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To the Governor and the State Legislature.

We, a delegation of citizens, elected in a number of cities of Alabama by the unemployed under the leadership of the Unemployed Council, are delegated to present the following statement:

At the same time that the State Legislature is in Special Session there exists widespread unemployment and great misery among the people of Alabama. The relief being afforded by the Red Cross is entirely inadequate, and is nothing but a slow process of starvation. The various self help schemes in the cities are plans to keep the unemployed on a permanent pauper level. The conditions of the unemployed is getting worse, unemployment is increasing, and the question of immediate relief is the foremost issue confronting the thousands of unemployed and their families.

The Special Session is not attempting to meet this need. The questions being discussed at the Legislature are to increase the burdens of the people, put thru a general sales tax, etc. All the so called economy measures are attempts to lower the living standards of the people.

In answer to these conditions, we have been elected as a delegation to present the following demands for immediate unemployment relief which we believe should take precedence over all questions before the Legislature:

1. \$3 cash weekly relief for the average family, in addition to the present local relief, pending passage of an unemployment insurance bill.
2. Free utilities (gas, light, water and rent) for all unemployed and part time workers earning less than \$7.00 a week.
3. Adequate care for homeless, young and single workers.
4. Provision for opening of all schools, payment of salaries to teachers and free lunches and books for school children.
5. Right to vote for all unemployed without payment of poll tax.
6. No discrimination against Negroes in all of these demands.

The Unemployed Councils of Alabama stand opposed to a sales tax or any tax upon the workers and farmers. We propose heavy graduated income, property and inheritance taxes on the wealthy landlords, bankers and capitalists. We propose a loan of \$10,000,000 from the R. F. C. to alleviate the misery of the unemployed and part time workers of Alabama in the present emergency.

James Burke, Secretary,
Unemployed Councils of Alabama

James O. Williams
J. O. Williams