Commonwealth of Virginia
Office of the Governor

Executive Order

NUMBER FIFTY-FOUR (2020)

DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE COMMISSIONER OF THE VIRGINIA EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION TO REQUEST TITLE XII ADVANCES TO SUPPORT VIRGINIA WORKERS

Importance of the Issue

Due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) public health emergency, many Virginians are out of work due to temporarily business closures, school closures, and other health-related emergencies. The United States Department of Labor is working on expanding the definition of who is eligible for unemployment benefits, an extension of time a person may be on unemployment benefits, and the amount of unemployment pay a dislocated worker receives per week. The increase in workers who are eligible as well as the increase in funds distributed to families in the Commonwealth will deplete the Virginia Unemployment Insurance Trust. The United States Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration issued guidance regarding on how to request and repay Title XII advances from the Federal Unemployment Account. Pursuant to that guidance, the Virginia Employment Commission must take action with the United States Department of Labor to secure benefits for Virginians.

Directive

Therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V of the Constitution of Virginia, § 2.2-104 of the *Code of Virginia*, and my continuing and ultimate authority and responsibility to act in such matters, I hereby affirm and delegate to the Commissioner of the Virginia Employment Commission the authority and responsibility for executing agreements with the United States Department of Labor related to implement the S.B.3548 - Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) and requesting Title XII advances from the Federal Unemployment Account.

Effective Date of this Executive Order

This Executive Order shall be effective upon its signing and shall remain in full force and effect until amended or rescinded by further executive order.

Given under my hand and under the Seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia this 28th day of March, 2020.

Ralph S. Northam, Governor

Attest:

Kelly Thomasson, Secretary of the Commonwealth