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# State of Oregon **Employment Appeals Board** 875 Union St. N.E. Salem, OR 97311

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# EMPLOYMENT APPEALS BOARD DECISION 2022-EAB-0347

# Affirmed Late Request for Hearing Dismissed

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:** On August 6, 2021, the Oregon Employment Department (the Department) served notice of an administrative decision concluding that claimant had failed to register for work in accordance with the Department's rules and therefore was ineligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits for the week of July 18, 2021 through July 24, 2021 (week 29-21) and until the reason for the denial had ended. On August 26, 2021, the August 6, 2021 administrative decision became final without claimant having filed a request for hearing. On September 16, 2021, claimant filed a late request for hearing on the August 6, 2021 administrative decision. ALJ Kangas considered claimant's request, and on December 14, 2021 issued Order No. 21-UI-181886, dismissing claimant's request for hearing as late, subject to claimant's right to renew the request by responding to an appellant questionnaire by December 28, 2021. On January 3, 2022, claimant filed a late response to the appellant questionnaire and a timely application for review of Order No. 21-UI-181886 with the Employment Appeals Board (EAB). On March 15, 2022, ALJ Kangas mailed a letter stating that the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) would not consider claimant's questionnaire response or issue another order regarding this matter because the questionnaire response was late. This matter comes before EAB based upon claimant's January 3, 2022 application for review of Order No. 21-UI-181886.

**EVIDENTIARY MATTER:** EAB has considered additional evidence when reaching this decision under OAR 471-041-0090(1) (May 13, 2019). The additional evidence consists of claimant's January 3, 2022 response to the appellant questionnaire, and has been marked as EAB Exhibit 1, and a copy provided to the parties with this decision. Any party that objects to our admitting EAB Exhibit 1 must submit such objection to this office in writing, setting forth the basis of the objection in writing, within ten days of our mailing this decision. OAR 471-041-0090(2). Unless such objection is received and sustained, the exhibit will remain in the record.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:** (1) On August 6, 2021, the Department mailed the August 6, 2021 administrative decision to claimant's address on file with the Department. The August 6, 2021

administrative decision stated, "You have the right to appeal this decision if you do not believe it is correct. Your request for appeal must be received no later than 08/26/21." Exhibit 1 at 1.

# CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS: Claimant's late request for hearing is dismissed.

ORS 657.269 provides that the Department's decisions become final unless a party files a request for hearing within 20 days after the date the decision is mailed. ORS 657.875 provides that the 20-day deadline may be extended a "reasonable time" upon a showing of "good cause." OAR 471-040-0010 (February 10, 2012) provides that "good cause" includes factors beyond an applicant's reasonable control or an excusable mistake, and defines "reasonable time" as seven days after those factors ceased to exist.

The request for hearing on the August 6, 2021 administrative decision was due by August 26, 2021. Because claimant did not file their request for hearing until September 16, 2021, the request was late. On their appellant questionnaire response, claimant indicated that they received the administrative decision on January 31, 2021. EAB Exhibit 1 at 1. This is presumed to be an error because the decision was not issued until August 6, 2021. Claimant did not otherwise indicate when they received the decision. Under ORS 40.135(1)(q), a letter duly directed and mailed is presumed to have been received in the regular course of the mail. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that claimant received it within a few business days of when it was mailed, during the second week of August 2021.

Claimant also indicated on their questionnaire response that they filed the request for hearing late because they were "out of town due to the holidays" and "did not check the mail," and also suggested that the request for hearing was filed late due to "inclement weather." EAB Exhibit 1 at 2. It is not clear from claimant's statement which holidays they were referring to in their response, how long they were away from home, or how "inclement weather" might have prevented them from filing a timely request for hearing. Based on the limited information provided in the questionnaire response, claimant has not shown that they were unable to file a timely request for hearing due to factors beyond their reasonable control.

Further, although claimant's failure to file a timely request for hearing was likely the result of a mistake on claimant's part, claimant did not show that it was an "excusable mistake" within the meaning of the administrative rules because it did not, for example, raise a due process issue, and was not the result of inadequate notice, reasonable reliance on another, or the inability to follow directions despite substantial efforts to comply.

Therefore, claimant's late request for hearing on the August 6, 2021 administrative decision is subject to dismissal under ORS 657.875 and OAR 471-040-0010.

DECISION: Order No. 21-UI-181886 is affirmed.

D. Hettle and A. Steger-Bentz; S. Alba, not participating.

# DATE of Service: March 21, 2022

**NOTE:** You may appeal this decision by filing a Petition for Judicial Review with the Oregon Court of Appeals within 30 days of the date of service listed above. *See* ORS 657.282. For forms and information, you may write to the Oregon Court of Appeals, Records Section, 1163 State Street, Salem, Oregon 97310 or visit the Court of Appeals website at courts.oregon.gov. Once on the website, use the 'search' function to search for 'petition for judicial review employment appeals board'. A link to the forms and information will be among the search results.

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# **Understanding Your Employment Appeals Board Decision**

### English

Attention – This decision affects your unemployment benefits. If you do not understand this decision, contact the Employment Appeals Board immediately. If you do not agree with this decision, you may file a Petition for Judicial Review with the Oregon Court of Appeals following the instructions written at the end of the decision.

