



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.

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 5th Senate District
Jamaal T. Bailey, 36th Senate District
Liz Krueger, 28th Senate District
Brian A Benjamin, 30th Senate District
John C Liu, 11th Senate District
Alessandra Biaggi, 34th Senate District
Monica R. Martinez, 3rd Senate District
John E. Brooks, 8th Senate District
Rachel May, 53rd Senate District
Leroy Comrie, 14th Senate District
Shelley B Mayer, 37th Senate District
Michael Gianaris, 12th Senate District
Jen Metzger, 42nd Senate District
Andrew Gounardes, 22nd Senate District
Velmanette Montgomery, 25th Senate District
Brad Hoylman, 27th Senate District
Jessica Ramos, 13th Senate District
Robert Jackson, 31st Senate District
Gustavo Rivera, 33rd Senate District
Todd Kaminsky, 9th Senate District
Diane J Savino, 23rd Senate District
Anna Kaplan, 7th Senate District
James Skoufis, 39th Senate District
Brian Kavanagh, 26th Senate District
Kevin Thomas, 6th Senate District
Tim Kennedy, 63rd Senate District