

PETITION TO HOUSE OF COMMONS: Fix Employment Insurance NOW!

Whereas: At the start of COVID, the federal government relaxed Employment Insurance eligibility to improve access to emergency support for those most in need. Without these supports, it would have been much worse for workers and their families due to the COVID closures, lockdowns and layoffs. Statistics Canada has verified the dramatic, positive impact these changes had on improving workers' access to EI.

Whereas: The federal government allowed these rules to expire without implementing the permanent changes needed to make EI work for workers. As a result, workers have faced a huge jump in the qualifying hours required for both Regular and Special Benefits (parental, sickness, etc), and the allocation/clawback of separation payments.

Whereas: Women, workers of colour, and others in precarious jobs have been disproportionately harmed by the government's inaction.

Whereas: Job losses are on the rise thanks to higher interest rates and an inaccessible and inadequate EI program will be another disaster for workers who need access to EI now and when the next crisis hits.

We demand the federal government act immediately to:

- ✓ **Expand EI access:**
 - Set a universal 360-hour or 12-week qualifying rule;
 - Ensure migrant workers have access to EI;
 - End harsh disqualification rules that cut off EI access to vulnerable workers;
 - End misclassifications that leave employees wrongly called self-employed independent contractors with no EI access; and
 - Provide income benefits so long as workers are in approved training;
- ✓ **Improve the weekly benefit rate, include a guaranteed weekly minimum and ensure up to 50 weeks of support for those who need it; and**
- ✓ **Fund a new, annual federal government contribution to EI to help pay for improvements, provide adequate staffing with fair pay, and ensure EI acts as an effective economic stabilizer at times of crisis.**

Name (please PRINT)	Address	City	Postal Code	Signature

Date collected:

Location:

Collected by:



Sign me up!
I want to join the
Fight for Justice
for Workers

Email a photo of a completed petition to: info@Justice4Workers.org or mail them to Justice for Workers c/o Suite 223, 720 Spadina Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2T9 ✂

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