
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 941 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY SCHREIBER, SAMUELSON, BISHOP, B. BOYLE,
CALTAGIRONE, DAVIS, ROZZI, MOLCHANY, MCGEEHAN, THOMAS,
KINSEY, FREEMAN, NEILSON, HAGGERTY, O'BRIEN, GIBBONS, KORTZ,
LONGIETTI, YOUNGBLOOD, READSHAW, SAINATO, McNEILL, DONATUCCI,
SIMS, KIRKLAND, HARHAI, GOODMAN, COHEN, DEASY, HANNA,
V. BROWN, SCHLOSSBERG, BIZZARRO, BROWNLEE, SABATINA, KULA,
PASHINSKI, PARKER, W. KELLER, STURLA AND M. DALEY,
JULY 1, 2014

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND INDUSTRY, JULY 1, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to immediately extend
2 the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, restoring
3 critical benefits to the long-term unemployed of this nation.

4 WHEREAS, Without congressional action, the Emergency
5 Unemployment Compensation program expired on January 1, 2014,
6 resulting in the abrupt end to said benefits across every state
7 in the nation; and

8 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported as of
9 January 2014, the national unemployment rate stands at 6.6%,
10 with the Pennsylvania rate at 6.9% as of December 2013; and

11 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Labor estimates that
12 more than 4 million people nationwide have been unemployed for
13 more than six months, with an average unemployment duration of
14 37.2 weeks; and

15 WHEREAS, The Emergency Unemployment Compensation program

1 provided up to an additional 37 weeks in compensation after a
2 worker's Pennsylvania unemployment compensation of 27 weeks had
3 been exhausted; and

4 WHEREAS, The average length of time a Pennsylvania claimant
5 collected benefits from the Emergency Unemployment Compensation
6 program was 15 weeks; and

7 WHEREAS, The National Employment Law Project has ascertained
8 that disruption in the Emergency Unemployment Compensation
9 program will have an immediate and devastating effect on 1.3
10 million Americans, 86,900 of those from the Commonwealth of
11 Pennsylvania; and

12 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry
13 has stated that the average weekly unemployment compensation
14 payment was \$341.74 in 2012; and

15 WHEREAS, The Economic Policy Institute in Washington, DC,
16 noted that the most recent labor market turnover report
17 reflected that there were 2.9 job seekers per job available; and
18 therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
20 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United
21 States to immediately reauthorize the Emergency Unemployment
22 Compensation program, restoring benefits to millions of long-
23 term unemployed; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
25 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each
26 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.