

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Secretary of State
Frankfort
Kentucky

2022-471 July 29, 2022

STATE OF EMERGENCY RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS AND BENEFITS

Beginning on July 26, 2022, and continuing, a severe weather system generating multiple rounds of heavy torrential rain, causing flooding, flash flooding, mudslides, and landslides is impacting the Commonwealth of Kentucky, creating dangerous conditions and damage to public infrastructure, utility distribution systems, and private properties;

These conditions endanger public health and safety, and public and private property;

State and local governments share responsibility for protection of public health, safety, and security as well as for the protection of public and private property and for taking appropriate actions to ensure the provision of essential public services;

The economic impacts of this powerful weather system are severe, including loss of jobs;

Current state law requires a claimant for unemployment insurance benefits to serve a waiting period of one (1) week, during which he or she has not received benefits, before being eligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits;

Section 303(a)(12) of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 503(a)(12), includes a requirement that as a condition of eligibility for regular compensation for any week a claimant must be able to work, available to work, and actively seeking work;

Section 301 of the Stafford Act permits the United States Department of Labor ("US DOL") to waive upon request certain administrative conditions related to the disaster unemployment assistance program and regular unemployment compensation program;

Under the powers provided by the Kentucky Constitution and Kentucky Revised Statutes, including KRS Chapter 39A, on July 28, 2022, I declared by Executive Order 2022-457 that a State of Emergency exists in the Commonwealth. On July 29, 2022, the



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President of the United States granted my request and declared that a major disaster exists in the Commonwealth of Kentucky in DR-4663-KY;

NOW THEREFORE, I Andy Beshear, by virtue of authority vested in me pursuant to the Constitution of Kentucky and by KRS Chapter 39A, do hereby **ORDER** and **DIRECT** as follows:

- 1. During the declared state of the emergency under Executive Order 2022-457, the able to work, available to work, and active work search requirements set forth in KRS 341.350(4) and (5) are hereby suspended as to any individual who is located or working in the Kentucky counties affected by the emergency conditions referenced in Executive Order 2022-457, the President's major disaster declaration, DR-4663-KY and subsequent amendment(s), including Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe.
- 2. For those unemployed workers covered by Paragraph 1 of this order, the requirement that unemployed workers located or working in the affected counties, including Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe, serve a waiting period of seven (7) days, otherwise known as the "waiting week period," prior to becoming eligible for unemployment insurance benefits as set forth in KRS 341.350(2) is hereby suspended for the duration of the declared emergency.

This Order shall be effective July 29, 2022.

ANDY BESILEAR, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS Secretary of State



DANIEL CAMERON ATTORNEY GENERAL DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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Whereas, the Governor has issued Executive Order 2022-471, entitled a "State of Emergency Relating to Unemployment Insurance Claims and Benefits," which in relevant part suspends the operation of KRS 341.350(2), KRS 341.350(4), and KRS 341.350(5);

Whereas, KRS 39A.180(2)(b) provides that the Governor may suspend a statute by executive order when an emergency is declared if the statute to be suspended is specifically enumerated by the Governor in the executive order and the executive order specifying the suspension is approved by the Attorney General in writing;

Whereas, KRS 39A.090(2) provides that "executive orders, administrative regulations, or other directives issued under this chapter by the Governor" shall be in effect no longer than thirty (30) days unless otherwise approved by the General Assembly or requested by certain local government officials; and

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Whereas, I have reviewed Executive Order 2022-471 and find that the suspension of KRS 341.350(2), KRS 341.350(4), and KRS 341.350(5) as provided for therein is appropriate.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me by KRS 39A.180(2)(b), I, Daniel Cameron, Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby APPROVE the suspension of KRS 341.350(2), KRS 341.350(4), and KRS 341.350(5) as reflected in Executive Order 2022-471 for a period consistent with KRS 39A.090(2).

So ORDERED this the 29th day of July, 2022.

Daniel Cameron Attorney General Department of Law