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Statement on Passage of CARES Act Unemployment Extensions

December 22, 2020

For Immediate Release

WASHINGTON - The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) issued this statement following the passage of CARES Act extension measures included in H.R. 133, the omnibus spending bill:

"We are encouraged by the passage of the bipartisan COVID relief legislation which will continue support for American workers who have been so severely impacted by the pandemic. States will be working with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) for the implementation of these new and/or modified programs as federal guidelines must be established by the USDOL before states can carry out their mission to deliver these critical resources to their citizens.

Since the onset of the pandemic, states have been working diligently to implement a host of new pandemic unemployment insurance programming and to respond to the unparalleled influx of unemployment claims, which continues to this day.

Millions of Americans are in desperate need of immediate assistance due to the pandemic and we strongly encourage the USDOL to provide states the information and guidelines needed as soon as possible. Once provided, states will be working night and day to ensure these new benefits are available in an expedient manner. States will be communicating with claimants as funds become available."