



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Joan B. Lovely, Vice Chair, Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Representative Jeffrey Sanchez, House Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jason M. Lewis, Chair, Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
Representative Paul Brodeur, Chair, Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
Michael D. Hurley, Senate Clerk
Steven T. James, House Clerk

FROM: Richard A. Jeffers

DATE: January 29, 2019

SUBJECT: JANUARY 2019 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TRUST FUND REPORT

The attached January Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Report provides information on the trust fund status through the end 2018. Projections for the private contributory account for 2019 through 2022 remain as published in the October through December 2018 Outlook Reports. Year end trust fund balances, however, were revised based on the actual 2018 year-end balance.

The report highlights include:

The preliminary 2018 year-end private contributory account balance was \$1.101 billion, \$37 million higher than projected caused by lower than expected benefit payments in December. Preliminary total employer contributions of \$1.526 billion were in-line with the projection while benefit payments were \$37 million less than expected.

Employer contribution projections for 2019 are based on a \$15,000 taxable wage base and as set by statute on rate schedule E.

The 2019 outlook for benefit payments is \$1.518 billion; employer contributions are estimated at \$1.753 billion and the year-end private contributory account balance is expected to be \$1.364 billion.

Under the current economic assumptions the projections indicate that no borrowing from the federal unemployment account will be required through the 2022 outlook period.

Revised trust fund projections for 2019 to 2022 along with 2023 projections will be released in the February 2019 Outlook Report.

cc: Distribution List