#### Simplified Chinese

注意 – 本判决会影响您的失业救济金。如果您不明白本判决,请立即联系就业上诉委员会。如果您不同意此判决,您可以按照该判决结尾所写的说明,向俄勒冈州上诉法院提出司法复审申请。

#### Traditional Chinese

注意 – 本判決會影響您的失業救濟金。如果您不明白本判決,請立即聯繫就業上訴委員會。如果您不同意此判決,您可以按照該判決結尾所寫的說明,向俄勒岡州上訴法院提出司法複審申請。

#### Tagalog

Paalala – Nakakaapekto ang desisyong ito sa iyong mga benepisyo sa pagkawala ng trabaho. Kung hindi mo naiintindihan ang desisyong ito, makipag-ugnayan kaagad sa Lupon ng mga Apela sa Trabaho (Employment Appeals Board). Kung hindi ka sumasang-ayon sa desisyong ito, maaari kang maghain ng isang Petisyon sa Pagsusuri ng Hukuman (Petition for Judicial Review) sa Hukuman sa Paghahabol (Court of Appeals) ng Oregon na sinusunod ang mga tagubilin na nakasulat sa dulo ng desisyon.

#### Vietnamese

Chú ý - Quyết định này ảnh hưởng đến trợ cấp thất nghiệp của quý vị. Nếu quý vị không hiểu quyết định này, hãy liên lạc với Ban Kháng Cáo Việc Làm ngay lập tức. Nếu quý vị không đồng ý với quyết định này, quý vị có thể nộp Đơn Xin Tái Xét Tư Pháp với Tòa Kháng Cáo Oregon theo các hướng dẫn được viết ra ở cuối quyết định này.

#### Spanish

Atención – Esta decisión afecta sus beneficios de desempleo. Si no entiende esta decisión, comuníquese inmediatamente con la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo. Si no está de acuerdo con esta decisión, puede presentar una Aplicación de Revisión Judicial ante el Tribunal de Apelaciones de Oregon siguiendo las instrucciones escritas al final de la decisión.

#### Russian

Внимание – Данное решение влияет на ваше пособие по безработице. Если решение Вам непонятно – немедленно обратитесь в Апелляционный Комитет по Трудоустройству. Если Вы не согласны с принятым решением, вы можете подать Ходатайство о Пересмотре Судебного Решения в Апелляционный Суд штата Орегон, следуя инструкциям, описанным в конце решения.

Oregon Employment Department • www.Employment.Oregon.gov • FORM200 (1018) • Page 1 of 2

# Khmer

ចំណុចសំខាន់ – សេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះមានផលប៉ះពាល់ដល់អត្ថប្រយោជន៍គ្មានការងារធ្វើរបស់លោកអ្នក។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិន យល់អំពីសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ សូមទាក់ទងគណៈកម្មការឧទ្ធរណ៍ការងារភ្លាមៗ។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិនយល់ស្របចំពោះសេចក្តី សម្រេចនេះទេ លោកអ្នកអាចដាក់ពាក្យប្តឹងសុំឲ្យមានការពិនិត្យរឿងក្តីឡើងវិញជាមួយតុលារឧទ្ធរណ៍រដ្ឋ Oregon ដោយអនុវត្តតាម សេចក្តីណែនាំដែលសរសេរនៅខាងចុងបញ្ចប់នៃសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ។

# Laotian

ເອົາໃຈໃສ່ – ຄຳຕັດສິນນີ້ມີຜືນກະທົບຕໍ່ກັບເງິນຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອການຫວ່າງງານຂອງທ່ານ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຂົ້າໃຈຄຳຕັດສິນນີ້, ກະລຸນາຕິດຕໍ່ຫາຄະນະກຳມະການ ອຸທອນການຈ້າງງານໃນທັນທີ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຫັນດີນຳຄຳຕັດສິນນີ້, ທ່ານສາມາດຍື່ນຄຳຮ້ອງຂໍການທົບທວນຄຳຕັດສິນນຳສານອຸທອນລັດ Oregon ໄດ້ ໂດຍປະຕິບັດຕາມຄຳແນະນຳທີ່ບອກໄວ້ຢູ່ຕອນທ້າຍຂອງຄຳຕັດສິນນີ້.

# Arabic

هذا القرار قد يؤثر على منحة البطالة الخاصة بك، إذا لم تفهم هذا القرار، إتصل بمجلس مناز عات العمل فورا، و إذا كنت لا توافق على هذا القرار، يمكنك رفع شكوى للمراجعة القانونية بمحكمة الإستئناف بأوريغون و ذلك بإتباع الإرشادات المدرجة أسفل القرار.

## Farsi

توجه - این حکم بر مزایای بیکاری شما تاثیر می گذارد. اگر با این تصمیم موافق نیستید، بلافاصله با هیأت فرجام خواهی استخدام تماس بگیرید. اگر از این حکم رضایت ندارید، میتوانید با استفاده از دستور العمل موجود در پایان آن، از دادگاه تجدید نظر اورگان درخواست تجدید نظر کنید.

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Oregon Employment Department • www.Employment.Oregon.gov • FORM200 (1018) • Page 2 of 2