



JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE
RUDY SALAS JR., CHAIR

September 3, 2020

Members

Joint Legislative Audit Committee
1020 N Street, Room 107
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Approval of EDD Audit Under Rule 17

Dear Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that the Vice Chair and I have received and approved the attached emergency audit request regarding the Employment Development Department (EDD). The audit will look at EDD's efforts to deliver unemployment insurance benefits to Californians, including a review of any backlogs and efforts to improve call center operations and efficiencies.

COVID-19 has been devastating to countless Californians. More than 13,000 of our brothers, sisters, friends, and loved ones have died of the virus. Thousands upon thousands of businesses have been shuttered both temporarily and permanently. Our workforce is currently facing an unemployment rate of 13.3 percent. In April alone, 2.4 million Californians lost their jobs. Countless media reports tell the story of EDD being overwhelmed, not answering most telephone calls, and not processing legitimate unemployment claims in a timely manner. Six months after the pandemic began in California, constituents confirm that EDD continues to struggle.

Hopefully this audit will help provide oversight and help ensure that EDD is doing all it can to help Californians during this difficult time. I would like to thank you, as Members of the Committee, for your support of this audit. As provided in Committee Rule 17, Members can

object to this audit within five business days. We ask that if you object that you personally send an email to the following email addresses: Assemblymember.Salas@assembly.ca.gov and Wesley.Opp@asm.ca.gov. Please do not hesitate to call either of us should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rudy Salas". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Rudy Salas
Assemblymember, 32nd District