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Post Office Box 2910
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SELECT COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL ECONOMIC STABILIZATION FUNDING

August 19, 2009

Mr. Larry E. Temple
Executive Director
Texas Workforce Commission
101 E. 15th Street
Austin, Texas 78778-0001

Dear Mr. Temple:

Thank you for your letter clarifying that Texas law does not disqualify individuals from receiving unemployment benefits if they are unemployed and seeking only part-time work. Your letter also states that the disqualification was established by "TWC Commission Precedent and Rules." I would appreciate it if you could provide copies of the rules and precedents and their effective dates.

In addition, we discussed the limited full-time employment opportunities available to job seekers in today's job market and you agreed to provide information on the possible savings that could occur to the unemployment fund if individuals are permitted to locate part-time work. I understand that one's unemployment benefit is reduced according to part-time wages received. I believe the Committee would benefit from a complete understanding of why Texas should not encourage those on unemployment to look for any job available. I am certain there are pros and cons, and the Committee would like to know them. I look forward to receiving this information.

If you have any questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact me or the Select Committee staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Dunnam".

Jim Dunnam
Chairman, Select Committee on Federal
Economic Stabilization Funding