

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2003**

**SESSION LAW 2003-1  
SENATE BILL 8**

AN ACT PROVIDING IMMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY FOR UNEMPLOYMENT  
BENEFITS TO INDIVIDUALS UNEMPLOYED DUE TO A MAJOR  
INDUSTRIAL DISASTER.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 96-13 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

"(c1) As to claims filed on or after January 29, 2003, the waiting period for a benefit year shall not be required of a claimant if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The benefits are to be paid for unemployment due directly to a major industrial disaster that destroys substantially all of the physical facilities of a manufacturing plant.
- (2) The Governor has acknowledged the disaster through the creation of such task forces as are needed to coordinate State assistance to the manufacturer and its employees.
- (3) The Governor has issued an Executive Order directing and authorizing the Employment Security Commission to waive the waiting week for employees of the manufacturer.
- (4) The Employment Security Commission shall implement regulations prescribing the procedure for the waiver of the waiting period week in accordance with G.S. 96-4(b)."

**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.

s/ Beverly E. Perdue  
President of the Senate

s/ Richard T. Morgan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ Michael F. Easley  
Governor

Approved 4:20 p.m. this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003