

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Friday, August 03, 2012 <u>PERMALINK</u> CONTACT: <u>Spencer Pederson</u>, <u>Crystal Feldman</u>, or <u>Jill Strait</u> 202-226-9019

Hastings Statement on July Unemployment Numbers

WASHINGTON, D.C. – House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings (WA-04) released the following statement after the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced unemployment rose to 8.3% after disappointing July job growth.

"Today's jobs numbers are yet another disappointment for the millions of Americans who have been struggling to find a job in President Obama's economy. While President Obama doesn't want to give credit to Americans for building their own small business, there is no doubt that the President can take credit for the national unemployment rate staying above eight percent for the last 43 months. It's always encouraging to see that some Americans found work in July, but it's clear that for the majority of the millions of American's looking for work President Obama's policies simply aren't working. Meanwhile, House Republicans have passed over thirty job creating bills including a number of bipartisan energy bills from the Natural Resources Committee that would create tens of thousands of jobs, help grow the economy and make America more energy secure. Unfortunately, these common sense bills have yet to be voted on the Democrat controlled U.S. Senate that seems more interested in playing election year politics than passing legislation to help create jobs for out of work Americans."

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