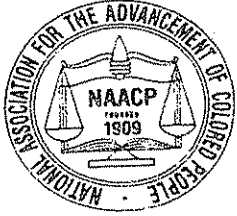


**NORTH CAROLINA NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE**

114 WEST PARRISH STREET, SECOND FLOOR • DURHAM, NC 27701
919/682-4700 • 919/682-4711 • EXECDIRNAACPNC@GMAIL.COM



REV. DR. WILLIAM J. BARBER, II
PRESIDENT

AMINA J. TURNER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

4 February 2010

Hon. Beverly Perdue
Governor of North Carolina
116 W. Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27602

Re: Emergency Jobs Session of Legislature

Dear Gov. Perdue:

We were struck at our December meeting with your courageous statement that what we really needed to get our people back to work was a public works program. When the State's figures came out in January that showed that 11.2% of all North Carolinians were looking for work, it was further evidence that your understanding was correct. We know the 11.2% figure doesn't include the structurally unemployed. Nor does it show the obscene unemployment rates of people of color, of young people, and of people in certain poor areas of our state. We know, you and I, that more targeted data would show that our job-less brothers and sisters would be in the 20-30% range in some groups. And I need not remind you we are shelling out millions in public funds each week in unemployment benefits, in warehousing people in prison, and in our criminal justice system which is flooded even the more amidst times of joblessness.

11 percent of North Carolinians, twenty-two percent of African-Americans in North Carolina are unemployed and need jobs today, not next month or next year this economic devastation for thousands of families created by the recession makes it more important than ever that state lawmakers enact the 14 point agenda, especially the portions related to economic investment adopted in 2007 by 80 plus member groups of the H K on J Coalition as well as a progressive public jobs program that insures economic stimulus money is use in this state to help those at the economic bottom who are hurting the most.

Therefore, we ask you to call an emergency session of the legislature as soon as possible to work with you and the jobless of this State to address the issue of joblessness and unemployment.

We would also like to help you in calling a Jobs Summit to hear from grassroots activist who work on behalf people out of work for a week, a year, or five years—to remind some of our representatives what hopelessness does to you and to share our progressive ideas. We will support your efforts to unite North Carolina around proposals that will address the needs and strategies for a National/State jobs program.

Our Coalition, which assembles next Saturday at the 4th Historic Thousands on Jones Street Assembly, will be encouraging our representatives to focus on this state crisis in hope.

Sincerely,

NC NAACP • 114 W. Parrish St., 2nd Fl • Durham, NC 27701 • 919/682-4700

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II, NCNAACP President

c: To HkonJ Partners