



The Iowa Legislature is making changes to our unemployment laws. These changes will drastically affect construction workers and the Construction Industry.

One of the proposed changes reduces unemployment benefits from 26 weeks to only 16 weeks. With these proposed changes many workers will not be returning to work for you after a layoff — instead they will be forced to accept a job with another employer.

These proposed changes are bad for construction workers. Here's some highlights:

- Creates a one-week waiting period for all unemployment benefits, at a time when people can't afford to lose income. This hits construction workers who face seasonal/short term layoffs extremely hard.
- Cut nearly 40% of available potential benefit weeks — from 26 to 16 weeks.

Without the help of unemployment benefits throughout the entire winter, many of our skilled construction workforce will decide that it is not worth it to remain in the Construction Industry.

With the passage of the largest Federal Infrastructure Bill in history, the Construction Industry will need to retain and recruit many new workers. We cannot let the Iowa Legislature hinder us in attracting new workers to our Construction industry.

Many construction workers work long hours, sometimes 50-60 hours a week, in the Spring, Summer, and Fall. Due to Iowa's weather, they are laid off in the Winter months, planning on returning to their employers in the Spring. Many times, the layoff begins in early November and goes into late April. Under the new Law, they would run out of Unemployment Benefits and be forced to take another job at a reduced wage.

Call your legislator and simply tell them NO TO UNEMPLOYMENT CUTS.

Call the Senate switchboard at (515) 281-3371

Call the House switchboard at (515) 281-3221