STATE *of* NEBRASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-14

CORONAVIRUS — EMERGENCY UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT RELIEF – PART 2

WHEREAS, unemployment insurance benefits are designed to provide income to individuals who are laid-off through no fault of their own and who are able and available to work;

WHEREAS, federal and state law determine the eligibility requirements for unemployment insurance benefits and how unemployment insurance benefits are charged;

WHEREAS, in order to combat the spread of COVID-19, individuals may need to stay home from work even though healthy due to possible exposure of the worker or an immediate family member to the COVID-19 virus or to care for an immediate family member as a result of a quarantine or closure of schools, daycares, or businesses; and

WHEREAS, in some circumstances, requiring workers to seek work while quarantined could effectively deny the worker any access to unemployment benefits or encourage the spread of the COVID-19 virus by forcing the worker into the community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of Nebraska, find these conditions will facilitate the granting of a waiver of certain provisions within the Nebraska Employment Security Law, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-601 to § 48-683.

Pursuant to this declaration, Executive Order No. 20-04 is hereby amended, and I order the Nebraska Department of Labor to implement the following temporary changes to provide relief to Nebraska employers and employees:

1. Continue all waivers provided in Executive Order No. 20-04 until August 1, 2020 except for paragraph (5).

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2. Clarify and replace the provisions of paragraph (5) of Executive Order 20-04 to read: Suspend certain provisions of subdivisions (1)(b) and 3(a) of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-652 and grant employers relief from charging for benefits paid to individuals eligible for unemployment benefits solely as a result of COVID-19 exposure or illness from March 22, 2020 through August 1, 2020.

3. Suspend the provisions of Neb. Rev. Stat. §48-678(2) that prevent modifications of approved short-time compensation plans from extending the end date of a plan. By modification, an employer may change a plan to any length of time allowable under Neb. Rev. Stat. § 48-676 from March 22, 2020 through August 1, 2020.

4. These provisions shall be effective for all claims filed on or after March 22, 2020 through August 1, 2020.

5. This Executive Order shall become effective immediately and shall remain in effect through the duration of the pandemic relief effort.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed on this 2nd day of April, 2020.

Pete Ricketts, Governor
State of Nebraska

Attest:

Robert B. Evnen,
Secretary of State
State of Nebraska