

April 3, 2012

**MEMORANDUM #023-12HR**

TO: Agency Administrators

FROM: Andy Snuggs, Senior Human Resources Coordinator

VIA: Rip Colvin, Executive Director

RE: HB 7027 - Extension of Eligibility Period for Unemployment Extended Benefits through the end of 2012 – Approved by the Governor

In 2009, the Legislature enacted a temporary Extended Benefits (EB) Program for unemployed individuals to qualify for Federal funds. Under this program, the Federal government pays 100 percent of temporary EB to former private sector employees. Due to Florida's high unemployment rate, temporary EB are available for the maximum of 20 weeks as provided by Federal law.

Florida's temporary EB Program was effective between February 1, 2009, and January 4, 2012. However, on December 23, 2011, Congress enacted the *Temporary Payroll Tax Cut Continuation Act of 2011* (the 2011 Tax Act), which extended the program to March 7, 2012. Recently, Congress passed the *Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*, which extended the program through the calendar year of 2012. Based on this latest extension, the Florida Legislature included language into CS/HB 7027 that will continue EB as well. Governor Scott signed the bill on March 28, 2012.

What this means for the circuits/agencies is that you will continue to see former employees, who claimed EB, on the Unemployment Compensation Quarterly Invoice through the end of 2012.

If you have any questions please contact Andy Snuggs at [Andy.Snuggs@jac.myflorida.com](mailto:Andy.Snuggs@jac.myflorida.com).

***Please note my email address has changed to [Andy.Snuggs@jac.myflorida.com](mailto:Andy.Snuggs@jac.myflorida.com).***

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