WASHINGTON, DC - Congressman Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement today after the Department of Labor announced unemployment numbers for the month of January:

"Today's jobs report provides mixed news for our economic recovery.

"It's encouraging that our unemployment rate is now below 10 percent, but millions of Americans remain out of work. And while monthly job losses are down dramatically from the nearly 600,000 a year ago, when President Obama was inaugurated, a loss of 20,000 jobs is still too high.

"So today's news highlights the urgency of Congress's focus on jobs. Creating jobs through incentives for small businesses and investing in infrastructure is our top priority. It is essential that we pass a jobs bill to send to the President's desk. And-given the hardship that affects constituents in every one of our districts-I am hopeful that Republicans will work with us to put Americans back to work."

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