Honorable House Committee members:

We, a small business, support obvious changes in how Unemployment Insurance rates are determined-expanding the experience-rating band on both ends to properly reward businesses for not using the system and penalizing businesses that overuse the system, increasing the number of incremental rating steps, making rate increases or decreases more timely depending on utilization, and increasing the taxable wage base to $14,000.

In addition, we support a complete review of unemployment benefits eligibility.  We have serious reservations about relatively short-time temporary workers, who have no expectation of job permanency, qualifying for unemployment benefits.  Likewise, we don't believe that Unemployment Insurance should be used by businesses as part of their compensation package for scheduled temporary layoffs.

**Jimmy Chao, P.E.**



**Chao & Associates, Inc**
7 Clusters Court - Columbia, SC 29210
TEL:   (803) 772-8420 - FAX:   (803) 772-9120