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Legislative Updates

Representative Nasif Majeed [majeedla@ncleg.net]

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2020 12:20 PM

To: Steve Johnston

March 20, 2020

Representative Nasif Majeed
District 99 - Mecklenburg County



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available

PEACE. Governor Roy Cooper requested that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) grant a disaster declaration for business owners in North Carolina facing economic losses due to the Coronavirus. The request was approved on Wednesday afternoon opening the door for small businesses to apply for low interest disaster relief loans through the SBA.

For more information, click [here](#).

Changes to Unemployment Benefits

Governor Cooper announced changes to unemployment insurance benefits that will be available to eligible North Carolinians affected by job loss due to COVID-19.

Here are a few questions and answers that can assist you. Additional general FAQ on changes to the unemployment benefits are available on the Division for Employment Services website:

<https://des.nc.gov/need-help/covid-19-information>.

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS FAQ

Are part-time employees eligible for unemployment insurance?

- Yes, part-time employees may be eligible as long as they have earned a sufficient amount of money to qualify.

Are seasonal employees eligible for unemployment insurance?

- Seasonal employees may be eligible if they apply during the season in which they work, and their employer is designated as a seasonal employer, and they have earned a sufficient amount of money to qualify. If you apply, the Division of Employment Services will look at those details to determine if you qualify.

Are temporary employees eligible?

- Temporary employees who work for the company laying off are treated in the same manner as permanent employees. Temporary employees who work through staffing agencies are eligible if the staffing agency does not have any other employment for them.

Will a business owner who is also paid a salary be eligible for unemployment insurance?

- That depends on whether the business owner covered themselves as an employee when paying quarterly unemployment insurance taxes. In other words, a business owner who paid unemployment insurance taxes for him/herself would be eligible.

When waiters and others who rely on tips for part of their pay apply for unemployment insurance, should they include their tip income in what they list as their income?

- Yes, employees who typically earn tips should include that in their income when filing for unemployment insurance.

Is there any category of worker who is not eligible for unemployment insurance? Are independent contractors eligible?

- Independent contractors and self-employed workers are typically not covered. In order to be eligible, workers must have held a job considered covered employment. However, the Governor is likely to seek a federal disaster declaration, which if approved, would allow for the federal disaster unemployment assistance for those who do not qualify for regular unemployment.

Does this order extend benefits beyond the statutory limit of 12 weeks?

- No. Extending benefits beyond the current 12-week period allowed by law would require action by the General Assembly.

How can I/my employees sign up for unemployment insurance?

- People can sign up for unemployment insurance online at

www.des.nc.gov.

What information do I need to sign up for unemployment insurance?

- To sign up, an applicant needs to gather certain information including your Social Security Number, details about any separation, vacation or severance pay you will get, details about any retirement pay you get, your bank routing number and account number (for direct deposit), and your work history for the past two years (employer name as it appears on your check stub, employer's payroll and physical address, telephone number, employment dates, rate of pay, and reason of separation for each employer).

Will Division of Employment Services (DES) website be ready for people to sign up immediately?

- Yes

I don't qualify for these benefits. Is other relief available to me?

- We understand this emergency is having a significant impact on jobs, businesses and our entire economy. We are continuing to explore other relief that may be available for workers and business owners, both at the state and federal levels, including a federal disaster declaration.

I have additional questions. Where can I go for answers?

- Please visit the Division of Employment Services at

<https://des.nc.gov/> for FAQ's or call [888-737-0259](tel:888-737-0259)

Novant Health Resources

SCREENING CENTER LOCATIONS - Dedicated coronavirus screening services are now located outside several of Novant Health medical centers, including a drive-up option at certain screening locations. These sites are designed to be convenient for individuals who have symptoms and want prompt screening. The centers will be open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- Novant Health Screening Center - Highland Oaks, 600 Highland Oaks Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27103
- Novant Health Screening Center - Matthews, 3330 Siskey Parkway, Matthews, NC 28105
- Novant Health Screening Center - Kernersville, 111 Gateway Center Drive, Kernersville, NC 27284
- Novant Health Screening Center - Huntersville, 16525 Holly Crest Lane, Suite 120, Huntersville, NC 28078

People who have no symptoms will not be screened at these locations. Visiting a screening center when you have no symptoms could increase your risk of exposure and put a strain on resources for those who need them most.

