WASHINGTON, DC – Rep. Lee Terry released the following statement after the U.S. Department of Labor released the latest unemployment figures. America's unemployment rate fell to 8.8 percent. However, the percentage of long-term unemployed (those unemployed for 27 weeks or longer) jumped from 43.9 percent to 45.5 percent.

"Today's announcement is very encouraging – but the path to restore our economy is a long one. The House of Representatives has taken the right first step to removing the hurdles in job growth by cutting federal spending, but we cannot let up now.
"With our country's deficit hitting $1.5 trillion, we need to get control of Washington spending and focus on ways to get our fiscal house in order. We can't borrow and spend our way into a strong economy. We need to focus on creating a sense of certainty for our job creators, remove regulatory obstacles for businesses, and increase our nation's energy security," said Congressman Terry.

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