



Alabama Department of Labor

News Release

For Immediate Release: March 9, 2016

Employees of Fritz Enterprises May Be Eligible for Additional Benefits

MONTGOMERY – Current and former employees of Fritz Enterprises, Inc., located in Fairfield, who were engaged in activities related to the supply of steel mill services, may be eligible for benefits under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance Reauthorization Act (TAARA) of 2015. A petition certified on behalf of workers of Fritz Enterprises, Inc., in Fairfield was certified by the U. S. Department of Labor on Feb. 21, 2016 according to Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Fitzgerald Washington.

The U. S. Department of Labor found that the workers may have become unemployed because Fritz Enterprises, Inc., is a supplier to a firm that produces and supplies directly to another firm component parts for articles, or services used in the production of articles or in the supply of services that were the basis for such certification. The petition covers periods of unemployment occurring on or after Jan. 1, 2014 through Feb. 21, 2018. Under the TAARA 2015 Act, displaced workers may be eligible for benefits such as training, job search and relocation assistance, and Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC). For additional information on the HCTC, they can visit irs.gov/HCTC.

If workers have exhausted their cash benefits under other state and federal unemployment compensation programs, they could be eligible for additional weekly benefits equivalent to the amount they were receiving under other programs. In order to receive Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA) benefits, workers must be enrolled in training the later of 26 weeks after the certification date or after their last qualifying separation or a waiver of the training requirement must be granted by the state Employment Service Division of the Alabama Department of Labor.

Fritz Enterprises, Inc., was also certified for Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance (RTAA). Employees who are 50 years of age and older, who obtain full time employment after their separation from the affected employer, may be eligible for allowances under the RTAA program.

Washington stated that potentially eligible individuals will be notified individually as soon as they are identified.

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Members of the media seeking more information should contact Kelly Betts at (334) 353-1548.