



## **Ohio Farm Bureau Federation**

“The unemployment supplement from the federal government helped many Ohioans get through a very challenging time, but it was intended to be a short-term solution. As businesses continue to do their best to respond to the growing demand across the food and farm sector, there are plentiful opportunities for the state’s workforce to get back on the job to help Ohio’s economy return to pre-pandemic levels. We appreciate Gov. DeWine taking the steps needed for the long-term success of Ohio’s employers and their employees.”

– *Ohio Farm Bureau Federation*

## **Ohio Business Roundtable**

“Ohio Business Roundtable members have spent months establishing guidelines and procedures to bring their workforce back in a way that keeps employees safe and healthy. With over 181,000 jobs available in the state, businesses have demonstrated that they are prepared to safely welcome back employees and provide the income necessary to support Ohio families and communities,” said Pat Tiberi, President and CEO of the Ohio Business Roundtable. “The Governor’s announcement signals that—while we must still be prepared to stop the spread of the virus—it is time we return our trust in Ohio’s economy. OBRT thanks the DeWine Administration for listening to the business community’s concern on this issue, and for taking action to encourage a safe return to work. ”

– *Pat Tiberi, President & CEO,  
Ohio Business Roundtable*

## **Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce**

“This is great news for Dayton area businesses and our local economy. Businesses are opening up fast and they have jobs they need filled now. It’s about getting back to business, getting back to work and moving forward.”

– *Chris Kershner, President & CEO,  
Dayton Area Chamber of  
Commerce*

## **National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)**

“In the most recent NFIB survey, a record 44% of small business owners report job openings they cannot fill. They are seeing a growth in sales but are those sales stunted by not having enough workers. Finding qualified employees remains the biggest challenge for small businesses and it is slowing economic growth.

The work-search requirement has been reinstated effective beginning the week of May 23. The additional move to eliminate the augmented \$300 per week in unemployment benefits by Ohio Governor Mike DeWine will help return individuals to the workforce. Short-term payments do not help a long-term jobs shortage problem, and in the long run, people are far better off with good-paying jobs which helps the whole economy recover.

Ohio’s economy is growing and growing faster than our neighboring states. We need a robust workforce to maintain our positive trajectory. The time for additional unemployment payments is over. We appreciate Ohio Governor Mike DeWine for recognizing that now is the time to strongly encourage everyone to get back to work.”

– *Roger Geiger, Executive Director,  
NFIB in Ohio*



### **The Buckeye Institute**

“Following his decision to reinstate the work-search requirements for unemployment benefits, Governor DeWine took additional steps to encourage workers to return the job market, and announced that Ohio will withdraw from the federal pandemic unemployment benefits program. Withdrawing from this program—which The Buckeye Institute recommended—is another sign that Ohio is recovering from the pandemic and it will encourage workers to return to the labor market and fill the tens of thousands of job vacancies we have across the state.”

– *Rea S. Hederman Jr., executive director of the Economic Research Center and vice president of policy, The Buckeye Institute*



### **The Ohio Chamber of Commerce**

“The Ohio Chamber of Commerce strongly endorses Gov. DeWine’s decision to eliminate the \$300 per week federal unemployment bonus. Making this decision now is the right thing to do and will bolster Ohio’s economic recovery.

The Buckeye State’s economy is showing strength coming out of the pandemic, but Ohio businesses desperately need workers to continue the positive upward trajectory. As a state, we must get rid of obstacles to returning to work and the governor’s actions will do exactly that.

Ohio’s businesses have proven that their places of employment are safe and thanks to Gov. DeWine and Lt. Gov. Husted vaccines are widely available to anyone who wants one, so workers should be encouraged to return to work.”

– *Andrew E. Doehrel, President & CEO, Ohio Chamber of Commerce*



### **The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants**

“Today the Governor and Lt. Governor took the next logical step down the path of continuing economic prosperity for Ohio. A strong economy demands a robust workforce. The Governor and Lt. Governor realize as we do that Ohio needs to move forward and get people back to work. Ohio businesses are in need of more workers, many of whom are not currently working due in part to the additional federal unemployment benefits they have been receiving. With the COVID-19 vaccine readily available, it is time to move forward. We are grateful for the Governor and Lt. Governor’s leadership and stewardship throughout the pandemic, which have put the state in a strong fiscal position.”

– *Gordon Gough, President & CEO, The Ohio Council of Retail Merchants*



### **Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber**

“We applaud Governor DeWine’s actions today to further restart our economy and move past the COVID pandemic in a safe and responsible manner. Vaccines are being administered, businesses across our region are open, and the demand for employees is growing louder by the day. Some businesses are even rolling out hiring incentives to attract workers as we continue to move forward. Government incentives should not be a reason for an individual to not re-enter the labor market.

The continued drop in jobless claims and COVID cases are hopeful signs that we are getting back to work and back on our feet. Ohioans who are able to work and able to find employment should do so as we pursue all efforts to strengthen and sustain our region’s economy.”

– *Jill P. Meyer, President & CEO, Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber*



**MIKE DEWINE**  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

## Statements Regarding Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)



### Ohio Restaurant Association

“On behalf of Ohio’s entire restaurant and hospitality community, the Ohio Restaurant Association supports Governor DeWine and Lieutenant Governor Husted’s announcement today that Ohio will join those states no longer accepting the additional weekly federal enhanced unemployment payment. As Ohio’s economy has rebounded and employment opportunities are plentiful, this is an appropriate step toward a full recovery.

Ohio’s unemployment system stepped up when it was needed during the depths of the COVID-19 crisis, but under Governor DeWine’s leadership, our economy is moving forward, and our state’s businesses, including nearly every one of Ohio’s restaurants, are now able to put many more Ohioans back to work. Today’s announcement is another appropriate and logical step forward for our state, and in light of the many restaurants actively looking to hire additional employees, is one element of a long-term solution to the workforce challenges our industry faces.

In addition, the Ohio Restaurant Association continues to encourage all Ohioans who have not yet been vaccinated to quickly take that step. As a member of Ohio’s Stop the Spread Coalition, we know this is the single most important thing each of us can do to continue a path back to a fuller tomorrow. Many of Ohio’s restaurants have stepped up to incentivize their employees to get vaccinated, and have developed innovative ways to help encourage their customers to get vaccinated as well.

The Ohio Restaurant Association continues to appreciate the strong and steady leadership of Governor DeWine, Lieutenant Governor Husted, and the entire Administration throughout this crisis and their support of Ohio’s employers for a full and robust recovery.

Ohio’s restaurants remain committed to helping to feed Ohioans, employ Ohioans, grow our economy and contribute to vibrant communities in every corner of the Buckeye State.

– John Barker, President and CEO,  
Ohio Restaurant Association