

Reps. Spade, Ball, Lisa Brown, Byrnes, Cushingberry, Hansen, Robert Jones, LeBlanc, Liss, Lori, Mayes, Nathan, Rogers, Scripps, Sheltroun, Slavens, Valentine, Warren and Bauer offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 220.

A resolution to memorialize Congress to reauthorize the funding for the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families Emergency Fund program.

Whereas, The austere economic times in which we are living require decisive actions by Congress to create and maintain jobs that will extend a lifeline to more than 100,000 individuals through subsidized jobs programs. The Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Emergency Fund program was created in 2009 as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to enable states to create subsidized jobs programs for low-income parents and young adults, primarily in the private sector. As we approach the September 30, 2010, expiration date for this program, it imperative for the Congress to include President Obama's proposal to extend for one year and modestly expand the TANF Emergency Fund program as part of the jobs bill that is being developed; and

Whereas, The TANF Emergency Fund has proven to be an effective way of creating jobs at a lower cost than any of the existing measures being considered in Congress. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, this is because the fund subsidizes only part of a job's wages, wage levels for the subsidized jobs are low, and the administrative costs are generally small. Furthermore, the wages earned by people working in these jobs are meeting essential household needs while funneling dollars back into the economy through the purchase of goods and services; and

Whereas, The TANF Emergency Fund program provides states with a means for economic stimulus and a program that has the flexibility that enables the creation of jobs both in urban and rural communities. Those having the greatest difficulty obtaining a job are afforded an opportunity to earn an income. Extending this program would build on current efforts and maximize investments that have been made, while creating additional jobs in an economical way. It is critical for Congress to take swift action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize Congress to reauthorize the funding for the TANF Emergency Fund program; 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.