WASHINGTON, DC – Today, Congressman Charlie Wilson (OH-6) voted to stimulate the local economy and provide stability to American families by extending unemployment insurance benefits to those hit hardest by the recession. The Unemployment Compensation Act of 2009 passed the House of Representatives 331-83.

The legislation will extend unemployment benefits by 13 weeks to workers in states with the highest unemployment rates who have exhausted or will soon exhaust their benefits. Ohio is currently facing 10.8% unemployment (641,000 jobless workers), with over 11,000 jobless workers expected to run out of unemployment at the end of September. In Ohio's Sixth District, the unemployment rates range from 9.5-16.6% (as of August 2009).

"I was proud to vote for this legislation, which is another crucial step in providing immediate relief to those families struggling to make ends meet," Wilson said. "In these tough economic times, extending unemployment benefits is one of the most efficient and fast-acting ways to stimulate our local economies."