

# Mississippi Department of Employment Security extends unemployment compensation

Press Release

The Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) announced on

January 11 that Mississippi will participate in the Mixed Earners Unemployment Compensation (MEUC)

program. On December 27, 2020, the Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 (Continued Assistance Act) was signed into law. In addition to other benefit provisions extended beyond their original expiration date of December 31, 2020, this Act created the MEUC program in which states have the option to participate. The state of Mississippi has chosen to participate in this program.

The MEUC program provides an additional \$100 per week in supplemental compensation to individuals receiving certain unemployment benefits who received at least \$5,000 of net self-employment income in the most recent taxable year. This benefit is payable for

weeks of unemployment beginning with the week ending January 9, 2021, through the week ending March 13, 2021, for eligible recipients.

To be eligible for the additional \$100 from the MEUC program, an individual must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be an eligible recipient of one of the following benefit programs:
  - Regular state Unemployment compensation (UC)
  - Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE)
  - Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Service members (UCX)
  - Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC)
  - Extended Benefits (EB)
  - Trade Readjustment Allowances (TRA)
  - Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)
  - Self Employment Assistance (SEA)
2. Received at least \$5,000

in net self-employment income, as defined in section 1402(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, in the most recent taxable year ending prior to the individual's application for regular UC.

3. Submits required documentation substantiating their self-employment income

It is important to note that recipients of Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits are not eligible for MEUC.

MDES will issue notifications to individuals who are potentially eligible for the

MEUC benefits.

As with any new legislation, states must work with the U.S. Department of Labor to ensure program compliance and integrity. Therefore, it is unlikely that all eligible claimants will immediately begin seeing these benefits.

MDES is updating the ReEmployMS system to accommodate provisions of the Continued Assistance Act for timely payment of benefits.

More information is located at [mdes.ms.gov](http://mdes.ms.gov). Updates will be made as additional information becomes available.

## THE WICKER REPORT

By: United States Senator Roger Wicker



### Wicker Encourages Biden to Unify America

#### Impeachment and Far-Left

#### Proposals Will Not Heal Divisions

On January 20, my wife Gayle and I joined dozens of other lawmakers at the U.S. Capitol to observe the orderly transfer of power. I had attended multiple inaugurations before, but this year's occasion was unlike any I had ever seen. The National Mall, which is normally packed with visitors from across America, was closed because of health restrictions. At the same time, more than 25,000 National Guard troops, including several hundred of our Mississippi Guardsmen, were on site to ensure peace and order.

Upon taking the oath of office, Joe Biden became our 46th President. I did not support him as a candidate, but I am praying for him as he leads our country through a difficult period. I appreciated his call for national healing and reconciliation. We should all work to lower the temperature and move forward as one unified nation.

#### Impeachment Is a Mistake

Unfortunately, the effort to remove a President who is no longer in office raises serious constitutional questions and threatens to delay national healing. This article of impeachment was rushed through the House of Representatives shortly after the Capitol riot without hearings or any careful consideration of evidence against President Trump. As President-elect, Mr. Biden could have used his influence to stop the impeachment process from going forward. Such a gesture could have gone a long way toward unifying the country.

#### A second impeachment trial is sure to inflame partisan tensions and could poison the cooperative spirit we need in a 50-50 Senate. I fear it will also bring more reproach on Congress's solemn impeachment power, which should be used sparingly and with sober deliberation. Impeachment could also interrupt President Biden's Cabinet confirmations for weeks while the Senate holds a trial as required by the Constitution. The Senate has important business to do and should not be held up by a pointless and divisive delay.

#### Biden's First Actions Raise Alarm

On his first day in office, President Biden signed multiple executive orders that reveal his administration's priorities. I am deeply concerned about the impact these decisions will have on our country.

