

South Dakota Department of Labor  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501  
[www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org)

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**Media Contact:** Dawn Dovre, 605.773.3094

### **Unemployment benefits extended for up to seven weeks**

**PIERRE, S.D.** – Governor Mike Rounds announced today a second extension of unemployment benefits has been passed by Congress and signed by President Bush.

The first extension was effective July 6, 2008, and made up to 13 additional weeks of benefits available to workers who had received all benefits available on their state unemployment claim. This second extension is effective November 23, 2008, and will provide up to seven more weeks of benefits.

Workers may qualify for the extra benefits depending on their unemployment status and other eligibility requirements. Payments are at the same weekly rate the worker received on their state claim, with a weekly maximum of \$298.

The South Dakota Department of Labor is directly notifying individuals who may be eligible for the benefits. Individuals can contact the Unemployment Insurance Call Center at 605.626.3179 to file a claim. For more information on the unemployment insurance program, visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).