



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Brian Kavanagh

## NYS Legislators Urge US Senate to Extend Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance

BRIAN KAVANAGH July 17, 2020

| ISSUE: [COVID-19](#), [FEDERAL FUNDING](#), [UNEMPLOYMENT](#), [CARES ACT](#)



On July 17, 2020, Senator Kavanagh, along with 25 colleagues, urged the US Senate to extend funding for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, which is currently scheduled to expire July 31st. The Senators' letter highlights the stability that federal assistance has been able to provide to many individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic over the past few months and underscores the need for continued funding. The text of the letter is below; the original may be viewed via the link above.

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July 17, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Majority Leader

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer

Minority Leader

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leaders McConnell and Schumer:

In late March, Congress passed with overwhelming, bipartisan support the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which was subsequently signed into law. This economic relief package provided Americans with direct assistance and protection for those who had lost their jobs due to COVID-19.

The additional Unemployment Insurance (UI) assistance to workers impacted by COVID-19 has been a lifeline for many who suddenly found themselves out of work and struggling to pay their mortgages or rent, pay for groceries and provide for their families. In particular, the additional \$600 per week Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, which is set to expire on July 31, 2020, has provided families with a sense of security that they will weather this storm.

It is imperative that funding for the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation extend beyond July 31, 2020. Without it, many individuals who are still out of work, due to no fault of their own, will face difficult decisions of whether to put food on the table or pay

their bills. Therefore, we are calling on you to extend this form of UI for the millions of Americans who are still unemployed due to COVID-19.

Due to Congressional action, Americans have the resources necessary to pay their bills and support their families during this time, but economic uncertainty remains. We urge you to work with your Senate conferences and your colleagues in the House of Representatives to extend Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation beyond July 31 as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued leadership during this unprecedented crisis.

Sincerely,

James F. Gaughran 5<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Jamaal T. Bailey, 36<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Liz Krueger, 28<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Brian A Benjamin, 30<sup>th</sup> Senate District

John C Liu, 11<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Alessandra Biaggi, 34<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Monica R. Martinez, 3<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

John E. Brooks, 8<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Rachel May, 53<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

Leroy Comrie, 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Shelley B Mayer, 37<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Michael Gianaris, 12<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Jen Metzger, 42<sup>nd</sup> Senate District

Andrew Gounardes, 22<sup>nd</sup> Senate District

Velmanette Montgomery, 25<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Brad Hoylman, 27<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Jessica Ramos, 13<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Robert Jackson, 31<sup>st</sup> Senate District

Gustavo Rivera, 33<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

Todd Kaminsky, 9<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Diane J Savino, 23<sup>rd</sup> Senate District

Anna Kaplan, 7<sup>th</sup> Senate District

James Skoufis, 39<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Brian Kavanaugh, 26<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Kevin Thomas, 6<sup>th</sup> Senate District

Tim Kennedy, 63<sup>rd</sup> Senate District