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Township of Egg Harbor

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Office of the Mayor

February 26, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

I serve as Mayor of Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey, which is located in the southern part of New Jersey adjacent to Atlantic City. I have been Mayor for twenty-six (26) years of the thirty (30) years that I have served my community.

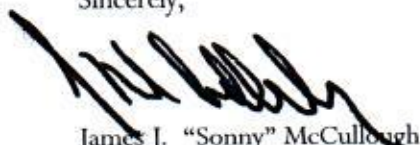
Our area currently has the highest unemployment rate in the nation. The unemployment rate in Atlantic County is 11%. The unemployment rate in New Jersey is about 6% and the national unemployment rate is approximately 5.8%.

The recent casino closings in Atlantic City have significantly impacted Atlantic County, with over 8,000 jobs being lost. If the Taj Mahal Casino closes, there will be another 2,000 people who will be unemployed. These figures do not include indirect loss of employment due to the closing of the casinos. There are thousands of foreclosures and sheriff sales currently taking place because these people who've lost their jobs. Now they are losing their homes because they cannot pay their mortgages or taxes. The twenty-six (26) weeks of unemployment runs out this month for most of these unfortunate people.

We need your assistance to extend benefits to these people until such time as they can either find a new job locally or relocate to an area where they can get employment. This situation is similar to the steel mills closing in Pittsburgh, the car industry in Detroit, and the coal mines in West Virginia in past years. Our New Jersey Senators and Congressional representatives have been trying to help yet have not been successful.

Please, we need your help and support.

Sincerely,



James J. "Sonny" McCullough
Mayor