

# ADDITIONAL \$300/WEEK SECURED FOR UNEMPLOYED MICHIGANGERS

On **Friday, August 21**, Gov. Whitmer announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) had approved her administration's request for **funding to provide Michiganders receiving unemployment benefits with an additional \$300 per week**. Payments will be retroactive for eligible residents to August 1, 2020.

Whitmer's administration made the request in response to continued Congressional inaction following the expiration of supplementary federal unemployment support in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

While these additional funds will certainly help to keep Michigan families on their feet during this crisis, Michigan House Democrats know that long-term solutions are needed to provide residents with the financial security they need now and long after this pandemic is over.

**As part of our comprehensive Michigan Strong plan, House Democrats have introduced an eight-bill package to deliver support to Michiganders who need it most.**

The package would:

- **Allow residents to receive unemployment benefits** during a declared infectious disease emergency if they are quarantining, self-isolating, caring for their children at home, or their place of employment is closed as a result of state action. (HB 5882 - Rabhi)
- **Lower the high quarter earnings eligibility requirement** to enable part-time and low-wage workers to receive benefits. (HB 5883 – Witwer)
- **Increase weekly benefits** to allow Michiganders to better support themselves and their families during difficult times. (HB 5884 – Sabo)
- **Extend benefits** to independent contractors during a declared emergency. (HB 5885 – Lasinski)
- **Allow seasonal workers to receive benefits** during the off-season. (HB 5886 – Kennedy)
- **Allow low-wage school employees to receive benefits** during summer months. (HB 5887 – Guerra)
- **Require employers to report full wages, including tips**, to UIA so workers receive full benefits. (HB 5888 – Elder)

For more information on the Michigan House Democrats' proposed unemployment improvements, visit <https://housedems.com/house-dems-plan-protects-workers-during-pandemic-recession/>.