



## MASS RETIREES

The Online Voice of the Retired Public Employee

Plymouth County,

It has become increasingly common for retirees to continue working or even begin new careers in post-retirement. Over the past few weeks, we have heard from scores of members who have been laid-off or furlough from both part-time and full-time jobs due to the coronavirus crisis.

The question on these members' minds is straightforward: Do I qualify for unemployment benefits?

The answer is yes, **retirees do qualify for unemployment benefits**. However, a retiree's public pension may offset the unemployment benefit.

In order to assist members who have lost jobs due to the ongoing crisis, we have prepared the a **Q&A** on the topic along with links to further information. **Please click here to read more.**

We are also hearing from members who have applied for unemployment over the past month and are waiting to hear back. Over the past three weeks, 469,000 Massachusetts residents have applied for unemployment. This number grows exponentially each day, overwhelming the state system and creating a backlog.

On Friday, Governor Baker announced that the state is providing all available resources to help process the claims. This includes recalling public retirees to provide temporary help. As we've reported, Mass Retirees helped pass the new law creating a temporary waiver to help facilitate superannuation retirees serving in these temporary jobs without violating return to work limitations. **Please look to the May edition of *The Voice* for further information.**

Finally, if we can answer your questions or provide any assistance to you relative to your retirement or health care, please do not hesitate to call on us. We are here for you.

Most sincerely,

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**Retired State, County and Municipal Employees Association**

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