112TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION H.R. 3346

To amend title IV of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the continuation of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

Mr. Doggett (for himself, Mr. Levin, Mr. Stark, Mr. McDermott, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. NEAL, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. PASCRELL, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. REYES, Mr. PETERS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SERRANO, Ms. MOORE, Mr. NADLER, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mrs. MALONEY, Mr. COHEN, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. EDDIE BER-NICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. WATT, Mr. BERMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. GONZALEZ, MS. VELÁZQUEZ, MS. SLAUGHTER, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. DICKS, Mr. CARNAHAN, and Mr. CICILLINE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title IV of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the continuation of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes. 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-

2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

- 4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the5 "Emergency Unemployment Compensation Extension Act
- 6 of 2011".
- 7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of
- 8 this Act is as follows:
 - Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

- Sec. 101. Temporary extension of unemployment insurance provisions.
- Sec. 102. Modification of indicators under the extended benefit program.
- Sec. 103. Additional extended unemployment benefits under the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act.

TITLE II—STATE AND EMPLOYER ASSISTANCE

- Sec. 201. Extension of temporary assistance for States with advances.
- Sec. 202. FUTA credit reductions for 2011 contingent on voluntary agreements.
- Sec. 203. Assistance contingent on voluntary agreements.
- Sec. 204. Solvency bonus.

9 TITLE I—EXTENSION OF 10 UNEMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

11 SEC. 101. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN-

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SURANCE PROVISIONS.

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Section 4007 of the Supple-

14 mental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252;

- 15 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—
- 16 (A) by striking "January 3, 2012" each place
- 17 it appears and inserting "January 3, 2013";

| 1 | (B) in the heading for subsection $(b)(2)$, by |
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| 2 | striking "JANUARY 3, 2012" and inserting "JANUARY |
| 3 | 3, 2013"; and |
| 4 | (C) in subsection (b)(3), by striking "June 9, |
| 5 | 2012" and inserting "June 8, 2013". |
| 6 | (2) Section 2005 of the Assistance for Unemployed |
| 7 | Workers and Struggling Families Act, as contained in |
| 8 | Public Law 111–5 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note; 123 Stat. 444), |
| 9 | is amended— |
| 10 | (A) by striking "January 4, 2012" each place |
| 11 | it appears and inserting "January 4, 2013"; and |
| 12 | (B) in subsection (c), by striking "June 11, |
| 13 | 2012" and inserting "June 11, 2013". |
| 14 | (3) Section 5 of the Unemployment Compensation |
| 15 | Extension Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–449; 26 U.S.C. |
| 16 | 3304 note) is amended by striking "June 10, 2012" and |
| 17 | inserting "June 10, 2013". |
| 18 | (b) FUNDING.—Section 4004(e)(1) of the Supple- |
| 19 | mental Appropriations Act, 2008 (Public Law 110–252; |
| 20 | 26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended— |
| 21 | (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking "and" at |
| 22 | the end; and |
| 23 | (2) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the fol- |
| 24 | lowing: |

| 1 | "(H) the amendments made by section |
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| 2 | 101(a)(1) of the Emergency Unemployment |
| 3 | Compensation Extension Act of 2011; and". |

4 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
5 this section shall take effect as if included in the enact6 ment of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reau7 thorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010 (Public Law
8 111–312).

9 SEC. 102. MODIFICATION OF INDICATORS UNDER THE EX10 TENDED BENEFIT PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 203 of the Federal-State
Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26
U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d), by striking "December
31, 2011" and inserting "December 31, 2012"; and
(2) in subsection (f)(2), by striking "December
31, 2011" and inserting "December 31, 2012".

18 (b) INDICATOR.—Section 203(d) of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 19 20 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended by adding at the end the following: "Effective with respect to compensation for 21 22 weeks of unemployment beginning on or after January 1, 23 2012 (or, if later, the date established pursuant to State 24 law) and ending on or before December 31, 2012, the 25 State may by statute, regulation, or other issuance having the force and effect of law provide that the determination
 of whether there has been a State 'on' or 'off' indicator
 beginning or ending any extended benefit period shall be
 made under this subsection, disregarding subparagraph
 (A) of paragraph (1) and disregarding 'either subpara graph (A) or' in paragraph (2).".

