



## **House Select Committee on COVID-19, Subcommittee on Economic Support Remote**

**March 25, 2020**

**Room 1228 Legislative Building**

**11:00 AM**

The House Select Committee on COVID-19, Subcommittee on Economic Support Remote met on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. The meeting was held remotely with limited seating in Room 1228 of the Legislative Building in Raleigh. Representative Jason Saine presided. Members attending online or in person were: Representative Julia Howard, Co-Chair, Representative Jason Saine, Co-Chair, Representative Michael Wray, Co-Chair Representative Kelly Alexander, Representative John Autry, Representative Chaz Beasley, Representative Jimmy Dixon, Representative Kyle Hall, Representative Yvonne Holley, Representative Chris Humphrey, Representative Howard Hunter, Representative Jake Johnson, Representative Brenden Jones, Representative Keith Kidwell, Representative Nasif Majeed, Representative Pat McElraft, Representative Chuck McGrady, Representative Robert Reives, Representative William Richardson, Representative Stephen Ross, Representative Michael Speciale, Representative Phil Shepard, Representative John Szoka, Representative Brian Turner, Representative Harry Warren. Cindy Avrette, Rodney Bizzell, Madison Lahey, Phyllis Pickett, Jeremy Ray, and Greg Roney, staff. Cody Huneycutt, committee clerk.

### **I. Call to order and Welcome of Members.**

Representative Saine called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM and welcomed members, staff, and visitors listening online. Representative Saine introduced the Sergeants-At-Arms, Jim Moran and Reggie Sills. Representative Saine recognized Speaker of the House Tim Moore further opening remarks.

### **II. Committee Member Introductions**

### **III. Economic Support Working Group Issues**

Representative Saine recognized Cindy Avrette, Legislative Analysis Division, NCGA and Madison Lahey, Fiscal Research Division, NCGA to discuss federal responses, state fiscal implications, and to provide a small business loan overview. Representative Saine opened the committee for questions:

Rep. Kidwell- Could we look into delaying any existing audits, collections processing, and auto drafts. (Comment)

Rep. Warren- What kind of liability shift would the state see of the next 6 months?

Cindy Avrette- It is too early to tell.

Rep. Humphrey- Could we study alterations of restaurant owners' payments. (Comment)

### **IV. Unemployment Insurance Issues**

Representative Saine recognized Jeremy Ray, Legislative Analysis Division, NCGA, and Lockhart Taylor, Assistant Secretary, DES, Department of Commerce, to discuss unemployment benefit eligibility and to provide an update on unemployment claims. Representative Saine opened the committee for questions:

Rep. Sheppard- Will commercial fishermen be allowed to apply for a small business loan?

Madison Lahey- I will have to follow up on your question but it may be best to go ahead and apply.

Rep. Humphrey- Will self-employed receive unemployment?

Cindy Avrette- We are waiting to see what is in the third federal piece of legislation. Self-employed unemployment may be answered in that piece.

Rep. Warren- Does the draft provide a sunset on the attached claims provision?

Cindy Avrette- There is a time limit in place.

Rep. Warren- When we adjust the benefit for partial hours, how are payments adjusted?

Jeremey Ray- Inaudible.

Rep. Johnson- Can employers submit multiple claims under the attached claims provisions?

Cindy Avrette- That is correct.

Rep. Kidwell- Are we modifying the website to adjust the work search requirements on the DES website?

Asst. Sec. Taylor- DES has a link for CORVID 19 cases and will be processed automatically.

Rep. Majeed- Are UI benefits allowed for part time employees?

Asst. Sec Taylor- UI benefits are open for part time employees.

Rep. Turner- What advise can I give employers that don't have an online employer accounts?

Ass. Sec. Taylor- If you forward those employers to me, I'll get them processed online.


### **V. Open Discussion & Remarks**

Rep. Howard- I would like to thank our dedicated staff.

Rep. Reives- Can we make sure that staff can update us on changes that need to be made due to the federal legislation.

### **VI. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 10:00 AM remotely or in 1228 of the Legislative Building.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Jason Saine  
Presiding

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cody Huneycutt  
Committee Clerk