



# Legislative Update

## Assemblywoman Marilyn Kirkpatrick

AUGUST 2010

Assembly District 1

### Marilyn Kirkpatrick

4747 Showdown Drive  
North Las Vegas, NV 89031

[mkirkpatrick@asm.state.nv.us](mailto:mkirkpatrick@asm.state.nv.us)

702-655-0332 (Home)

### I'm on the Web!

[www.marilynkirkpatrick.com](http://www.marilynkirkpatrick.com)

Dear Neighbor—

For the last few weeks, I've been out in our neighborhoods, walking door-to-door and talking to as many people as possible about the critical issues facing Nevadans today. I hope we have the chance to talk, and as always, please feel free to contact me by phone at 702-767-1315 or by email at [marilyn@marilynkirkpatrick.com](mailto:marilyn@marilynkirkpatrick.com). I look forward to speaking with you.

I've heard from many constituents about the issues that concern them most. What I am hearing most frequently are concerns about jobs and our economy, education and the need to make government work more efficiently. I have heard more specific concerns that range from graffiti, foreclosure, neighborhood blight, needing help for a senior citizen, and more.

I know that many people are looking for a place where they can get questions answered. Below, you'll find the contact information for several organizations and agencies that offer assistance on a wide range of problems. Many of the services listed below have very specific requirements to qualify for assistance. If an issue that concerns you is not listed below or if you have any difficulties reaching these organizations, please contact me and I would be happy to help follow up.

I'm often asked about the recent extension of unemployment benefits and how it will affect individuals who have exhausted a claim. Below, you'll find the answers to your most frequently asked questions about benefits.

### Public Safety and Neighborhood Improvement

For graffiti removal, call the Southern Nevada Graffiti Hotline at (702)455-4509.

For concerns about criminals in your neighborhood, call Crime Stoppers at (702)385-5555.

To remove abandoned vehicles from your neighborhood, call (702)455-8697.

To file complaints with Clark County Code Enforcement, call (702) 455-4191 or file your complaint online at <http://dsnet.co.clark.nv.us/dsweb/complaints.html>.

If standing water is creating a mosquito problem in your neighborhood, contact the Mosquito Control Hotline (702)759-1220; or visit <http://www.southernnevadahealthdistrict.org/>.

### Health Care

To get help with prescription costs, file a complaint, or find other useful healthcare programs, call the Nevada State Consumer Health Assistance Bureau: (702)486-3587, or visit <http://govcha.state.nv.us/>.

### Services for Seniors

For help with housing and to learn more about programs for seniors and the disabled, including help with the cost of prescription drugs, call the Nevada Department of Aging and Disability Services Division at (866)303-6323 or visit <http://www.nvaging.net> or <http://dhhs.nv.gov/SeniorRx.htm>.

The Senior Citizen Law Project provides free legal services to residents of Clark County who are 60+ in the areas of small claims, consumer disputes and other areas. Contact the Senior Citizen law project at (702) 229-6596.

For help on energy related issues including help paying your past due electric bill, obtaining free air conditioning and furnace repair, energy education and conservation and rebate information and information on social services, you should attend the Senior Energy Assistance Expo on Saturday, August 14 from 10am-2pm at Cashman Center. Click [here](#) for more information on the Expo, to determine if you are eligible for assistance and to receive a free parking coupon for the event.

### Foreclosures and Other Financial Problems

If you are at risk of losing your home, contact the Foreclosure Mediation Hotline at (702)486-9380 or visit <http://www.nevadajudiciary.us/index.php/foreclosuremediation>.

For help with bankruptcy counseling, financial counseling and debt management programs, down payment assistance programs or to learn about financial literacy programs, call Consumer Credit Counseling Services (702) 364-0344, or visit <http://www.ccsnevada.org/>.

The Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada provides a bankruptcy facilitator program, foreclosure protection program and "Ask a Lawyer" program. To learn more about these programs, call 386-1070, or visit <http://www.lacsn.org/>.

If you've been the victim of mortgage fraud in Southern Nevada, call the Southern Nevada Mortgage Fraud Hotline at 702-584-5555.

If you, or someone you know, doesn't have access to a phone, you may be eligible to receive a free cell phone with 60 minutes of free monthly airtime and access to emergency services from a government supported program called SafeLink. Click [here](#) to find out if you are eligible and to apply for service.

As one of the states hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis, Nevada has been awarded \$100 million to help qualified Nevadans reverse, prevent or stop the foreclosure process. The assistance programs will become available in mid-August and information will be available at <http://www.nahac.org/>.

### **Jobs**

If you are searching for a job, there are several online job search tools available including [www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com), [www.monster.com](http://www.monster.com), [www.careerbuilder.com](http://www.careerbuilder.com), and [www.idealists.org](http://www.idealists.org).

More information for people who are looking for work, including federal and local jobs, can be found on the Nevada Employment Security Division Job Seekers page at <http://detr.state.nv.us/ESD%20Pages/jobsearch.htm>.

If you would like to receive additional career training to improve your earning potential and job skills, visit Nevada Job Connect at <http://www.nevadajobconnect.com>.

If you've recently lost your job, you can apply online for benefits at [www.expressclaim.org](http://www.expressclaim.org) or call 702-486-0350.

### **Information for People Seeking an Extension of Unemployment Benefits**

In recent weeks, the discussion about extending unemployment benefits has been in the news. Several people have contacted me about what they need to do if they have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Here are the answers to some of your most frequently asked questions.

#### **If my benefits have expired, do I continue to file my unemployment benefit claim?**

Yes, you should continue to file. If you have exhausted a claim, you should apply for the next tier of benefits. You don't need to wait for a letter to re-apply. When you have received the letter of eligibility, this signals that weekly claims can be made. The Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) will update the system for any weeks that you were unable to file for benefits using the weekly certification system-- after you have applied for an extension.

#### **I've heard that I will receive \$25 less in benefits, is that true?**

If your unemployment claim was established before May 29, 2010, then you will continue to receive the \$25 weekly payment that is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This payment continues until December 7, 2010. Any new claim, filed after May 30, 2010, will not receive the \$25 weekly payment because the funding was not renewed with this extension of unemployment benefits.

#### **Should I contact the DETR office to reapply?**

Yes. Call centers are open Monday- Friday from 8am-5pm with new calls accepted until 4:15pm. The call centers will also be open on Saturday, August 14 and 21 from 8am- 2:30pm. In Southern Nevada, call 702-486-0350. You can also file at claim at [www.expressclaim.org](http://www.expressclaim.org).

#### **If I was out of work for 99 weeks, will I receive additional benefits?**

No. The maximum number of benefit weeks remains 99 weeks. The extension only allows individuals who would have been eligible to apply for the extended benefits program on June 2-November 30, to submit those claims.

#### **If my first 26 weeks of benefits recently ended, what should I do?**

File a claim for your first extension by calling 702-486-0350 or online at [www.expressclaim.org](http://www.expressclaim.org).

DETR hopes to have the 40,000 individuals who were impacted by the recent extension to have their benefits caught up by the third week of August.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Kirkpatrick