

# NEWS RELEASE



STATE OF ALABAMA  
Department of  
Industrial Relations  
**News For Immediate Release**  
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## **EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AVAILABLE FOR ALABAMIANS**

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, July 10, 2008 . . . . . As a result of President Bush's June 30<sup>th</sup> signing of the Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 2642), which includes the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Program, unemployed Alabamians may be eligible for up to 13 additional weeks of unemployment compensation.

"Governor Riley signed an agreement with U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao on July 1 calling for Alabama to carry out provisions of the Supplemental Appropriations Act," says Tom Surtees, director of the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations. "Under the EUC Program, as many as 13 more weeks of benefits may be available to unemployed persons who have exhausted regular state benefits on or after May 1, 2007. This should provide a significant stimulus to Alabama's economy."

On July 9, Industrial Relations began mailing information and instructions on filing for benefits to potentially eligible workers. The first payable week of EUC benefits is the week ending Saturday, July 12.

Additional details are available on the Industrial Relations Web site, [www.dir.alabama.gov](http://www.dir.alabama.gov).

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Industrial Relations is an umbrella organization of State government which administers: the Employment Services, Unemployment Insurance, Workers' Compensation, and Labor Market Information. Smaller programs also administered include Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation, Mine Safety and Inspection, and Surface Mining of Non-Fuel Minerals. For more information on Industrial Relations, visit the Web site: <http://dir.alabama.gov>.