

Congresswoman Barbara Lee



United States Congress
13th District, California



Greetings from the Congresswoman

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the New Year New Hire Career Fair hosted by the Oakland Private Industry Council, Inc. and Alameda County Social Services Agency (SSA). I would like to thank the participating employers for your commitment to hiring Oakland residents as well as candidates for taking part in today's exciting career fair.

Today, despite all the progress the economy has made since the depths of the economic crisis, unemployed Americans continue to face a daunting job market. There are still 1 million fewer jobs in the economy today than when the recession started in December 2007. That's why it is so critical to re-start the federal emergency unemployment insurance program, which until its Dec. 28 expiration supported long-term unemployed Americans and their families during these difficult times. The number of Americans whose benefits have been cut off has grown to more than 1.7 million.

This is why I support legislation to restore Emergency Unemployment Compensation and provide the unemployed the help they need to continue their search for work. Without action, an additional 325,800 unemployed workers in California will lose their benefits in the first six months of 2014, according to a Ways and Means Committee report.

Congress must act before it is too late for millions of unemployed workers and their families. I am asking for your help on this important issue. If you have a story about how unemployment insurance impacts you, your family, or community, please visit my table today or email your story to LeeCA.Events@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for your hard work and commitment to building Oakland's economy, and I wish you all the very best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

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