

ACTION ALERT
Unemployment Insurance Benefits

February 10, 2010

**Congressional Action Needed to Prevent 160,000 Jobless Hoosier Workers
From Losing Unemployment Benefits**

The United States is facing its worst unemployment crisis of the last 70 years. Nearly 16 million Americans are out of work, one-third of whom have been jobless for over six months. Another 9.3 million Americans are working part time because they can't find the full-time jobs they want and need. The jobs shortage is so severe that there are now six unemployed workers for every job vacancy — double the ratio in the prior recession of the early 2000's.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) passed in 2009 to pull the economy out of its nosedive and to dampen mounting job losses. Still, the jobs crisis has persisted, and it is likely that unemployment will remain above 8% *even two years from now* in the absence of bold and decisive action to create jobs. The employment situation is an economic crisis for the nation and requires an adequate, comprehensive response by the federal government. By itself, the private sector is unable to create jobs in the numbers needed for a robust, full economic recovery.

After a two-month reauthorization in December, the benefits provided to jobless workers by the ARRA are set to expire at the end of February and **the Senate is expected to vote on extending unemployment insurance benefits this week, possibly today!**

To learn more visit: <http://www.jobs4americanow.org/dont-let-congress-cut-lifelines/>

TAKE ACTION!

Please call and email Senators Lugar and Bayh today! If you are unsure who your Senator is, please visit <http://www.contactingthecongress.org/> to find out.

Message: Honorable Senator _____, I am (calling/writing) to urge you to vote in favor of extending unemployment insurance benefits. Over 38,000 unemployed Indiana workers will become ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits in March and more than 160,000 unemployed Hoosiers will exhaust their regular state benefits by the end of June if no action is taken. I know you will do what is best for Indiana, our state's economy, and the over 300,000 jobless Hoosiers. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

PHONE

Senator Bayh

Phone: (202) 224-5623

Senator Lugar

Phone: (202) 224-4814

EMAIL

Senator Bayh

<http://bayh.senate.gov/contact/email/>

Senator Lugar <http://lugar.senate.gov/contact/contactform.cfm>

We sincerely appreciate all of your time, effort, and support on this issue!
