

1 **SECTION 2.** A contract to obtain services of a consultant pursuant to this act is not
2 subject to Article 3C of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes. The consultation contract may be
3 funded from (i) funds available within the Employment Security Commission, including State
4 funds and any federal funds that may be used for the purposes of this act, and (ii) non-State or
5 nongovernmental funds, grants, and in-kind contributions specifically designated for the
6 purpose of carrying out the analysis required by this act.

7 **SECTION 3.** The Department of Commerce shall provide the Fiscal Research
8 Division and the Program Evaluation Division with periodic updates on the progress of the
9 analysis. Within 45 days from the completion of the independent consultant's analysis, the
10 Department of Commerce shall report to the Governor and to the General Assembly on the
11 independent consultant's recommendations for reform of the State's unemployment insurance
12 tax structure.

13 **SECTION 4.** The Employment Security Commission and the Department of
14 Revenue shall cooperate fully with the Department of Commerce, the Fiscal Research Division,
15 and the Program Evaluation Division by giving all information and all data within their
16 possession or ascertainable from their records necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

17 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.