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H.S. House of Representatives

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JANICE MAYS, MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL

November 26, 2013

Chairman Dave Camp Committee on Ways and Means 1102 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Camp:

We write to request that in the days remaining this year you turn the Committee's focus to the economy, as Americans continue to recover from the deep economic crisis. To that end, an urgent economic issue confronts us through the pending expiration of the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation program on Dec. 28, when 1.3 million Americans would immediately lose vital insurance as they continue to look for work. Without a continuation of the program, economic growth would take a hit to the tune of 310,000 jobs, according to the Economic Policy Institute.

It has been 131 days since Ways and Means has held a full Committee hearing on an issue other than the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. With the end of the year fast approaching, we must hear from Americans who just days after Christmas would immediately lose their unemployment insurance if Congress takes no action. We invite you to work with us in setting up such a hearing, so that the human consequences of the pending expiration of the federal unemployment insurance program are fully understood.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Sander Levin

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel

The Honorable Jim McDermott

The Honorable John Lewis

The Honorable Richard E. Neal

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The Honorable Xavier Becerra

The Honorable Lloyd Doggett

The Honorable John B. Larson

The Honorable Ron Kind

Thompson The Honorable Mike

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer

The Honorable Bill Pascrell Jr.

The Honorable Joseph Crowley

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The Honorable Danny K. Davis

The Honorable Allyson Schwartz

The Honorable Linda T. Sánchez