Mr. Speaker, Right now, 15 million out-of-work Americans, are relying on Congress to work together and immediately extend unemployment benefits to help them make ends meet while they are looking for a full-time job.

Right now the unemployment in my state of New Jersey is 9.7 percent, with nearly half a million out of work. Now is not the time to stall in providing assistance to those who need it most.

Earlier this month, the House passed a bill to restore emergency unemployment benefits for unemployed Americans and their families through the end of November.

The Senate must now follow our lead and act swiftly in passing an extension of benefits to send to the President's desk.

Doing so would not only provide a much-needed lifeline for jobless Americans and their families, but it makes economic sense.

The C-B-O has suggested that extending unemployment benefits is one of the most cost-effective and fast-acting ways to stimulate the economy.

It is our duty to act now and provide relief to the millions of unemployed Americans and their families.

I yield back