

On Tuesday, Sept. 1, the Michigan House of Representatives came together to approve Senate Bill 745, a supplemental budget to provide Michiganders receiving unemployment benefits with an additional \$300 per week using funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Payments will be retroactive for eligible residents to August 1, 2020.

Over the past few months, supplemental unemployment benefits have helped keep hundreds of thousands of Michigan residents and families on their feet during this pandemic and have largely contributed to the state's ongoing economic recovery. Last month, the state budget director, experts, economists and legislative leaders noted that Michigan's projected budget shortfall had been reduced significantly due to more Michiganders having the resources they needed to fully provide for themselves and their families.

Senate Bill 745 includes:

- \$2.8 billion in federal funds to provide Michiganders with additional weekly unemployment benefits.
- » **Approximately \$70 million** in federal funds to help Michigan's Unemployment Insurance Agency process claims and facilitate benefits.

Although combating the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic continues to be our top priority, it is not the only challenge facing our communities. That's why House Democrats successfully secured funding in the supplemental budget to protect residents and businesses from flooding along the Detroit River in Detroit, as well as to support those displaced by the flooding in Midland.

The budget also provides funding to bolster the Asian carp barrier at Brandon Lock & Dam to prevent this invasive species from further threatening the Great Lakes and all those that rely them every day.

Additional funding secured in SB 745 includes:

- » **\$3 million** to prevent flooding in Detroit.
- » \$6 million to help Midland residents and businesses affected by flooding.
- » **\$8 million** for Brandon Lock & Dam to protect the Great Lakes from Asian carp.

