MEMO

To: Gary Perinar, ESTFrom: Terrance McGann, MKRDate: May 6, 2020Re: Local Unions Certified as Hiring Halls by IDES

As you know, there has been a great deal of confusion over the years among local unions regarding the IDES designation as a certified "hiring hall". Prior to the temporary rules enacted by the Illinois Department of Employment Security in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, claimants applying for unemployment benefits were required to register with Illinois Employment Service, also known as "Illinois JobLink" in order to establish that they are actively seeking work. There are two exceptions to this requirement which pertain to labor unions, only one of which is available to our members.

The first exception applies to members of local unions that operate exclusive hiring halls which have been certified by IDES. In order for a local union's referral procedures to be certified by IDES, the local union must demonstrate that employers are contractually obligated to fill all of their job openings through the local union's referral list, or that in the absence of such contractual obligation, the local union fills substantially all of the job openings in the designated area through their referral list. The referral procedures administered by the local unions affiliated with the Regional Council do not meet the established criteria for certification by the IDES.

The second exception to the JobLink registration requirement applies to claimants seeking construction work. If a claimant can establish that they were regularly employed as a construction worker and that they are currently seeking construction work, they will be exempt from the JobLink registration requirement, regardless of whether they belong to a union that operates an IDES certified hiring hall.

Given that members of the Carpenters Union can avail themselves of the exemption related to seeking construction work and that the referral procedures of the local unions do not meet the current IDES criteria for designation as a certified hiring hall, it is recommended that any local union that has been deemed by IDES to operate a certified hiring hall take the appropriate action to request that IDES remove the designation from its list of certified placement services.