

Legislative Updates

January 26, 2021

Alabama

Safety Precautions

On January 21, 2021, Gov. Kay Ivey extended the State's safer-at-home order and mask requirement through March 5, 2021.

Alabama

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 3.9 in December from 4.1 in November.

Alaska

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 5.8 in December from 6.3 in November.

Arizona

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 7.5 in December from 8.0 in November.

Arkansas

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.2 in December from 6.3 in November.

Arkansas

City of Fort Smith

On January 19, 2021, the City Directors voted to repeal the City's pending alcohol tax increase. The tax will remain at 5%.

California

Safety Precautions

On January 25, 2021, Gov. Gavin Newsom announced that the State's stay-at-home order had been terminated along with the 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. curfew. All counties will remain in the "Purple Zone" in the State's reopening plan.

California

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 9.0 in December from 8.1 in November.

California

City of Oakland

On January 19, 2021, the City Council extended an ordinance requiring businesses with 50 or more employees to provide 80 hours of paid sick leave to workers affected by COVID-19.

California

City of Long Beach

On January 19, 2021, the City Council approved an ordinance requiring grocery stores with 300 or more employees nationwide or fifteen employees in a location to compensate their employees temporarily with an additional \$4.00 per hour.

Colorado

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 8.4 in December from 6.0 in November.

Connecticut

Sexual Harassment Training

Effective February 9, 2021, employers must provide training to supervisors. An employer with three or more employees is required to provide training to all employees. The original deadline for providing the training was October 1, 2020. Due to COVID-19, it has since been rescheduled for February 9, 2021.

Connecticut

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 8.0 in December from 8.2 in November.

Delaware

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 5.3 in December from 5.1 in November.

Florida

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 6.1 in December from 6.3 in November.

Florida

Palm Beach County

Effective January 12, 2021 the County's "Equal Employment Ordinance" now applies to employers with five through fourteen employees. The ordinance covers: discrimination based on individual race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, familial status, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression and genetic information.

Florida

Indian River County

On January 19, 2021, the County Commissioners approved an extension to their mask requirement for the next six months.

Georgia

Business Operations

On January 22, 2021, Gov. Brian Kemp announced that healthcare workers (physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants) are not required to be directly supervised to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.

Georgia

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 5.6 in December from 5.7 in November.

Georgia

Butts County

On January 15, 2021 the Board of Commissioners enacted a mask requirement for all individuals. The mandate will remain in place until the Board votes to terminate it.

Georgia

City of Atlanta

On January 22, 2021, Superintendent of Atlanta Public Schools announced a delay in beginning in class instruction. Grades 3–5 will return on February 8, 2021. Grades 6-12 will return on February 16, 2021.

Hawaii

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 9.3 in December from 10.4 in November.

Idaho

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.4 in December from 4.9 in November.

Illinois

Safety Precautions

On January 21, 2021, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced Region 6 (Champaign, Clark, Clay, Coles, Crawford, Cumberland, De Witt, Douglas, Edgar, Effingham, Fayette, Ford, Iroquois, Jasper, Lawrence, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, Richland, Shelby, Vermillion) is returning to Phase 4 of the Restore Plan and Region 7 (Kankakee and Will) is advancing to Tier 1.

Illinois

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 7.6 in December from 6.9 in November.

Illinois

City of Springfield

On January 20, 2021, the City Council extended its mask requirement and non-adherence fines. In addition, bars may now remain open until 1:00 a.m. while obeying State health guidelines.

Illinois

Cook County

On January 23, 2021, the Department of Health announced that restaurants and bars that serve food may reopen for indoor dining. Capacity is limited to 25% or 25 individuals.

Indiana

Safety Precautions

On January 22, 2021, Gov. Eric Holcomb announced an extension of the State's facial mask requirements through January 31, 2021.

Indiana

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.3 in December from 5.1 in November.

Indiana

Floyd County

On January 20, 2021, County health officer, Dr. Thomas Harris extended the 10:00 p.m. curfew for restaurants, bars and nightclubs. In addition, the maximum seating capacity for restaurants is 75%.

Iowa

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 3.1 in December from 3.8 in November.

Iowa

City of Cedar Falls

On January 21, 2021, the City Council extended its mask requirement through March 3, 2021 for individuals over the age of five.

Kansas

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 5.1 in December from 3.8 in November.

Kansas

Dodge City

On January 19, 2021, the City Commission voted to terminate the City's mask requirement in place since November.

Kentucky

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 6.0 in December from 5.7 in November.

Louisiana

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 7.2 in December from 8.5 in November.

Maine

Safety Precautions

On January 19, 2021, Gov. Janet Mills extended the State's COVID-19 emergency order until February 17, 2021.

Maine

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate remained at 4.9 in December.

Maryland

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 6.3 in December from 6.8 in November.

Maryland

City of Baltimore

Effective January 22, 2021, Mayor Brandon Scott allows restaurants to reopen for indoor and outdoor service. Customers are limited to one hour and are required to give their contact information upon entry.

Massachusetts

Business Operations

On January 21, 2021, Gov. Charlie Baker announced an end to the statewide business curfew and nighttime stay-at-home advisory. The 25% capacity limitation for restaurants, offices, stores and recreational businesses remains in place.

Massachusetts

Safety Precautions

On January 21, 2021, Gov. Charlie Baker announced that the State would remain in the first step of Phase 3 of its reopening plan.

Massachusetts

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 7.4 in December from 6.7 in November.

Michigan

Business Operations

On January 21, 2021, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer announced that indoor dining can resume on February 1, 2021. In addition, an order will be issued permitting gatherings of up to ten individuals from two households to occur.

