

SENATE DEMS BROKER DEAL TO EXTEND UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS



For the two million unemployed Americans whose benefits are set to run out by the end of the year, this will come as welcome relief. Senate Democrats have reached a consensus on a bill to extend unemployment benefits for everyone by 14 weeks, and an additional 6 weeks for anyone in a state with unemployment above 8.5%. Majority Leader Harry Reid wanted a quick vote but Republicans objected, wanting more time to study the measure and offer possible amendments. If passed, it will need to be reconciled with a House bill that gives 13 extra weeks of unemployment, but only to those in the 27 states with unemployment above 8.5%.

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