



SCOTT McCALLUM

**Governor
State of Wisconsin**

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GOVERNOR PRAISES FEDERAL ACTION ON UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

MADISON – Gov. Scott McCallum today applauded Congress for passing a federally funded extended unemployment benefit program that will give out of work individuals an additional 13 weeks of benefits.

“This bill will bring relief to thousands of Wisconsin workers who are struggling to get back into employment,” Gov. McCallum said. “Wisconsin took the lead by being the first state in the nation to extend benefits on its own and we are glad that Congress has followed suit.”

In January, Wisconsin passed an eight-week extension of benefits that went into effect last week. The bill passed by Congress will replace those benefits with 13 weeks of benefits paid by the federal government. The bill also includes an \$8 million payback to states in Reed Act money. Wisconsin is expected to get \$166 million returned to its Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund. That money will help offset money spent from the fund for Wisconsin Supplemental Benefits and help keep unemployment insurance rates down for employers.

Those applying for state extended benefits are automatically transitioned to the federal benefits once they kick in. The small number of Wisconsin workers who do not qualify for the federal extension, but would qualify for benefits under the Wisconsin Supplemental Benefits plan, will still be eligible for up to eight weeks of extended Wisconsin benefits.

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