



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Congressional Gridlock Ends Federal Unemployment Insurance Benefits for 44,146 Wisconsin Residents**

**Milwaukee** – SEIU Wisconsin State Council President Mike Thomas issued the following statement regarding today’s expiration of unemployment insurance benefits for two million out-of-work Americans:

“Today is a sad day in America. In each and every state in our country, there are hardworking Americans who are out of a job through no fault of their own. They’ve been counting on unemployment insurance benefits to feed their families, pay bills and keep up on their mortgages. In Wisconsin alone, 44,146 unemployed workers will have to find other ways to make ends meet.

“How can any Member of Congress look their constituents in the eye and deny them the assistance they rely on to keep them from losing their homes or going hungry?

“Right now, there is only one job available for every five unemployed Americans. Until we create more jobs and get America back to work, Congress must do its part to help families in crisis. Congress should immediately pass the bill introduced by Senator Baucus that would prevent the end of the federal unemployment insurance program benefits for these out-of-work citizens.”

SEIU Wisconsin State Council coordinates the legislative and political agenda of Wisconsin’s seven SEIU locals. SEIU is the nation’s largest and fastest growing union with 2.1 million members nationwide and 17,000 members in Wisconsin. For more information visit [www.seiuwi.org](http://www.seiuwi.org).

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