U.S. Department of Labor

Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Washington, D.C. 20212

March 4, 2020

Dear Bureau Chiefs,

In my letter dated February 25, 2020, I announced that changes to the Department of Labor (DOL) press lock-up would be implemented no sooner than March 9, 2020. Over the past week, BLS and the DOL have engaged in highly informative and useful conversations with stakeholders. We continue to be committed to the secure, equitable, orderly, and timely dissemination of statistical data, as well as to addressing the Office of Inspector General's findings and recommendations.

We have decided that the DOL, the press, and the public at large will be best served by delaying any changes to the lock-up policy beyond March 9, 2020. During this time, we will continue to hear from stakeholders while the DOL continues to work on the changes to the lock-up that enable us to best meet our goals of providing the public with equitable and timely access to data while ensuring the highest levels of security. Therefore, I am letting you know that we will not implement our new lock-up policy on March 9. We will give you, and the public at large, at least 14 calendar days' notice before we implement any lock-up policy changes.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM W. BEACH

Commissioner