



Dannel P. Malloy

GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

April 8, 2014

The Honorable Thomas E. Perez
Secretary
U.S. Department of Labor
Frances Perkins Building
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20210

Dear Secretary Perez,

I write to thank you for your commitment to working with states to implement successfully S. 2148, the Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) Extension Act of 2014, should it be enacted into law. The restoration of benefits to the long term unemployed is essential to many individuals and families in Connecticut who are still struggling as our economy continues to recover.

I would like to add my support for the bill to yours and reiterate Connecticut's commitment to working with the U.S. Department of Labor to meet the challenges of implementing the extension of the EUC as outlined in your letter to Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell sent last month to address the concerns raised by the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA). As Governor of the State of Connecticut, I understand NASWA's concerns but I am confident that together we can overcome these challenges.

Connecticut's economy is moving in the right direction and our unemployment rate continues to decline. But those who have not yet found a job face dire circumstances as a result of Congresses refusal to extend EUC benefits when the program expired late last year. Failure to act now will only do further harm to our long-term unemployed and the broader US economy. And the benefits of an extension of EUC far outweigh the challenges to implement S.2148.

As you noted in your letter to Senators Reid and McConnell, "it would be virtually unprecedented for the Congress to fail to extend EUC benefits under the current circumstances." I share your hope that Congress will act quickly.

I am available to discuss this matter with you at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dannel P. Malloy".

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Cc: Connecticut Congressional Delegation