

Media Advisory

Franchot to Speak Today at Rally to Restore Federal Unemployment Aid

Tens of thousands of Marylanders depend on additional \$300 weekly benefit

WHO: Comptroller Peter Franchot
Members of UNITE HERE Local 7

WHAT: Comptroller Franchot this morning will join members of UNITE HERE Local 7, the largest union of hospitality workers in Maryland, calling on Governor Hogan to reverse his decision to end \$300 weekly supplemental federal unemployment benefits for tens of thousands of Marylanders who have lost jobs during the pandemic through no fault of their own.

Many hospitality workers who worked in hotels, entertainment venues and other facilities were laid off at the start of the pandemic and remain unemployed as business at large venues has been slow to return. For example, the Baltimore Convention Center is slated to remain a field hospital until October and Royal Farms Arena has no events scheduled until September.

It's estimated that more than 150,000 Marylanders receive weekly benefits through the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program, which were set to expire in early September before Hogan's decision earlier this week. Comptroller Franchot says ending the program two months early means the state will forgo \$1.5 billion in additional federal stimulus.

WHEN: **TODAY, June 4, 2021**
10:30 A.M.

WHERE: Outside Baltimore Convention Center
Corner of Sharp and Pratt Streets
Baltimore, MD 21201

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