

Rep. Tlaib offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 365.

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

Whereas, With the scheduled expiration of federal unemployment benefits at the end of November, 4 million Americans, including more than 180,000 people in Michigan, are at risk of being put in even greater peril. With the loss of these critically important benefits for those who are experiencing an extended period of joblessness, the families impacted will find themselves in even worse circumstances; and

Whereas, As national debates center on stimulating the economy, possible tax cut extensions, and various strategies to help America emerge from the Great Recession, it is important to remember that money used to fund unemployment benefits is directly channeled into the economy. Families struggling to feed their children and meet basic needs cannot divert this money to long-term investment, but use it to meet immediate and essential needs. Ignoring this opportunity to help working families also undermines the confidence that is so important to our nation's future; and

Whereas, For any matter as significant as helping struggling families meet their basic needs as Michigan grapples with a prolonged period of job losses, it is imperative to remember the human toll unemployment takes. Costs incurred to mitigate the harmful effects of joblessness represent an investment in people that will have many benefits to our state and nation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to provide an 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 members of the Michigan congressional delegation.