One of President Biden's first steps was to revoke the permit for the Keystone XL Pipeline, a vital energy project that President Trump had approved. Cancellation of this pipeline will needlessly limit our oil supply and cost as many as 11,000 jobs, representing \$1.6 billion in lost wages. This reversal is also an insult to Canada, which was depending on the pipeline to move oil to America. President Biden has spoken of "repairing" our alliances, but this is a big step backward.

President Biden also reversed Trump's policy of strict immigration enforcement and imposed a 100-day pause on deportations. This sends a terrible signal to those trying to enter our country illegally, like the caravans that are currently advancing toward our border. As a Senator in 2006, Mr. Biden supported the Secure Fence Act, which authorized funds for border control barriers. He served as Vice President in the Obama Administration, which engaged in a sensible deportation policy for illegal immigrants. His change of heart sends a troubling signal of radical policies to come.

#### Biden Should Lead With Bipartisanship

President Biden has pledged to represent all Americans and help unify our nation. I hope he fulfills this pledge by focusing on ideas that enjoy bipartisan support. The Senate Commerce Committee, which I chaired for the last two years, has made great progress on expanding broadband to rural America, building infrastructure, and supporting our transportation sector. I stand ready to work with President Biden on these and other unifying priorities.



I have figured out that men will do just about anything in order to feed their need for risk and adventure. Of course, many women will do this as well but overall it really is men who seem to what to test the limits of normality.

With just a quick online search, one can find examples of those who are doing things from bungee jumping from bridges to those who are using flying suits to soar through a deep valley like a bird. As many of you know, there is even the Olympic venue called the X (extreme) Games. These are made up of men and women once again testing the limits of man and machine. It really does make you wonder who the first to try some of these things was, and is he/she even around any longer to see it come to fruition.

They remind me of the teacher who leads the course in suicide bombing. He looks at his students and says, "Now watch close, I'm only going to do this once."

In the hunting and fishing world we have these individuals as well. For instance, who decided that hog hunting would be a lot more exciting if we rushed in on the hog when the dogs had it cornered and stuck it with a knife? And how much was he drinking when he came to this conclusion. The same goes with the fisherman who

decided that anyone can catch a catfish with rod and reel. Instead, he decides to reach in the hole where they live and bring them out by hand. All of these are simply examples of those believe that if you're not living on the edge, you're taking up too much room.

Is this normal? I actually think it is. Don't get me wrong. I don't think it's normal to catch fish by hand and hunt hogs with knives, but I do think the desire to live on the edge is. In fact, I believe God made men this way and He wants us to live that way in areas that have an eternal impact. It can be something as extreme as flying Bibles into a communist country or as extreme as taking your paycheck that you depend on and giving it to a homeless individual. Both of these put you in a riskier place. Would God ever ask us to do something like that? Well, the Bible is full of examples when He did.

The questions then are these. If God did it in the past, is there a possibility he would do it today? And, if he would do it today, is it possible he would ask me to do it? As you can see, the answer to both of these questions is yes. So, the next time you sense God asking you to do something strange, realize it's just like God to ask and it's just like you to say okay. [gary@outdoortruths.org](mailto:gary@outdoortruths.org)

## Mississippi city implements curfew to fight violence

**Associated Press**  
A Mississippi city on Monday implemented a temporary curfew for anyone under 18 after recent instances of violent crime.

Moss Point Mayor Mario King said during a news conference that people under 18 cannot be out between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. unless they are traveling to and from work or returning home from a school event, WLOX reported. The curfew begins Monday and remains in effect for five days, but the mayor said he might extend it further.

The penalty for an initial violation of the curfew is

\$300. That goes up to \$500 for a second violation. A third violation by the same person will result in a \$500 fine and jail time for the parent and/or child, King said.

The curfew comes after several violent incidents, the television station reported. One person died and a homeowner was injured during an attempted home invasion Sunday. A 15-year-old is accused of robbing and shooting a man last week and faces a capital murder charge. On New Year's Eve, a 22-year-old was killed during a robbery.

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