes are usually designated as ESC, ESD, UI, or SUI on W-2 forms. Refund requests must be in writing with proof of earnings by Dec. 31, 2007. The refund form is online at labor.state.ak.us/estax/forms/eerefund.pdf.

Forms are also available from the Unemployment Insurance Tax Office in Juneau. Call (907) 465-2757 or (888) 448-3527, or write to the Unemployment Insurance Tax Office, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, P.O. Box 115509, Juneau, AK 99811-5509. The forms also may be available from tax preparation services.