

Northwest Airlines
Statement to Minnesota State Agencies
RE: Unemployment Benefits for SLIP Leaves

As a result of a reduction in the level of its operations, NWA projects a surplus of employees in a variety of classifications, including AFA-represented Flight Attendants and IAM-represented customer service and equipment service employees. In an effort to avoid or reduce the number of involuntary furloughs necessitated by the reduction in force, NWA offered senior employees the opportunity to take leaves of varying length in lieu of the furlough of a junior employee.

Therefore, employees awarded leaves that fall under the above description (as opposed to other routine company convenience or personal leaves) are removed from payroll on a 1:1 basis instead of an employee who would otherwise be laid off due to lack of work.

In recognition of this unique situation, NWA would not oppose the extension of unemployment benefits to an applicant who can demonstrate:

- 1) S/he was awarded a SLIP leave pursuant to the program described above, and
- 2) S/he was therefore placed off payroll in lieu of a junior employee otherwise subject to involuntary furlough due to lack of work.