CERTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
EMERGENCY RULE FILED WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

I hereby certify that an immediate danger to the public health, safety or welfare requires emergency action and that the attached rule is necessitated by the immediate danger. I further certify that the procedures used in the promulgation of this emergency rule were fair under the circumstances and that the rule otherwise complies with section 120.54(4), F.S. The adoption of this rule was authorized by the head of the agency and this rule is hereby adopted upon its filing with the Department of State.

Rule No(s).

73BER20-2

Under the provision of section 120.54(4)(d), F.S., this rule takes effect upon filing unless a later time and date less than 20 days from filing, is set out below:

Signature, Person Authorized to Certify Rules
Executive Director, Department of Economic Opportunity

Title

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Number of Pages Certified
NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULE

RULE NO.: 73BER20-2  RULE TITLE: Determinations to Liable Employers

SPECIFIC REASONS FOR FINDING AN IMMEDIATE DANGER TO THE PUBLIC, HEALTH, SAFETY OR WELFARE:

The Department has received an unprecedented surge in reemployment assistance claims due to COVID-19, which has resulted in an increased burden on impacted employers to review notices of charges to their accounts. The Department has determined that additional time is needed for impacted employers to review Form RT-1, Notice of Benefits Paid and RT-29, Reemployment Tax Reimbursement Notice and request redeterminations. The additional time is in the interest of the public welfare as it provides a measure of relief to impacted employers by facilitating and promoting accuracy with regard to charges, invoices, and credits to an impacted employer’s account.

REASONS FOR CONCLUDING THAT THE PROCEDURE USED IS FAIR UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES:

The additional time allowed by this emergency rule for impacted employers to review Form RT-1, Notice of Benefits Paid and RT-29, Reemployment Tax Reimbursement Notice applies equally to both contributing and reimbursing employers. The emergency rule procedure is necessitated by the unprecedented increase in claims for reemployment assistance and the corresponding requirements placed on impacted employers.

SUMMARY OF THE RULE:

As it relates to notices of benefits paid and charges, invoiced, or credited, Florida Administrative Code Rule 73B-10.026 (1)(a) states as follows:

Requests for Redetermination. The information contained on the notification is conclusive and binding unless the employer files a written request for redetermination with DEO within 20 days of the mailing date of the notification. Such request will not serve to protest determinations, redeterminations, decisions, or orders issued pursuant to Section 443.151, F.S.

This emergency rule states that notwithstanding the above provision if no request for redetermination has heretofore been timely submitted by an impacted employer, an impacted employer’s request for a redetermination for charges incurred between March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, as reflected on quarterly notices to impacted employers for this time period, shall be timely if filed by January 29, 2021 or 20 days from the date of mailing reflected on the
notice, whichever is later. This extension for redetermination applies only to requests to remove benefits charged that are made for documented COVID related reasons (i.e. executive order or local order reducing business activity, occupancy, or the like in order to prevent the spread of disease, unemployment due to a requirement to isolate or quarantine as directed by CDC guidelines, etc.).

THE PERSON TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING THE EMERGENCY RULE IS:

Mark A. Buckles at mark.buckles@deo.myflorida.com

THE FULL TEXT OF THE EMERGENCY RULE IS:

73BER20-2 73B-10.026 Determinations to Liable Employers

(1) Notice of Benefits Paid and Charged, Invoiced, or Credited. A statement mailed to the employer within 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter will include the name and social security number of each claimant for whom benefits were charged, invoiced, or credited to the employer’s account during the previous calendar quarter. Notification to contributing employers is provided on Form RT-1, Notice of Benefits Paid. Notification to reimbursing employers is provided on Form RT-29, Reemployment Tax Reimbursement Invoice.

(a) Requests for Redetermination. The information contained on the notification is conclusive and binding unless the employer files a written request for redetermination with DEO within 20 days of the mailing date of the notification. Such request will not serve to protest determinations, redeterminations, decisions, or orders issued pursuant to section 443.151, F.S. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if no request for redetermination has heretofore been timely submitted by an impacted employer, an impacted employer’s request for a redetermination for charges incurred between March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, as reflected on quarterly notices to impacted employers for this time period, shall be timely if filed by January 29, 2021 or 20 days from the date of mailing reflected on the notice, whichever is later. This extension for redetermination applies only to requests to remove benefits charged that are made for documented COVID related reasons (i.e. executive order or local order reducing business activity, occupancy, or the like in order
to prevent the spread of disease, unemployment due to a requirement to isolate or quarantine as directed by
CDC guidelines, etc.).

(b) No change.
(c) No change.

(2) No change.
(3) No change.
(4) No change.

(5) Rule 73B-10.026 F.A.C. is hereby superseded by the present rule Emergency Rule 73BER20-2 for no longer
than the time Emergency Rule 73BER20-2 is in effect.

Rulemaking Authority 443.1317 FS. Law Implemented 443.131(3), 443.1312, 443.1313, 443.141(2)(b), 443.151(3)(c).
(d), (4)(b) FS. History—New 8-25-92, Formerly 38B-2.026, Amended 1-19-03, 7-18-06, Formerly 60BB-2.026,
Amended 6-2-14, 10-16-17, _____________.

THIS RULE TAKES EFFECT UPON BEING FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE UNLESS A LATER
TIME AND DATE IS SPECIFIED IN THE RULE.
CERTIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DESIGNATION OF RULE THE VIOLATION OF WHICH IS A MINOR VIOLATION

Pursuant to Section 120.695(2)(c)3, Florida Statutes, I certify as agency head, as defined by section 20.05(1)(b), Florida Statutes, that:

[ ] All rules covered by this certification are not rules the violation of which would be minor violation pursuant to Section 120.695, F.S.

[ ] The following parts of the rules covered by this certification have been designated as rules the violation of which would be a minor violation pursuant to Section 120.695, F.S.:

Rule No(s).

Rules covered by this certification:

Rule No(s.) 73BER20-2

Signature of Agency Head

Executive Director, Department of Economic Opportunity

Title

Form: DS-FCR-6
Rule 1-1.010(3)(f), F.A.C.; effective 10-17