

Reps. Vagnozzi, Bieda, Jammick, Kolb, Adamini, Gleason, Paletko, Sak, Murphy, Brown, Accavitti, O'Neil, Condino, Hood, Smith, Tobocman, Wojno, Hopgood, Woronchak, Elkins, Meisner, Byrum, Lipsey, Sheltroun, McConico, Gielegem, Hoogendyk, Reeves, Spade, Rocca, Farhat, Woodward, Hunter, Rivet, Anderson, Zelenko, Plakas, Emmons, Hardman, Daniels, Dennis, Ehardt, Garfield, Gillard, Minore, Richardville, Stallworth, Waters and Law offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 180.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide a federal extension of unemployment benefits.

Whereas, Our nation, the state of Michigan in particular, has been hard hit by the country's recent recession. Although the economy has seen improvement, the "jobless recovery" has been characterized by an inordinately high level of unemployment. This situation has been especially difficult in our state's manufacturing and other professional sectors; and

Whereas, In recognition of the country's employment difficulties, the United States Congress has tapped into the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation (TEUC) program fund to provide federal 13-week extensions of unemployment benefits. These extensions have been invaluable in helping working men and women provide the necessities for their families while seeking work. It is only fitting that the monies collected from every worker's paycheck for the TEUC be returned in the form of benefits when, through no fault of their own, workers are faced with extended periods of unemployment; and

Whereas, At least 50,000 Michigan workers have exhausted their state employment security benefits. Without a federal extension, these people and their families face tremendous financial hardships. Moreover, winter's onset, spiraling energy costs, and a continuing slow job market spell disaster for far too many of Michigan's working families. The economic well-being and human dignity that a federal extension can help provide in these troubled economic times are critical; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide a federal extension of unemployment benefits; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the Michigan congressional delegation.