7 (c) ALTERNATIVE TRIGGER.—Section 203(f) of the
8 Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act
9 of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 3304 note) is amended—

10 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-11 graph (4); and

12 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-13 lowing:

14 "(3) Effective with respect to compensation for weeks 15 of unemployment beginning on or after January 1, 2012 (or, if later, the date established pursuant to State law) 16 17 and ending on or before December 31, 2012, the State may by statute, regulation, or other issuance with the 18 force and effect of law provide that the determination of 19 whether there has been a State 'on' or 'off' indicator be-20 21 ginning or ending any extended benefit period shall be 22 made under this subsection, disregarding clause (ii) of 23 paragraph (1)(A) and as if paragraph (1)(B) had been 24 amended by striking 'either the requirements of clause (i) or (ii)' and inserting 'the requirements of clause (i)'.". 25

1SEC. 103. ADDITIONAL EXTENDED UNEMPLOYMENT BENE-2FITS UNDER THE RAILROAD UNEMPLOY-3MENT INSURANCE ACT.

4 (a) EXTENSION.—Section 2(c)(2)(D)(iii) of the Rail-5 road Unemployment Insurance Act, as added by section 2006 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 6 7 2009 (Public Law 111–5) and as amended by section 9 8 of the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance 9 Act of 2009 (Public Law 111–92) and section 505 of the Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, 10 and Job Creation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–312), is 11 amended-12

13 (1) by striking "June 30, 2011" and inserting
14 "June 30, 2012"; and

(2) by striking "December 31, 2011" and inserting "December 31, 2012".

17 (b) CLARIFICATION ON AUTHORITY TO USE 18 FUNDS.—Funds appropriated under either the first or 19 second sentence of clause (iv) of section 2(c)(2)(D) of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act shall be available 20 21 to cover the cost of additional extended unemployment 22 benefits provided under such section 2(c)(2)(D) by reason 23 of the amendments made by subsection (a) as well as to 24 cover the cost of such benefits provided under such section 2(c)(2)(D), as in effect on the day before the date of the 25 enactment of this Act. 26

TITLE II—STATE AND EMPLOYER ASSISTANCE

3 SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR
4 STATES WITH ADVANCES.

Section 1202(b)(10)(A) of the Social Security Act
(42 U.S.C. 1322(b)(10)(A)) is amended, in the matter before clause (i), by striking "2010—" and inserting "2010
and the 12-month period beginning on October 1, 2011—
".

10SEC. 202. FUTA CREDIT REDUCTIONS FOR 2011 CONTIN-11GENT ON VOLUNTARY AGREEMENTS.

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3302(c) of the Internal
13 Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

14 (1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as para-15 graph (4), and

16 (2) by inserting after paragraph (2) the fol-17 lowing new paragraph:

18 "(3)(A) If a State has entered into a voluntary 19 agreement under section 203 of the Emergency Un-20 employment Compensation Extension Act of 2011, 21 the provisions of paragraph (2) shall be applied with 22 respect to the taxable year beginning January 1, 23 2011, or any succeeding taxable year, by deeming 24 January 1, 2012, to be the first January 1 occurring 25 after January 1, 2010. For purposes of paragraph

1 (2), consecutive taxable years in the period com-2 mencing January 1, 2012, shall be determined as if 3 the taxable year which begins on January 1, 2012, 4 were the taxable year immediately succeeding the 5 taxable year which began on January 1, 2010. No 6 taxpayer shall be subject to credit reductions under 7 this paragraph for the taxable year beginning Janu-8 ary 1, 2011.

9 "(B) If the voluntary agreement specified in
10 subparagraph (A) is terminated under section
11 203(e) of the Emergency Unemployment Compensa12 tion Extension Act of 2011, subparagraph (A) shall
13 not be effective for any taxable year.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after
December 31, 2010.

17 SEC.203. ASSISTANCE CONTINGENT ON VOLUNTARY18AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendment made by section
20 201 shall not apply with respect to any State with which
21 the Secretary of Labor has not entered into a voluntary
22 agreement under this section.

(b) APPLICATION.—Any State that has 1 or more
outstanding repayable advances from the Federal unemployment account under section 1201 of the Social Secu-

rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1321) may apply to the Secretary of
 Labor to enter into a voluntary agreement under this sec tion.

