

**WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD-5) released the following statement today after the Department of Labor released its jobs report for January:**

“Today’s report showed our economy added 257,000 private sector jobs in January, lowering our unemployment rate to 8.3%. While it is a welcome sign that the pace of hiring has increased and our economy experienced the twenty-third month of consecutive private sector job growth, 13 million Americans remain out of work and looking for jobs as we continue our still fragile recovery.

“In his State of the Union address last week, President Obama called on Congress to implement legislation that will form a blueprint for an America built to last. Democrats’ Make It In America plan will do exactly that by pushing our recovery forward and keeping America the most competitive place for manufacturers to hire workers, produce goods, and sell those goods at home and abroad. It stands in stark contrast to the continued absence of a comprehensive jobs plan proposal by Republicans, who have controlled the House for over a year without taking action. I call on House Republican leaders to work with Democrats to pass jobs legislation that will build on these gains we have made over the past three years to get more Americans back to work and help more of our people make it in America. The first step must be ensuring middle class tax cuts continue. If they expire, it will hurt our economy and be detrimental to millions of families trying to make ends meet.”