

Sent: Friday, June 13, 2008 10:41 AM
To: Keiser, Andy; Ward, Mike; Haynes, Schuyler
Subject: BREAKING NEWS: House Approves Unemployment Extension

Yesterday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bipartisan measure I co-authored to extend unemployment benefits for workers by up to 26 weeks.

Many Michigan families are struggling as the state's unemployment continues to hover near seven percent and well above the national average. Extending unemployment benefits is crucial for these families as they deal with job losses tied to Michigan's economic situation. Unemployment workers in states like Michigan need this boost to help them provide for their families under these extraordinary circumstances.

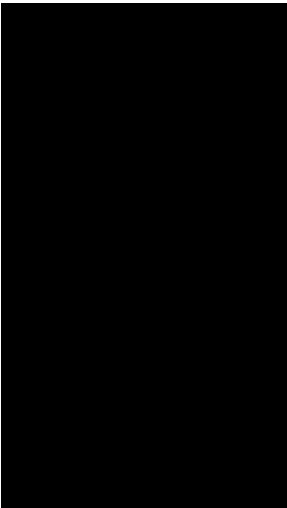
That is why I have co-authored H.R. 5749, the Emergency Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2008. This measure which currently is before the U.S. Senate, will provide up to 26 weeks of extended unemployment benefits for Michigan workers who have exhausted their regular unemployment compensation. This helping hand to Michigan families is crucial because 3.5 million jobless workers nationally will exhaust their regular unemployment benefits this year. While this vote fell short of passage, I remain committed to extending unemployment benefits and will continue to work on this critical issue.

While every American would prefer a job over an unemployment check, unemployment insurance is an important part of our safety net. It allows laid-off workers to meet their families' basic needs while conducting a job search and undergoing job retraining.

During these difficult times, we must continue work to strengthen our national economy by addressing high energy prices and healthcare costs, and addressing our trade enforcement problems with nations like China. For now, however, extending unemployment compensation to workers who need it is an important investment in the future of our nation and one that is especially needed in Michigan.

Rest assured, I will continue working to this bipartisan measure signed into law quickly. Please visit my [Job Resources](#) webpage for information on job banks, unemployment assistance, retraining and for my job creation agenda.

Should you have questions about this or any other issue, please



do not hesitate to call my Lansing office at 877-333-MIKE or email me through my website at: www.mikerogers.house.gov.
Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

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