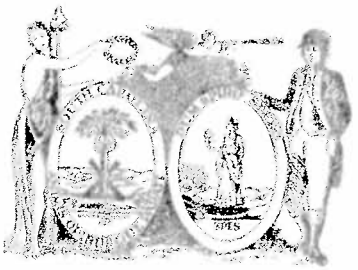
State of South Carolina
Executive Department

FILED

JAN 24 2012

Mark Hammond
SECRETARY OF STATE



Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2012-02

WHEREAS, this Administration is determined to cultivate economic opportunity, reduce the burden of unemployment taxes, and expose costly abuse of public benefits while ensuring that South Carolina workers continue to enjoy a right to work that cannot be denied or abridged; and

WHEREAS, South Carolina law prohibits striking union members from receiving unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, unemployment benefits can considerably exceed strike pay received by union members who walk off the job, creating a strong incentive for union members to wrongfully claim unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, the wrongdoing of a few jeopardizes opportunity for those hardworking South Carolinians who display a strong work ethic, value loyalty, and take pride in their work; and

WHEREAS, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation is charged with investigating, reporting, and resolving labor disputes, and the South Carolina Department of Employment and Workforce is charged with administering unemployment benefits in this state; and

WHEREAS, coordination between these agencies is essential to ensuring that state government remains efficient, avoids duplication, and consistently applies South Carolina law prohibiting unemployment benefits for workers participating in a labor dispute and providing an additional safeguard to South Carolina businesses as they attempt to keep their costs low and predictable.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Governor, pursuant to the Constitution and Statutes of the State of South Carolina, I hereby direct the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation to immediately report all

indications of labor disputes to the Department of Employment and Workforce to ensure the uniform and effective enforcement of Section 41-35-120 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, which prohibits striking workers from receiving unemployment benefits.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 24TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2012.

NIKKI R. HALEY

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
SECRETARY OF STATE