

Dear Friend,

Last week, I wrote to you about the signs of economic recovery in our community. Although the economic situation shows some signs of improvement, many problems still remain. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national unemployment rate reached a staggering 9.8 percent in September, the highest it's been in 26 years. We need to focus on efforts that create new jobs and grow our economy.

One proposal that I strongly support is a tax credit for companies that create new jobs. The tax credit would work by offsetting the payroll costs of adding employees. Some economists estimate that this proposal could create more than two million jobs nationwide in the first 12 months alone.

I have every confidence that we will be able to get our economy moving again, but the only way that we can accomplish this is if we are aggressive about job creation. I am pressing the White House to concentrate on a new set of tax incentives to encourage companies to hire and retain employees and provide new training and worker development.

I'd like to hear your thoughts about the recession and unemployment in our community. Please fill out the survey below to let me know your ideas about how we can create jobs and improve the economy. And for the latest information on the economy, visit my website at <http://israel.house.gov>

Sincerely,

Steve Israel  
Member of Congress