

EMPLOYMENT APPEALS BOARD DECISION
2024-EAB-0082

Reversed & Remanded

PROCEDURAL HISTORY: On September 29, 2023, the Oregon Employment Department (the Department) served notice of an administrative decision concluding that claimant failed to provide information in accordance with the Department's rules and was therefore ineligible to receive unemployment insurance benefits for the weeks of September 10, 2023, through September 23, 2023 (weeks 37-23 through 38-23) and until the reason for the denial ended (decision # 91151). On October 19, 2023, decision # 91151 became final without claimant having requested a hearing. On November 7, 2023, claimant filed a late request for hearing. ALJ Kangas considered claimant's request, and on November 20, 2023, issued Order No. 23-UI-241587, dismissing claimant's request as late, subject to claimant's right to renew the request by responding to an appellant questionnaire by December 4, 2023. On December 5, 2023, claimant filed a late response to the appellant questionnaire and a timely application for review with the Employment Appeals Board (EAB). On January 26, 2024, ALJ Kangas mailed a letter to claimant stating that because the appellant questionnaire response was late, it would not be considered, and another order would not be issued regarding the matter. This matter comes before EAB based upon claimant's December 5, 2023, application for review of Order No. 23-UI-241587.

EVIDENTIARY MATTER: EAB has considered additional evidence when reaching this decision under OAR 471-041-0090(1) (May 13, 2019). The additional evidence is the written statement accompanying claimant's application for review, which is the response to the appellant questionnaire attached to Order No. 23-UI-241587, 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.

FINDING OF FACT: (1) Decision # 91151, mailed to claimant on September 29, 2023, 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 October 19, 2023." Exhibit 1 at 2.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS: Order No. 23-UI-241587 is set aside and the matter remanded for further proceedings to determine whether claimant’s late request for hearing should be allowed and, if so, the merits of decision # 91151.

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 deadline to request a hearing on decision # 91151 was October 19, 2023. Because claimant filed their request for hearing on November 7, 2023, the request was late. In the appellant questionnaire, claimant was asked when they received decision # 91151, to which they replied, “12/4/2023.” EAB Exhibit 1 at 1. This suggests that claimant did not understand the question and was instead referring to the date they received Order No. 23-UI-241587. It is therefore unclear when claimant received decision # 91151, or if a delay in receiving that decision prevented timely filing. Additionally, claimant wrote in the questionnaire response that they filed their request for hearing by telephone. EAB Exhibit 1 at 1. As the only request for hearing received by the Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) was filed by claimant online on November 7, 2023, claimant’s response suggests that they may have attempted to file an appeal by phone prior to that date. *See* Exhibit 1 at 1. Further development of the record is therefore needed to determine whether claimant’s late request for hearing should be allowed.

On remand, inquiry should be made into whether and when claimant received decision # 91151, when and how claimant first attempted to file a request for hearing, and whether factors beyond claimant’s reasonable control or an excusable mistake prevented them from timely filing the request. Further, if good cause is found to extend the deadline for timely filing, inquiry should be made into when the factors that prevented timely filing ceased, and whether claimant filed their request for hearing within a “reasonable time” thereafter.

For these reasons, Order No. 23-UI-241587 is set aside and the matter remanded for further proceedings to determine whether claimant’s late request for hearing should be allowed and, if so, the merits of decision # 91151.

DECISION: Order No. 23-UI-241587 is set aside, and this matter remanded for further proceedings consistent with this order.

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

DATE of Service: January 30, 2024

NOTE: The failure of any party to appear at the hearing on remand will not reinstate Order No. 23-UI-241587 or return this matter to EAB. Only a timely application for review of the subsequent order will cause this matter to return to EAB.

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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。

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 desisyong ito.

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.

Khmer

ចំណុចសំខាន់ – សេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះមានផលប៉ះពាល់ដល់អត្ថប្រយោជន៍គ្មានការងារធ្វើរបស់លោកអ្នក។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិនយល់អំពីសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ សូមទាក់ទងគណៈកម្មការឧទ្ធរណ៍ការងារភ្លាមៗ។ ប្រសិនបើលោកអ្នកមិនយល់ស្របចំពោះសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះទេ លោកអ្នកអាចដាក់ពាក្យប្តឹងសុំឲ្យមានការពិនិត្យរឿងក្តីឡើងវិញជាមួយតុលាការឧទ្ធរណ៍រដ្ឋ Oregon ដោយអនុវត្តតាមសេចក្តីណែនាំដែលសរសេរនៅខាងចុងបញ្ចប់នៃសេចក្តីសម្រេចនេះ។

Laotian

ເອົາໃຈໃສ່ – ຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້ມີຜົນກະທົບຕໍ່ກັບເງິນຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອການຫວ່າງງານຂອງທ່ານ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຂົ້າໃຈຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້, ກະລຸນາຕິດຕໍ່ຫາຄະນະກຳມະການອຸທອນການຈ້າງງານໃນທັນທີ. ຖ້າທ່ານບໍ່ເຫັນດີນຳຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້, ທ່ານສາມາດຍື່ນຄໍາຮ້ອງຂໍການທົບທວນຄໍາຕັດສິນນຳສານອຸທອນລັດ Oregon ໄດ້ໂດຍປະຕິບັດຕາມຄໍາແນະນຳທີ່ບອກໄວ້ຢູ່ຕອນທ້າຍຂອງຄໍາຕັດສິນນີ້.

Arabic

هذا القرار قد يؤثر على منحة البطالة الخاصة بك، إذا لم تفهم هذا القرار، إتصل بمجلس منازعات العمل فوراً، و إذا كنت لا توافق على هذا القرار، يمكنك رفع شكوى للمراجعة القانونية بمحكمة الاستئناف 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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