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### March 17, 2020 - Coronavirus Update

Rep. Carla D. Cunningham [carlacunningham2012@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 9:41 PM

To: Steve Johnston

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**Representative Carla D. Cunningham**  
 North Carolina House of Representative  
 106th District, Mecklenburg County  
[Carla.Cunningham@ncleg.net](mailto:Carla.Cunningham@ncleg.net)

#### Rep. Carla Cunningham: House Committee Assignments 2019-2020 Session

- Appropriations
- Appropriations Health and Human Services
- Commerce
- Energy and Public Utilities
- Health
- House Select Committee on School Safety
- Wildlife Resources

#### Non-Standing Committee

Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services

#### Appointments by North Carolina House of Representative Speaker Tim Moore

- Minority Health Advisory Council
- North Carolina Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

#### North Carolina Institute of Medicine Legislative Health Policy Fellows Program

**March 17, 2020**



Dear Constituents,

Thank you for taking the time to write me.

A strong COVID-19 response now is very important to protect our public health and our

economy in the long run. Yet I realize that a strong response puts at risk many people's jobs, paychecks, and businesses right now.

That is why I support immediate efforts to help workers and small businesses that works together with our public health efforts.

Today, Tuesday, March 17, 2020 Governor Roy Cooper announced important unemployment changes that will offer some help to workers who have lost jobs or hours due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Those changes are:

- Removes the one week waiting period for workers;
- Removes the requirement that a laid-off worker look for a new job;
- Compensation can be applied online at <https://des.nc.gov> or by phone at 1-888-737-0259 ; and
- Employers will not be held responsible for compensation paid as a result of COVID-19 layoffs.

Unemployment compensation is just one piece of the puzzle – but it can be a critical safety net for those who have lost jobs or lost significant hours at work.

Yesterday, Monday, March 16, 2020 Governor Cooper announced his request and appeal to the U.S. Small Business Administration to grant a disaster declaration for business owners in North Carolina facing economic losses due to the new Coronavirus, COVID-19. Access to loans is critical for small businesses who need funds to stay in business and pay workers. You can read his request [here](#). I do not know how long this will take to be approved and implemented by the federal government, but am in contact with state leadership and hope to know more soon. It may be helpful to contact your congressional representation to encourage them to support this measure. You can find out who represents you in the US House [here](#), and contact [Sen. Thom Tillis](#) and [Sen. Richard Burr](#).

More efforts to help workers and businesses are in the works. I will continue to send updates as they become available. If you have specific questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me [Carla.cunningham@ncleg.net](mailto:Carla.cunningham@ncleg.net) and Sherrie Burnette at [cunninghamla@ncleg.net](mailto:cunninghamla@ncleg.net) 919-733-5807.

Please know that helping you and our community through this crisis is my top priority, and we will get through this together. I wish you all good health and peace at this time.

Kind regards,  
Rep. Carla D. Cunningham



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