



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: December 22, 2010

DIR Distributes Over \$20 Million in Extended Unemployment Compensation Benefits

MONTGOMERY -- The Alabama Department of Industrial Relations has issued over \$20 million in retroactive unemployment compensation benefits since President Obama signed a bill re-authorizing the extension of Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits into law on December 17.

This money directly benefited over 50,000 Alabamians whose benefits had expired earlier in the month.

“We are certainly proud that we were able to get these Alabamians their benefits in such a short amount of time,” said Tom Surtees, Director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. “These benefits are, in many cases, the only thing keeping some families afloat. This holds even more true during the holiday season.”

The retroactive benefits were distributed via direct deposit or added to a recipient’s unemployment compensation “debit card.”

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Members of the media needing more information should contact Public Information Officer Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.