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Midwestern Governors Call on Congress to Act on Tax Credit Extensions

Washington, D.C. - Midwestern governors sent a letter last week to Congress urging an extension of expiring, or recently expired, tax credits that are vital to the success of job creation and retention in the Midwest.

The governors expressed to Congress the importance of working together quickly to finalize these important provisions. Necessary credits include several energy tax provisions that incorporate credits for home efficiency and alternative fuel vehicles, including for biodiesel and other alternative fuels. In addition, several disaster relief tax credits are necessary to continue the recovery efforts of the historic Midwestern floods and other natural disasters from 2008.

Recognizing that individual governors would prioritize the tax credits differently, governors urged that these provisions be taken as a whole to preserve and create American jobs. At the end of 2009, many of these tax credits were not extended despite benefiting the economy. This has led to many businesses and industries cutting payrolls and eliminating jobs.

"At a time when businesses and families are struggling to make ends meet, Congress must extend these tax credits to provide fiscal stability and recovery from the recession," says Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, current chair of the Midwestern Governors Association. "These tax credits will continue to provide the increased investments we need to revitalize our communities and boost the Midwest's leadership in the new energy economy."

The purpose of the Midwestern Governors Association is to foster regional development, attain greater efficiency in state administration, facilitate interstate cooperation, improve intergovernmental relationships, and provide a medium for the exchange of views and experiences on issues of general importance to the people of the Midwestern states.

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