

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 175

Rep. Martin offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution calling on Unemployment Insurance Agency Acting  
2 Director Liza Estlund Olson to resign.

3 Whereas, The Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) has  
4 continuously failed to meet its obligations to the people of  
5 Michigan since the beginning of the COVID-19 Pandemic. The UIA has  
6 paid out hundreds of millions in fraudulent claims, delayed  
7 payments for months to tens of thousands of Michigan residents, and  
8 allowed politically connected state employees to skip the line past  
9 hard-working families trying to make ends meet; and

10 Whereas, Governor Whitmer appointed Liza Estlund Olson as  
11 Acting Director of the UIA on November 5, 2020, entrusting her with  
12 the important responsibility of rectifying the agency's problems  
13 and providing high-quality service to the hard-working people of

1 Michigan; and

2       Whereas, Acting Director Olson has failed to resolve the  
3 problems at the UIA and is mismanaging the agency. In recent  
4 months, the UIA has given benefits to ineligible recipients; sent  
5 confusing notices to hundreds of thousands of people warning that  
6 they owed back payments; denied benefits to deserving people; and  
7 intentionally hid information from the House Oversight Committee.  
8 Furthermore, even though 18 months have passed since the start of  
9 the Pandemic, the UIA still has 20,000 unpaid Michigan workers and  
10 only recently opened UIA offices for in-person appointments; and

11       Whereas, The UIA's failures are so widespread and systemic  
12 that a change in leadership is the only way to move forward. The  
13 people of Michigan have been forced out of their jobs, only to find  
14 a dysfunctional and inept agency that cannot adequately handle its  
15 responsibilities; and

16       Whereas, The UIA needs a director who is interested and  
17 capable of fixing the broken agency and delivering the benefits and  
18 service owed to Michigan's dedicated and committed workforce; now,  
19 therefore, be it

20       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we call on  
21 Unemployment Insurance Agency Acting Director Liza Estlund Olson to  
22 resign; and be it further

23       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to  
24 Acting Director Olson.