



VIOLA DAVIS
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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STANDING COMMITTEES
INSURANCE
INTERSTATE COOPERATION
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

December 14, 2020

Chris Carr, Attorney General
Georgia Department of Law
40 Capitol Square, SW
Atlanta GA 30334

Dear Sir:

In our official capacity as members of the Georgia House of Representatives, we are requesting that your office immediately file for:

- 1) A true audit of the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) Unemployment Insurance claims processing and payment system based on the department's adherence to the federal regulation to pay claims in a timely manner. Each county's number of claims are documented on the Georgia Department of Labor's website and Commissioner Mark Butler is required to give an annual report to the federal Department of Labor to prove payments were made in a timely manner. The information should be readily available.
- 2) An independent investigation by the Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), to further investigate allegations of irregularities and alleged fraud at the Georgia Department of Labor.

While the Georgia Department of Labor has the authority to investigate and report, we are convinced that another set of eyes, preferable sworn officers, would be in the public's best interest.

We are prompting this request due to unemployment complaints, allegations, and/or statements made by constituents to members of the Georgia House of Representatives throughout the COVID-19 pandemic when Governor Brian Kemp declared a Public Health State of Emergency for Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).



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Many of the allegations and reports given should be easily investigated as to factuality. All citizens should feel comfortable with the credibility of the processing and payment system of the Georgia Department of Labor, and at this time there are many unanswered questions.

The Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) Commissioner Mark Butler cancelled his call with the Senate Democratic Caucus scheduled for August 5, 2020. Due to the GDOL offices remaining closed, while the Department of Drivers Services is fully open and serving the public, tens of thousands of unemployment valid claims have yet to be paid.

Commissioner Butler does not understand that Representatives are expected to answer the concerns of their constituents when his office does not respond to constituent inquiries and phone calls because the GDOL lacks a call center or open and accessible field offices to answer those constituent inquiries or phone calls. Accordingly, Commissioner Butler has allowed thousands of phone calls and inquiries from Georgia citizens to go unanswered. It was stated by one Senator, "GDOL being overwhelmed is understandable...Being inaccessible is unconscionable."

Several videos of Zoom meetings and our online broadcast are available for you to review. We have video complaints, allegations, and/or statements of claimants and constituents, as well as concerns of committee members. Please feel free to contact us for any further details that may help implement this request for an investigation and audit.

Trust but verify!

With Kindest Regards,



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Representative Viola Davis

GHDC Subcommittee COVID-19 Response Team

/s/ Rep. William Boddie (D-East Point)

/s/ Rep. Rhonda Burnough (D-Riverdale)

/s/ Rep. Viola Davis (D-Stone Mountain)

/s/ Rep. Donna McLeod (D-Lawrenceville)

/s/ Rep. Mary Robichaux (D-Roswell)

/s/ Rep. Sandra Scott (D-Rex)

/s/ Rep. Kim Schofield (D-Atlanta)

cc: Brian Kemp, Governor
Geoff Duncan, Lt. Governor

David Ralston, Speaker of the House
General Assembly of Georgia