March 6, 2014

Hon. John A. Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker:

This week, the number of Americans out of work through no fault of their own who have seen their emergency unemployment insurance cut off has surpassed 2 million. Among them are close to 200,000 Veterans who have served their country and are now looking for a job, according to a new report by the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

As Members of Congress, we find it unconscionable that the country these men and women have so proudly served has cut off this vital economic lifeline as they struggle to find work, after the worst recession since the Great Depression. Unemployment insurance is critical for these Veterans to be able feed their families and put a roof over their head as they seek to transition from combat to career or try to get back on their feet with a new job. And it demands responsibility in return by requiring them to prove they're actively looking for work.

But the Republican majority of the House of Representatives has repeatedly blocked Democratic efforts to extend the Emergency Unemployment Compensation program, which lapsed over two months ago. The result has been increasing hardship for the families of two million Americans, including 200,000 Veterans.

For the sake of these Veterans who are heroes, we urge you to allow an up-or-down vote on a proposal to extend unemployment insurance as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

DAN KILDEE  
Member of Congress

TAMMY DUCKWORTH  
Member of Congress
SUSAN DAVIS  
Member of Congress

ROSA DELAURO  
Member of Congress

SUZAN DELBENE  
Member of Congress

JOE GARCIA  
Member of Congress

JOHN DINGELL  
Member of Congress

AL GREEN  
Member of Congress

MICHAEL DOYLE  
Member of Congress

GENE GREEN  
Member of Congress

KEITH ELLISON  
Member of Congress

JANICE HAHN  
Member of Congress

WILLIAM ENYART  
Member of Congress

COLLEEN HANABUSA  
Member of Congress

SAM FARR  
Member of Congress

ALCEE HASTINGS  
Member of Congress

BILL FOSTER  
Member of Congress

DENNIS HEEK  
Member of Congress

LOIS FRANKEL  
Member of Congress

RUBEN HINOJOSA  
Member of Congress
BEN LUIAN
Member of Congress

STEPHEN LYNCH
Member of Congress

SEAN PATRICK MALONEY
Member of Congress

BETTY MCCULLUM
Member of Congress

JIM MCDERMOTT
Member of Congress

JAMES MCGOVERN
Member of Congress

GREGORY MEeks
Member of Congress

GRACE MENg
Member of Congress

MIKE MICHAUD
Member of Congress

GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress

ERROLNADLER
Member of Congress

RICK NOLAN
Member of Congress

ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress

BETO O'Rourke
Member of Congress

FRANK PAiLONE
Member of Congress

DONALD M. PAYNE JR.
Member of Congress

PEDRO PIERLUISI
Member of Congress

GARY PETERS
Member of Congress
MARK POCAN
Member of Congress

DAVID PRICE
Member of Congress

MIKE QUIGLEY
Member of Congress

CHARLES RANGEL
Member of Congress

LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
Member of Congress

RAUL RUIZ
Member of Congress

DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER
Member of Congress

BOBBY RUSH
Member of Congress

TIM RYAN
Member of Congress

JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress

ALLYSON SCHWARTZ
Member of Congress

DAVID SCOTT
Member of Congress

JOSE SERRANO
Member of Congress

TERRI SEWELL
Member of Congress

ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress

ERIC SWALWELL
Member of Congress

JOHN TIERNEY
Member of Congress

DINA TITUS
Member of Congress
PETER WELCH
Member of Congress

KATHERINE CLARK
Member of Congress

HALEMA'ALAE
JENNY F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA
Member of Congress

DAVID CICILLINE
Member of Congress

ANNA ESHOO
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ROBIN KELLY
Member of Congress

ANN MCLANE KUSTER
Member of Congress

JAMES LANGEVIN
Member of Congress

BRIAN HIGGINS
Member of Congress

JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress

RAÚL GRIJALVA
Member of Congress

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Member of Congress

HENRY WAXMAN
Member of Congress

MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress

BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress

NYDIA VELAZQUEZ
Member of Congress

BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress

RICK LARSEN
Member of Congress