



Alabama Department of Industrial Relations

News Release

For Immediate Release: November 17, 2009

Unemployment Compensation Claimants Should Begin Certifying for Extended Benefits This Week

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Industrial Relations Director Tom Surtees announced today that Alabamians who have exhausted their Unemployment Compensation benefits should begin certifying for an extension for additional benefits on Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

Claimants who exhausted their benefits on or before **November 14, 2009** should go online to www.dir.alabama.gov or call 1-800-752-7389 to certify that they are still unemployed in order to be eligible for the extension.

“We are committed to putting these much needed dollars into the hands of those who are eligible,” said Surtees. “We understand that in many cases, Unemployment Compensation benefits are the only thing that is keeping some families afloat. However, we do ask that claimants be patient during the certification process and to certify online if possible.”

On November 6, President Obama signed legislation passed by Congress to extend Unemployment Compensation benefits.

Claimants who are eligible for the extension will be notified by mail in the near future. ALL claimants who believe they may be eligible should certify this week.

###

For more information, please contact Public Information Officer Tara Hutchison at (334) 242-8616.