
OUR JOBS CRISIS AND THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON

Fifty years ago, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., led a March that demanded jobs for all regardless of race, at decent wages. [His minimum wage demand would be \$15.33 at July 2013 prices.] These demands of fifty years ago are still unmet.

Currently there are **26 million people, 16% of the labor force**, who want a job but don't have one, and millions more are working full-time at wages that place their families below even our stingy poverty line. This means about **44 million people and many of their families** are casualties of the job crisis. Black workers continue to be unemployed at a rate twice that for white workers; Hispanic workers have a rate nearly 40% higher, and both suffer wage disparities.*

CAN WE DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS CRISIS? YES, WE CAN!

Government can create useful jobs. Everyone knows that our roads need repair, bridges are dangerously eroding, children need more teachers, working parents lack affordable child care, millions lack health care, and the very existence of our planet demands conversion of our energy system to green. **All these needs can and should be met by federal action** – as was done during the 1930s when the Roosevelt administration put millions work doing useful jobs that have made a lasting contribution to our country – roads, bridges, schools, libraries, housing, parks, arts, culture and much more.

These jobs partially pay for themselves, because workers with decent jobs pay more in taxes and don't need unemployment compensation or food stamps. Tax revenues from corporations, banks and others who have benefited from bailouts and economic recovery without doing their part to create enough jobs can finance remaining costs.

Government will respond – but only if we organize and demand it. [See the reverse side]

* **To learn more** about the jobs crisis and how to achieve jobs for all at living wages, visit the National Jobs for All Coalition websites, www.njfac.org and www.jobscampaign.org, or email us at njfac@njfac.org.

National Jobs For All Coalition • P.O. Box 96, Lynbrook, NY 11563
Phone: 203-856-3877 • Web: www.njfac.org • E-mail: njfac@njfac.org

★ PUT AMERICA TO WORK!! ★

Pass Comprehensive Federal Job Creation Legislation Now!!

HR 1000 – *The Humphrey-Hawkins 21st Century Full Employment & Training Act*

introduced by Rep. John Conyers (D-MI), with 43 cosponsors, would create a national jobs program, recommitting the U.S. to a national goal of full employment. This means that everyone has the right to useful work at living wages. The bill would create millions of jobs through partnerships with state and local governments, community organizations, and small businesses. These jobs would be in infrastructure repair, energy and conservation, education, health care, and human services. A small tax on financial transactions, generating \$100-150 billion per year, would fund jobs – enough for 2.5 to 3.9 million jobs during the first two years of the program. Job creation will also reduce the federal deficit.

HR 1617 – *Emergency Jobs to Restore the American Dream Act*

introduced by Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) with 17 cosponsors, would create 2.2 million jobs over two years, to build and renovate schools and housing, do energy audit programs and retrofits, and expand childcare and early education. The bill would create new jobs for teachers, police, firefighters, and health care workers, work-study jobs for college students, and jobs for youth. Costs would be paid for through higher tax brackets for the rich, eliminating subsidies for Big Oil, and closing loopholes for corporations that outsource American jobs.

HR 2553 – *National Infrastructure Bank Act*

introduced by Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), with 73 cosponsors. The bill would create and fund a public bank to leverage private and public capital to support infrastructure projects of substantial regional and national significance.



You can help!!

- 1. Pass a resolution supporting these bills** in your union, Labor Council, community organization or city council.
- 2. Hold a “First Friday” or “First Saturday” vigil** in your community to protest high unemployment, and demand a national jobs program. (The Bureau of Labor Statistics releases unemployment statistics on the First Friday of every month, so you can piggyback on local coverage of the jobs crisis.). Contact Logan Martinez of National Jobs for All Coalition for more information. loganmartinez2u@yahoo.com or (937) 260-2591.
- 3. Organize a Local Community Forum or “Citizens’ Hearings about the Unemployment Crisis.”** Invite unemployed and underemployed workers to speak about their experiences. Invite local experts to talk about the human costs of unemployment, and the need for a national jobs program.

National Jobs For All Coalition • P.O. Box 96, Lynbrook, NY 11563
Phone: 203-856-3877 • Web: www.njfac.org • E-mail: njfac@njfac.org