



To: CHEAC General Membership

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RE: COVID-19 Federal Funding Update

Last night after several tense days of negotiations between Senate Republicans, Senate Democrats and the White House, the Senate passed, on a vote of 96-0, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). This emergency relief legislation tops out at \$2 trillion dollars and is the largest economic rescue package in US history. It's expected the US House of Representatives will take up the measure, as written, on Friday morning, March 27. CHEAC will provide an update as additional actions are taken. Also, highlights of the two prior COVID-19 funding packages can be found [here](#).

Major provisions of the measure would:

- Provide direct funding to taxpayers in amounts ranging from \$600 to \$1,200 per taxpayer or \$1,200 to \$2,400 for joint filers, plus an additional \$500 added per child, depending on family income. This direct funding is phased out for individuals with incomes of \$75,000 up to \$99,000 and joint filers with incomes of \$150,000 up to \$198,000. Incomes exceeding those thresholds are not eligible for funding.
- Increase unemployment insurance for individuals by providing \$600 per week, for up to four months, in addition to state unemployment benefits.
- Create \$500 billion funding pool for loans, loan guarantees or investments for businesses not otherwise provided relief in the CARES Act and impacted by the crisis.
- Provide \$350 billion for small business loans to cover salaries, wages and benefits.
- Delay payroll tax for employers, requiring half of the deferred tax to be paid by the end of 2021 and the other half by the end of 2022.
- Provide \$150 billion for states, tribal governments and local governments. Of that amount, \$139 billion would be provided to state and local governments for expenditures and revenue loss incurred due to the public health emergency.

Of note to local health departments, the following provisions are also included in the CARES Act:

**Department of Health and Human Services (\$140.4 billion)**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (\$4.3 billion)
  - \$1.5 billion in cooperative grants to states and localities to carry out surveillance, epidemiology, laboratory capacity, infection control, mitigation, communications, and other preparedness and response activities.
  - \$500 million for public health data surveillance and analytics infrastructure modernization activities. Requires the CDC to report to Congress on development of a surveillance and data collection system for coronavirus within 30 days of enactment.
  - \$300 million for the Infectious Disease Rapid Response reserve fund
  - \$500 million for Global Health Security
- National Institutes of Health (\$945.5 million)
  - \$706 million for the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) (\$425 million)
  - \$250 million for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Expansion grant program
  - \$50 million for suicide prevention programs
  - \$100 million for SAMHSA Emergency Response Grants
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (\$200 million)
  - Funding for program management including \$100 million for infection control surveys, prioritizing nursing homes and facilities in localities with community transmission of coronavirus.
  - Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment reductions are delayed until September 30, 2021.
- Administration for Children and Families (\$6.3 billion)
  - \$3.5 billion for the Child Care and Development Block Grant. Funds may be used to provide continued payments and assistance to childcare providers that have experienced decreased enrollment or closures
  - \$1 billion for the Community Services Block Grant
  - \$45 million for the Family Violence Prevention and Services grant program
  - \$2 million for the National Domestic Violence Hotline
  - \$25 million for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act
- Administration for Community Living (\$955 million)
  - Funding for supportive services, nutrition services for seniors, support services for family caregivers, elder rights protection activities, and aging and disability resource centers
- Office of the HHS Secretary
  - \$16 billion for the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)
  - \$250 million for the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP)
  - \$90 million to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program

- \$180 million to HRSA to carry out telehealth services and to support rural health activities
- \$3.5 billion for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)
- Allows the Secretary to transfer up to \$289 million amongst various other HHS appropriated accounts.
- Support for Hospitals and Health Care Providers (\$100 billion)
  - Funding to reimburse healthcare related expenses or lost revenues attributed to coronavirus. Eligible health care providers include public entities, Medicare or Medicaid enrolled suppliers and providers, and for-profit entities and not-for-profit entities that provide diagnoses, testing, or care for individuals with possible or actual cases of COVID-19.

Additional provisions that may be of interest are provided below.

#### **Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA (\$34.9 billion)**

- \$9.5 billion for coronavirus response funding to support agricultural producers
- \$33 million for the Food Safety and Inspection Service
- \$8.8 billion for child nutrition programs including increased flexibility for schools
- \$15.51 billion for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) contingency reserve allocated as the Secretary deems necessary to support participation should program costs/participation exceed budget estimates
- \$450 million for the Commodity Assistance Program including distribution of emergency funding through community partners including food banks
- \$80 million for FDA for development of necessary medical countermeasures and vaccines, advance manufacturing for medical products, and monitoring of medical product supply chains

#### **Department of Commerce (\$1.886 billion)**

- Funding for Economic Development Administration, small/medium manufacturing recovery, funding for improving coronavirus testing capabilities and development of coronavirus diagnostics.

#### **Department of Justice (\$1 billion)**

- \$850 million for DOJ Byrne JAG grants to assist states, local and tribal officers in responding to coronavirus including funding for overtime, PPE and supplies, and medical needs for inmates in state, local and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

#### **Financial Services and General Government (\$1.82 billion)**

- Funding for the IRS to support extension of tax filing season, funding for Federal Judiciary, funding for Election Security Grants to States for the 2020 election cycle, funding to the FCC for supporting telehealth services, and for the Small Business Administration's Disaster Loan program.

- Funding for the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee to promote transparency and oversight of all coronavirus related appropriated funds (including funding from two previous federal bills).

**Department of Homeland Security (\$45.9 billion)**

- \$45 billion to FEMA for response activities in state and localities. Includes:
  - \$25 billion for major disasters declared under the Stafford Act
  - \$400 million in grants for firefighters (\$100M), emergency managers (\$100M), and for providers of emergency food and shelter (\$200M).

**Interior and Environment (\$2.040 billion)**

- \$1.032 billion for the Indian Health Service
- \$5 million for Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units and State health agencies to provide guidance and outreach on best disinfectants and protective practices for homes, schools and day care facilities.

**Department of Labor (\$360 million)**

- \$345 million for the Dislocated Worker National Reserve for States to respond to workforce impacts and layoffs.

**Department of Housing and Urban Development (\$17.4 billion)**

- \$5 billion for the Community Development Block Grant with \$2B of that amount allocated to States based on public health needs, risk of transmission, number of cases compared to national average, and economic and housing market disruptions and other factors as determined by the HUD Secretary.
- \$4 billion in Homeless Assistance Grants for individuals and families who are homeless or receiving homeless assistance and to support additional homeless assistance and homelessness prevention activities to mitigate the impacts created by coronavirus.
- \$3 billion in various rental or housing assistance programs for low-income Americans.