

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.295

Rep. Sabo offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to memorialize the President and Congress of the
2 United States to enact legislation extending the Federal Pandemic
3 Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program.

4 Whereas, The COVID-19 Pandemic has impacted every American.
5 Since the first confirmed cases early this year, more than 3
6 million Americans have been infected and more than 130,000 have
7 died. In Michigan alone, tens of thousands of cases and more than
8 6,000 deaths have been confirmed; and

9 Whereas, The Pandemic has caused significant economic
10 disruption. In order to mitigate the virus' spread, Governor
11 Gretchen Whitmer and public officials throughout the country
12 ordered all residents to stay home, except for essential
13 activities, and mandated the closure of schools and all



1 nonessential businesses. As a result, tens of millions of workers
2 have filed for unemployment benefits since the crisis began,
3 including more than 2 million in Michigan; and

4 Whereas, In order to supplement state unemployment benefits,
5 Congress created the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation
6 (FPUC) program. The FPUC program was created as part of the
7 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act and
8 provides an additional \$600 per week to those receiving
9 unemployment benefits; and

10 Whereas, While the FPUC program is set to expire July 31, the
11 Pandemic has shown no signs of slowing down. Nationwide, more than
12 50,000 new cases continue to be reported each day. In Michigan,
13 daily cases have begun to increase for the first time in more than
14 a month; and

15 Whereas, Allowing the FPUC to expire will drastically reduce
16 benefits and force Michigan residents to make difficult and
17 unnecessary choices. The \$600 weekly FPUC payment makes up the vast
18 majority of benefits for Michigan's unemployment claimants,
19 including nearly two-thirds of benefits for those receiving the
20 maximum weekly state payment. Depriving residents of these
21 resources will have a devastating impact on Michigan families,
22 impacting their ability to put food on their tables and pay their
23 bills, and will force them to decide which essentials they can
24 afford and which they will have to live without; and

25 Whereas, Allowing the FPUC to expire will have a
26 disproportionately devastating impact on many low-wage workers and
27 minorities who face mounting bills, including back rent and other
28 major expenses, as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. The increased
29 income provided by the FPUC is a lifeline that all too often



1 separates these workers and their families from homelessness; and

2 Whereas, Allowing the FPUC program to expire will hurt
3 communities across the nation and slow Michigan's and the nation's
4 economic recovery. The FPUC has been supporting as many as 2.8
5 million jobs nationwide. Reducing the spending power of unemployed
6 Michigan residents by more than 60 percent will negatively impact
7 businesses and our state's economy and force even more closures and
8 layoffs. It is estimated that the loss of the FPUC will cost more
9 than 5 million jobs nationwide over the next year, including nearly
10 195,000 jobs in Michigan; now, therefore, be it

11 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize
12 the President and Congress of the United States to enact
13 legislation extending the Federal Pandemic Unemployment
14 Compensation (FPUC) program; and be it further

15 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
16 President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States
17 House of Representatives, the President of the United States
18 Senate, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.