Honorable Herbert H. Lehman  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Herbert:

I am extremely grateful for your letter of April 5th in connection with H.R. 5046.

In New York State we have consistently emphasized the positive side of the employment security program—namely, the placement of the unemployed. Through repeated budget reductions over the past years, we have been forced to reduce certain activities, in the face of demands for increased services to both applicants and employers. This is particularly true of those programs that require testing and counseling of young new entrants into the labor market, the handicapped, and older workers. For example, we are now able to provide special service to only ten per cent of the older workers who come to us.

As you perhaps know, the Governor has appointed a special consultant on the problems of the aging and we want to insure that the Employment Service is able to do its share in forwarding his program.

We have consistently urged that more time be allowed for careful examination of unemployment insurance claims. Under pressure of work load and staff inadequacies we have had to resort to so many short cuts that in too many instances, the checking of entitlement to unemployment insurance benefits becomes pro forma. The House action, I am informed, would indicate the probability of further curtailments. It is our feeling that more careful claims...
examination is vital if the program is not to risk being brought into disrepute by virtue of inadequate performance.

We feel also that the appropriation should permit the development of sound estimates of unemployment for the State as a whole, and for our major industrial areas. Not only are these data necessary for the successful operation of our Division of Employment; they are a valuable instrument for employers, labor, and other organizations for economic planning.

Sincerely yours,

Isador Lubin
Industrial Commissioner