For information on screening centers or coronavirus, please call 877-9NOVANT.

In order to prepare for the potential influx of patients related to COVID-19, Novant Health is standing up triage tents outside its emergency departments at Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center, Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center and Novant Health Rowan Medical Center. Here, patients with respiratory and other viral symptoms, including fever, shortness of breath and a sore throat, will be screened and triaged to the most appropriate venue of care for further treatment. All Novant Health emergency departments are designating well and sick areas inside the facilities, as well.

SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL NOW AVAILABLE - Novant Health has launched a self-guided assessment tool to help patients determine if they should seek care. The self-guided assessment tool can be found [here](#).

NON-ESSENTIAL SERVICES SUSPENDED - Non-time sensitive surgeries, procedures, and non-essential ambulatory appointments were rescheduled effective March 18. That allowed Novant to rededicate their team member resources to COVID-19 response and mitigate exposure among patients and caregivers.

ENHANCED PATIENT PROTECTION MEASURES - While compassion and care for patients remain at the core of the services provided by Novant, in order to protect the health and safety of their patients and team members, Novant Health is limiting the number of visitors that come with patients to its ambulatory clinics.

- o Patients may only bring one visitor with them to their appointment.
- o Visitors must be 13 or older unless needing medical care.
- o Visitors must be healthy (no cough, fever or flu-like symptoms).
- o Visitors will be asked to wait in the exam room with the patient.

IRS Payment Deadline Extended to July 15, 2020

The Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service are providing special payment relief to individuals and businesses in response to the COVID-19 Outbreak. The filing deadline for tax returns remains April 15, 2020. The IRS urges taxpayers who are owed a refund to file as quickly as possible. For those who can't file by the April 15, 2020 deadline, the IRS reminds individual taxpayers that everyone is eligible to request a six-month extension to file their return.

» [Full Details](#)

Current Situation as of 03.20.2020

Updated daily by 11 a.m. each day. *Last updated 9:35 a.m., March 20, 2020.*

NC Cases*	NC Deaths	NC Completed Tests**	US Cases	US Deaths
137	0	3,233	10,442	150

* This number reflects positive results from all tests, including the NC State Laboratory of Public Health and all hospital and commercial labs.

** This number reflects testing completed by the NC State Laboratory of Public Health and reporting hospital and commercial laboratories.

**We're now at 137 cases in North Carolina and 0 deaths.
There are 28 counties with cases**

Brunswick
Cabarrus
Camden
Chatham
Craven
Davidson
Durham
Forsyth
Gaston
Guilford
Harnett
Hoke
Iredell
Johnston
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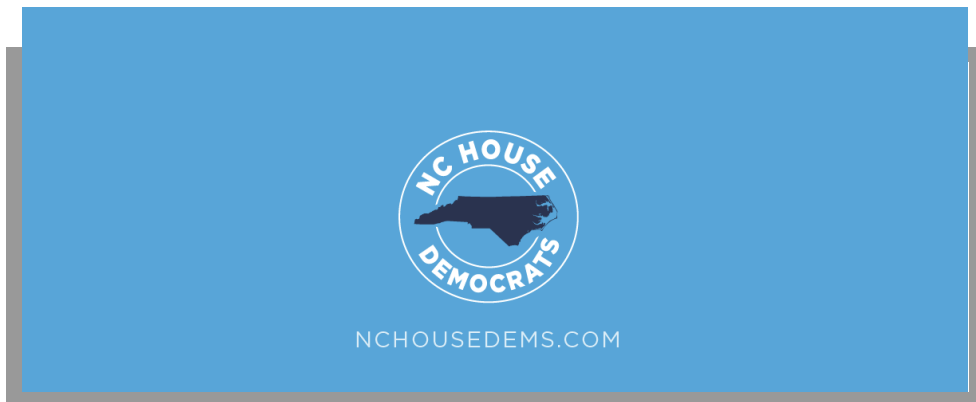
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PEACE,

#IWillNotYield



Representative Nasif Majeed, District 99 | Legislative Building, 16 W. Jones Street, Room 1008,
Raleigh, NC 27601

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