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4 (c) REQUIREMENTS.—An application described in 5 subsection (b) shall be submitted within such time, and 6 in such form and manner, as the Secretary of Labor may 7 require, except that any such application shall include cer-8 tification by the State that during the period of the agree-9 ment—

10 (1) the method governing the computation of 11 regular compensation under the State law of the 12 State will not be modified in a manner such that the 13 average weekly benefit amount of regular compensa-14 tion which will be payable during the period of the 15 agreement will be less than the average weekly ben-16 efit amount of regular compensation which would 17 have otherwise been payable under the State law as 18 in effect on the date of the enactment of this sub-19 section;

(2) the State law of the State will not be modified in a manner such that any unemployed individual who would be eligible for regular compensation under the State law in effect on such date of
enactment would be ineligible for regular compensation during the period of the agreement or would be

subject to any disqualification during the period of
 the agreement that the individual would not have
 been subject to under the State law in effect on such
 date of enactment; and

(3) the State law of the State will not be modi-5 6 fied in a manner such that the maximum amount of 7 regular compensation that any unemployed indi-8 vidual would be eligible to receive in a benefit year 9 during the period of the agreement will be less than 10 the maximum amount of regular compensation that 11 the individual would have been eligible to receive 12 during a benefit year under the State law in effect 13 on such date of enactment.

(d) DECISION.—The Secretary of Labor shall review
any application received from a State to enter into a voluntary agreement under this section and, within 30 days
after the date of receipt, approve or disapprove the application and notify the Governor of the State of the Secretary's decision, including—

20 (1) if approved, the effective date of the agree-21 ment; and

(2) if disapproved, the reasons why it was disapproved.

24 (e) TERMINATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—If, after reasonable notice 2 and opportunity for a hearing, the Secretary of 3 Labor finds that a State with which the Secretary 4 has entered into an agreement under this section 5 has modified State law so that it no longer contains 6 the provisions specified in paragraph (1), (2), or (3)7 of subsection (c) or has failed to comply substan-8 tially with any of those provisions, the agreement 9 shall be terminated, effective as of such date as the 10 Secretary shall determine, but in no event later than 11 December 31, 2012.

12 (2) EFFECT WITH RESPECT TO REPAYABLE AD-13 VANCES.—If an agreement under this section with a 14 State is terminated, then, effective as of the termi-15 nation date of such agreement, paragraph (10) of 16 section 1202(b) of the Social Security Act shall, for 17 purposes of such State, be applied as if subpara-18 graph (A) of such paragraph had been amended by 19 striking the date specified in such subparagraph (in 20 the matter before clause (i) thereof) and inserting 21 the termination date of such agreement.

(f) REGULATIONS.—Any regulations or guidance necessary to carry out this title or any of the amendments
made by this title may be prescribed by—

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(1) to the extent that they relate to section 201,
 the Secretary of Labor; and

3 (2) to the extent that they relate to section 202,
4 the Secretary of the Treasury.

5 (g) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the 6 terms "State", "State law", "regular compensation", and 7 "benefit year" have the respective meanings given such 8 terms under section 205 of the Federal-State Extended 9 Unemployment Compensation Act of 1970 (26 U.S.C. 10 3304 note).

11 SEC. 204. SOLVENCY BONUS.

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12 Section 904 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.13 1104) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Solvency Bonus

15 (h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the amount which is credited under subsection (e) 16 17 to the book account of the State agency of a solvent State shall, for each quarter to which this subsection applies, 18 be equal to the amount which would be determined under 19 20 this section, for such State agency and for such quarter, 21 if the 5th sentence of subsection (b) were applied by 22 using—

23 "(A) the average rate of interest which (but for24 this subsection) would otherwise have been deter-

| 1 | mined under subsection (b) for purposes of such |
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| 2 | quarter; plus |
| 3 | "(B) an additional 2 percentage points. |
| 4 | "(2) For purposes of this subsection, a State shall |
| 5 | be considered to be a 'solvent State' if the outstanding |
| 6 | balance for such State of advances under title XII is equal |
| 7 | to zero. A determination as to whether or not a State is |
| 8 | a solvent State shall be made by the Secretary of Labor— |
| 9 | "(A) for each State; |
| 10 | "(B) for each quarter to which this subsection |
| 11 | applies; and |
| 12 | "(C) based on such date or period (before the |
| 13 | 1st day of such quarter), and otherwise in such |
| 14 | manner, as the Secretary of Labor shall determine |
| 15 | in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury. |
| 16 | "(3) This subsection applies to each quarter in cal- |
| 17 | endar year 2012. |
| 18 | "(4) Nothing in this subsection shall have the effect |
| 19 | of causing the amount which is credited under subsection |
| 20 | (e) to any account in the Fund for any quarter to be less |
| 21 | than the amount which (disregarding this subsection) |
| 22 | would otherwise have been so credited to such account for |
| 23 | such quarter.". |

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