



Labor & Economic Growth

Unemployment Insurance Agency

**ADVOCACY PROGRAM
2005 ANNUAL REPORT
(MESC ACT)**

The Unemployment Insurance Agency's Advocacy Program was created in December 1989 through Section 421.5a of the Michigan Employment Security Act. The purpose of the Advocacy Program is to provide information, consultation, and representation services to unemployed workers and employers with appeals relating to the State Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (SOAHR) or the Board of Review levels or both. Since the Program's inception in 1991, over 128,080 customers have been serviced through the Advocacy Program.

- A. During CY 2005, seven thousand three hundred fifty-five (7,355) unemployed workers requested Advocacy services. Of those, six thousand nine hundred ninety-six (6,996) unemployed workers were provided information, consultation and representation services.
- B. During CY 2005, four thousand seven hundred twenty-five (4,725) employers requested Advocacy services. Of those, four thousand five hundred forty-two (4,542) employers were provided information, consultation and representation services.
- C. Appropriated costs for unemployed workers totaled \$900,000.00 for CY 2005.
- D. Appropriated costs for employers totaled \$600,000.00 for CY 2005.
- E. In CY 2005, four hundred fifteen (415) cases, which represents 3% of all cases opened for services, were provided information and/or consultation only services. This year's information and consultation only cases reflect an increase of 75% over last year's information and consultation only cases. In some of these cases, the unemployed workers and employers, decided not to continue to the hearing with their case after consulting with an Advocate.