

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Congressman Greg Gianforte <MT00GG.Outreach@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 10, 2020 9:04 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners Office  
**Subject:** INFO FOR YOU -- unemployment benefits

News from Congressman Greg Gianforte

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U.S. Congressman working for Montana

# GREG GIANFORTE



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I want to update you with information about the expanded unemployment benefits that were included in the most recent COVID-19 emergency relief package, the CARES Act.

If you know someone who is unemployed or facing unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, I hope you will forward this email to them.

**How the CARES Act expands unemployment benefits**

The CARES Act:

- provides \$250 billion in funding for the expansion of unemployment benefits,
- increases benefits by \$600 per week for the next four months,
- makes 13 additional weeks of unemployment benefits available for those who need it, and waives the normal one-week waiting period.

**Help for self-employed workers, independent contractors, gig workers**

Under the CARES Act, unemployment benefits are expanded to individuals who have not been eligible before, including self-employed workers, independent contractors, and gig workers.

Earlier this week, the U.S. Department of Labor released the following information:

“Eligibility for PUA [Pandemic Unemployment Assistance] includes those individuals not eligible for regular unemployment compensation or extended benefits under state or federal law or pandemic emergency unemployment compensation (PEUC), including those who have exhausted all rights to such benefits. Covered individuals also include self-employed individuals, those seeking part-time employment, and individuals lacking sufficient work history.”

### **How to apply for unemployment benefits**

For more information about unemployment benefits and how to apply, please visit the websites of the U.S. Department of Labor ([HERE](#)) and the Montana Department of Labor & Industry ([HERE](#)).

For more COVID-19 resources, please visit my website. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to my office.



Greg



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## **OFFICE LOCATIONS**

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