BEFORE THE EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD

Lucas State Office Building Fourth floor Des Moines, Iowa 50319

:

JOHN A SCOTT

HEARING NUMBER: 13B-UI-10695

Claimant,

.

and

EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD

DECISION

GREGORY MFG CO

Employer.

NOTICE

THIS DECISION BECOMES FINAL unless (1) a request for a REHEARING is filed with the Employment Appeal Board within 20 days of the date of the Board's decision or, (2) a PETITION TO DISTRICT COURT IS FILED WITHIN 30 days of the date of the Board's decision.

A REHEARING REQUEST shall state the specific grounds and relief sought. If the rehearing request is denied, a petition may be filed in **DISTRICT COURT** within **30 days** of the date of the denial.

SECTION: 96.5-2-A, 24.32-7

DECISION

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS ARE ALLOWED IF OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE

The Employer appealed this case to the Employment Appeal Board. The Employment Appeal Board reviewed the entire record. The Appeal Board finds the administrative law judge's decision is correct. With the following modification, the administrative law judge's Findings of Fact and Reasoning and Conclusions of Law are adopted by the Board as its own. The administrative law judge's decision is **AFFIRMED** with the following **MODIFICATION**:

The Employment Appeal Board would modify the administrative law judge's Reasoning and Conclusions of Law by adding the following:

We would find that there was a current act of misconduct based on excessive absenteeism; however, the final act was an absence due to illness that was properly reported for which both parties agreed. Many of the Claimant's prior absences that led to his excessive absenteeism were also due to illness for which he provided medical documentation. The court in *Cosper v. Iowa Department of Job Service*, 321 N.W.2d 6 (Iowa 1982) held that absences due to illness, which are properly reported, are excused and not misconduct. See also, *Gaborit v. Employment Appeal Board*, 734 N.W.2d 554 (Iowa App. 2007) wherein the court held an absence can be excused for purposes of unemployment insurance eligibility even if the employer was fully within its rights to assess points or impose discipline up to or including discharged for the absence under its attendance policy.

Lastly, the Employer submitted a written argument to the Employment Appeal Board. The Employment Appeal Board reviewed the argument. A portion of the argument consisted of additional evidence which was not contained in the administrative file and which was not submitted to the administrative law judge. While the argument and additional evidence were considered, the Employment Appeal Board, in its discretion, finds that the admission of the additional evidence is not warranted in reaching today's decision.

	Monique F. Kuester
AMC/	Cloyd (Robby) Robinson

AMG/ss