

Nevada Unemployment Insurance Rate Increases

CARSON CITY—On July 1 the maximum Nevada weekly unemployment insurance check will rise to \$184—an increase of \$7 over the current high amount—for claimants whose benefit year begins on or after July 1, 1988, State Employment Security Dept. Director Stan Jones has announced.

The new maximum benefit is one-half the average weekly wage for calendar year 1987, Jones said. The Employment Security Department derived the figure from Nevada employer payroll reports listing all wage and salary payout for the year, excluding tip income, according to Jones. The average weekly wage in 1987 was \$368.82, based on total wages of \$9.336 billion paid to 486,789 workers covered by the state unemployment insurance system, he said.

The maximum rate for un-

employment insurance benefits is calculated annually in compliance with Nevada statutes, Jones said. "The purpose of unemployment insurance is to provide a source of income to claimants who are out of work through no fault of their own while they search for new employment," he stated.

Unemployment insurance benefits are based on a number of factors including conditions of separation from work, amount earned, length of time employed and most recent employment. The amount of weekly benefits can vary from a low of \$16 to the maximum, paid for up to 26 weeks. The current average check is \$143.36, and the average UI recipient is unemployed for 12½ weeks before returning to employment, Jones said.

Wendell Williams Prepared For Campaign

Nevada State Assemblyman Wendell P. Williams said that he is prepared to meet the political challenge of this year's campaign.

"I have a solid group of volunteers who believe in what I have been trying to do for District Six," Williams said. "They are eager to help me get my message to the voters so that I can continue to provide positive representation for the district and get the community the services they deserve."

Williams' supporters site the tutorial project at the Doolittle Community Center as just one of the assemblyman's accomplishments. The state-funded tutorial project is a much needed addition to the community, they say, and Williams fought a difficult battle to get the project through the state legislature.

"The tutorial project is only the beginning," Williams said. "Many difficult tasks lie ahead. District Six needs fast action and representation that

addresses the many problems we have in our district."

On June 29, Williams held a public hearing on the subject of minority set asides and contracts. The assemblyman solicited the testimony of minority contractors and other businessmen. He was interested in collecting information so that he could work to insure that minorities get equal opportunity to obtain government and related contracts.

On July 3, Williams' supporters held a successful fundraiser for his campaign. The event attracted many community leaders. Assemblyman Morse Arberry was in attendance, as was State Senator Joe Neal. Also in attendance were Congressman James Bilbray and Governor Richard Bryan. Mujahid Ramadan was in attendance, representing U.S. Senator Harry Reid. All were quick to praise Williams and the aggressive style he has brought to Carson City as District Six's assemblyman.

BLACK POPULATION HAS GROWN BY 11 PERCENT SINCE 1980, CENSUS BUREAU SAYS

The nation's Black population grew by 3.1 million or 11 percent from 1980 to 1987, according to the Commerce Department's Census Bureau.

The bureau's latest annual population estimates by age, sex, and race indicate that Blacks totaled 29.9 million in 1987 compared with 26.8 million in the 1980 census. Only 19 percent of the growth was from immigration.

The Black population has been growing faster than the total population and its proportion of the total rose from 11.8 percent in 1980 to 12.2 in 1987.

The report shows the White population grew from 195.1 million to 206.2 million during the period, an increase of 6 percent. Most of the gain also came from natural increase.

Here are other findings from the report for 1987:

- The Black population's median age was 27.2 years compared with 33.0 years for Whites. The six-year difference has remained fairly constant since the 1970s.

- Black females outnumbered Black males 15.7 million to 14.2 million. Males outnumbered females only through age 18.

- White females totaled 105.3 million compared with 100.9 million White males.

Copies of *United States Population Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race: 1980 to 1987* Series P-25, No. 1022, are available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The table on page 3 gives population figures for age groups up to age 85 by race for 1980 and 1987.

HAWKINS

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15 percent of house sellers discriminated against Blacks. At that time, discrimination was defined as "failing to provide important, necessary information to rent or purchase a home."

This new team of house hunters, according to MacRae, will look into more subtle discriminatory practices such as "steering," in which minority clients are steered away from all-white neighborhoods or into racially segregated neighborhoods. This study will also include analyses of the differences in discrimination between cities and their suburbs, and discrimination against Hispanics as well as Blacks.

"Despite advances in civil rights," Pierce said, "discrimination still exists in more subtle ways than before in many areas."

HUD To Launch 2-Year Study Of Housing Bias

by Chester A. Higgins, Sr.

NNPA News Editor

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a move designed to increase enforcement against illegal housing discrimination, Housing and Urban Development Secretary Samuel R. Pierce, said hundreds of specially trained Black, Hispanic, and White couples will fan out in a number of U.S. metropolitan areas by the end of this year to determine their acceptance to buy or rent homes.

This will be the first major study of housing discrimination conducted in a decade. It will take approximately two years to complete, according

to C. Duncan MacRae, HUD deputy assistant secretary. The study could also determine the need for stronger fair housing legislation, Pierce added.

In 1979, 600 trained black and white couples of nearly identical backgrounds—economic, educational, etc., except for race—tried to rent houses or apartments in 40 metropolitan areas. They responded to the same newspaper ads and then filled out detailed forms reporting their experiences. This study revealed that an estimated 27 percent of rental agents and



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July 7, 1988

To: The Public

I would like to publicly thank my lawyer, LEE GATES for representing me in trial. His trial skills saved me from a sentence of life in prison.

Thanks, Lee, you are the best.

Terry Duplantis
Las Vegas, Nevada

NOTE