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TO: All House Members  
FROM: Representative Dan Moul  
SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation  
DATE: January 19, 2012



**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Harrisburg

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In the near future I plan to introduce legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Law, requiring all claimants to perform community service after receiving benefits in excess of twelve weeks. For each subsequent week, claimants would be required to perform 16 hours of approved community service activities, including:

- Environmental preservation, enhancement, and remediation.
- Promotion of the well-being of children, the elderly, persons with physical or developmental disabilities and persons with low incomes.
- Educational development, including, but not limited to, literacy training, adult basic education courses and instruction in job search skills and job application skills.
- Improvement activities on public lands or facilities.
- Educational activities, through a Pennsylvania education system or a community or governmental entity, that instill an ethic of civic responsibility and citizenship in all Pennsylvanians and in particular young Pennsylvanians.

It is my strong conviction that a period of three months provides ample time for estranged workers to rejoin the workforce and, after this grace period, recipients of unemployment benefits must begin to repay their debt to society.

This arrangement would prove to be mutually beneficial for the Commonwealth, its communities, and for recipients of unemployment compensation. The unemployed could use their community service as an opportunity to expand their networking, obtain references, and acquire new, in-demand skills while concurrently providing a service to the communities in which they reside. Along with the additional potential to gain permanent employment through the organization with which they are working, such an arrangement could also help market our communities by showing leaders in business and infrastructure that our communities are full of potential employees eager to get back to work.

The state legislatures of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida have already considered legislation requiring unemployment beneficiaries to work for the taxpayer money they receive.

Please contact Suzette Beemer (sbeemer@pahousegop.com) if you wish to cosponsor this legislation.