Michigan

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 7.5 in December from 7.0 in November.

Michigan

City of East Lansing

On January 19, 2021, the City Council extended the state of emergency and mask requirement for the downtown area until February 28, 2021.

Minnesota

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.4 in December from 4.5 in November.

Mississippi

Safety Precautions

On January 15, 2021, Gov. Tate Reeves extended his executive order requiring masks be worn by individuals over the age of six in 73 counties.

Mississippi

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 6.2 in December from 6.3 in November.

Missouri

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 5.8 in December from 4.5 in November.

Missouri

Camden County

On January 19, 2021, the County Commission approved an ordinance designed to protect the 2nd Amendment rights of residents in keeping with federal acts, laws, orders, rules, and regulations.

Missouri

Jefferson County

On January 20, 2021, the County Board of Trustees approved an extension of the County's mask mandate until February 25, 2021.

Montana

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.4 in December from 4.6 in November.

Montana

Gallatin County

On January 20, 2021, the County Health Board extended its mask requirement.

Nebraska

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate remained at 3.0 in December.

Nevada

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 9.2 in December from 10.4 in November.

Nevada

City of Las Vegas

Effective January 22, 2021, the City Council's bill to allow restaurants in the City to have alcohol delivered by a third-party delivery service (Uber Eats, Postmates, DoorDash) takes place.

New Hampshire

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 4.0 in December from 3.9 in November.

New Jersey

Safety Precautions

On January 19, 2021, Gov. Phil Murphy announced an extension of the State's COVID-19 emergency order through February 17, 2021.

New Jersey

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 7.6 in December from 10.2 in November.

New Mexico

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 8.2 in December from 7.2 in November.

New York

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 8.2 in December from 8.4 in November.

North Carolina

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate remained at 6.2 in December.

North Carolina

City of Durham

On January 19, 2021, the City Council approved an ordinance protecting individuals from discrimination due to hairstyle.

North Carolina

City of Greensboro

On January 19, 2021, the City Council approved an ordinance protecting individuals from discrimination due to hairstyle.

North Dakota

Safety Precautions

On January 18, 2020 Gov. Doug Burgum's statewide mask mandate expired.

North Dakota

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.1 in December from 4.5 in November.

Ohio

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 7.2 in December from 8.5 in November.

Oklahoma

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 5.5 in December from 5.7 in November.

Oklahoma

Oklahoma City

On January 19, 2021, the City Council announced an extension to the City's face mask mandate through March 5, 2021.

Oregon

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 6.4 in December from 6.0 in November.

Pennsylvania

Unemployment Benefits

On January 22, 2021, Department of Labor & Industry (L&I) Acting Secretary Jennifer Berrier announced that payments for the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program in the new federal CARES Act extension will resume the week of January 24, 2021.

Pennsylvania

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 6.7 in December from 6.5 in November.

Pennsylvania

City of Philadelphia

On January 22, 2021, the City announced the availability of up to \$15,000 in grants to assist restaurants and gyms effected by COVID-19.

Rhode Island

Safety Precautions

On January 19, 2021, Gov. Gina Raimondo announced an extension of the State's COVID-19 emergency order through February 17, 2021.

Rhode Island

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 8.1 in December from 7.3 in November.

South Carolina

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 4.6 in December from 4.4 in November.

South Dakota

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 3.0 in December from 3.5 in November.

Tennessee

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 6.4 in December from 5.2 in November.

Tennessee

Dyer County

On January 19, 2021, County Mayor Chris Young announced the County's face mask requirement was extended until February 27, 2021.

Texas

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 7.2 in December from 8.1 in November.

Texas

Williamson County

On January 19, 2021, the County Commissioners Court approved increased aid for rent and utility assistance for those affected by COVID-19. Those requesting assistance should contact the Round Rock Area Serving Center, The Caring Place, The Salvation Army or Hill Country Community Ministries.

Utah

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 3.6 in December from 4.3 in November.

Vermont

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 3.1 in December from 3.0 in November.

Virginia

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 4.9 in December from 4.8 in November.

Washington

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 7.1 in December from 5.7 in November.

Washington

Skagit County

On January 15, 2021, the County Board of Health announced that individuals not wearing a face mask would receive a fine.

Washington D.C.

Worker Protection

Effective February 1, 2021, the Displaced Workers Right to Reinstatement and Retention Amendment Act of 2020 requires retail and hospitality employers with fifty or more employees to reinstate workers displaced during the COVID-19 emergency before offering positions to other applicants.

Washington D.C.

Unemployment Rate

The District unemployment rate rose to 7.9 in December from 7.5 in November.

West Virginia

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate remained at 6.3 in December.

Wisconsin

Safety Precautions

On January 19, 2021, Gov. Tony Evers announced that he was extending the State's public health emergency and the statewide mask requirement until March 20, 2021.

Wisconsin

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate rose to 5.5 in December from 5.3 in November.

Wisconsin

City of Wausau

On January 18, 2021, the Public Health and Safety Committee voted to extend the City's mask mandate until March 31, 2021.

Wyoming

Business Operations

On January 21, 2021, Gov. Mark Gordon announced that indoor gatherings had a maximum capacity of 25% or 250 people. Outdoor gatherings have a maximum of 500 individuals.

Wyoming

Unemployment Rate

The State unemployment rate fell to 4.8 in December from 5.1 in November.

The information contained in this document is intended for educational purposes and to provide a general understanding of regulatory events, legislative changes and the law – not to provide specific legal advice.