



KATE BROWN  
Governor

December 30, 2020

David Gerstenfeld, Acting Director  
Oregon Employment Department  
875 Union Street NE  
Salem, OR 97311

Dear Director Gerstenfeld,

Oregonians continue to face severe economic hardship as we work together to combat the coronavirus and its devastating impact on Oregon's economy. The Continued Assistance to Unemployed Workers Act recently became federal law and provides opportunities for new benefits for Oregonians.

You have determined that there are programs that will be beneficial to the State of Oregon and its people by providing additional federal money for unemployment compensation purposes. Accordingly, pursuant to ORS 657.895, I direct you to take appropriate action to expedite and provide for the implementation of these programs by:

- Waiving the waiting week for the period of March 8, 2020 through the week ending March 13, 2021; and
- Notwithstanding ORS 657.321(3)(b), administer the Extended Benefits program (defined in ORS 657.321 *et seq.*) without the need to wait 13 weeks after a period of Extended Benefits ends before having a new period of Extended Benefits begin.

Sincerely,

Governor Kate Brown