

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 80

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 1, 2010

Sponsored by:

Senator SANDRA B. CUNNINGHAM

District 31 (Hudson)

Senator FRED H. MADDEN, JR.

District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Ruiz

SYNOPSIS

Memorializes Congress to enact legislation extending 100% federal funding for benefits for laid off workers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/20/2010)

SR80 CUNNINGHAM, MADDEN

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1 **A SENATE RESOLUTION** memorializing Congress to enact
2 legislation to extend 100% federal funding for various
3 supplemental benefits for laid off workers.

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5 **WHEREAS**, The current recession is the most severe economic
6 downturn since the Great Depression, causing the loss of more
7 than half a million jobs in the State of New Jersey; and

8 **WHEREAS**, The potential adverse impacts of such large-scale
9 unemployment on working families, including economic
10 privation, home foreclosures and even the disruption of families,
11 were curtailed by decisive action by Congress, as part of the
12 “American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009,”
13 Pub.L.111-5, and related legislation, to provide, in addition to
14 the usual maximum of 26 weeks of regular State-funded
15 unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, 100% federal funding for
16 up to 53 weeks of emergency UI benefits, 20 weeks of extended
17 UI benefits, a supplement of \$25 per week for all UI benefits,
18 and assistance to laid off workers paying to continue their
19 workplace based health insurance coverage; and

20 **WHEREAS**, Those 100% federally funded benefits provided more
21 than \$5 billion in UI benefits to laid off New Jersey workers and
22 their families during 2009 and 2010, an amount exceeding the
23 total amount of State-funded UI benefits; and

24 **WHEREAS**, Since the law authorizing these federally-funded
25 benefits expired on June 2, 2010, the United States Senate has
26 failed, four times, to obtain the 60 votes necessary to reinstate
27 the law and extend the benefits, with the opposing Senators
28 representing less than one third of the population of the United
29 States; and

30 **WHEREAS**, Since the law expired, more than one million laid off
31 workers have lost their benefits across the nation and more than
32 38,000 in New Jersey, in the midst of the highest rates of long-
33 term unemployment on record; now, therefore,

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35 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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37 1. The Congress of the United States is respectfully
38 memorialized to enact legislation to extend the 100% federal
39 funding for emergency UI benefits, extended UI benefits, weekly
40 UI benefit supplements and assistance to laid off workers paying to
41 continue their workplace based health insurance coverage.

42
43 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
44 President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary thereof, shall
45 be transmitted to the presiding officers of the United States Senate
46 and the House of Representatives, and to each member of Congress
47 elected from the State of New Jersey.

