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PRESS RELEASE

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Emergency Unemployment Compensation Program Extended another Year

Congress voted Tuesday to continue the federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) program for one year, allowing nearly 25,000 Nevadans to continue receiving the extended benefits with no break in payment, said Renee Olson, administrator Employment Security Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR).

The EUC program was set to expire Tuesday and if Congress had not voted in favor of an extension, nearly 25,000 Nevadans would have been abruptly cut off the program. Another 1,000 claimants per week, those receiving regular unemployment benefits, would have been cut off as well. There are nearly 38,000 people on the regular unemployment benefits program.

“Claimants were notified to continue to file their weekly claims so that benefits could be reinstated with minimal delay in case Congress did pass an extension,” Olson said. “As long as claimants file this week, they will still receive their weekly benefit payments without a delay.”

Congress first enacted the federal benefits package in June 2008 in response to record high unemployment. Claimants currently qualify for a maximum of 73 weeks. In July of this year, the State Extended Benefits program ended, dropping the number of weeks from 99 to 79, then in September, six more weeks were cut, dropping the maximum weeks from 79 to 73.

DETR Director Frank R. Woodbeck said extending the EUC program was a positive outcome for claimants.

“We are pleased that Congress came to a resolution that will allow Nevadans to continue to receive this much-needed federal support,” Woodbeck said. “Nevada continues to suffer record unemployment and while our JobConnect offices work to retrain jobseekers, these benefits assist workers with their immediate needs.”

Additional information on services for job seekers may be found online at www.nevadajobconnect.com and www.jobcentral.com/nv. Information on local support services may be obtained by calling 211; this is a centralized number for social support service directories.

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DETR is comprised of the Employment Security Division, Equal Rights Commission, Rehabilitation Division, the Information Development and Processing Division and the Research and Analysis Bureau. DETR works in partnership with the Nevada JobConnect System to provide training and job placement services to job seekers and to assist employers in hiring practices.