



Congressional Action for COVID-19 Relief

PACKAGE ONE

The first bipartisan congressional package to address COVID-19 consisted of an **\$8.3 billion emergency supplemental appropriations bill**. It appropriated funds to **develop and research a vaccine, fund public health programs, procure pharmaceuticals and medical supplies, facilitate the development of new therapies and treatments, and helped small businesses, to cushion the economic blow of this public health emergency.**

PACKAGE TWO

The second bipartisan congressional COVID-19 bill, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, secured free COVID-19 testing and provided family and worker protections. **The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201):**

- Established free testing for COVID-19 for all Americans.
- Secured emergency paid leave with two weeks of paid sick leave and up to three months of paid family and medical leave.
- Secured enhanced Unemployment Insurance, a step that will extend protections to furloughed workers.
- Strengthened nutrition security initiatives, including SNAP, student meals, seniors' nutrition, and food banks.
- Increased federal funds for Medicaid to support our local, state, tribal, and territorial governments and health systems, so that they have the resources necessary to combat this crisis.

PACKAGE THREE

The third bipartisan congressional COVID-19 funding bill (**CARES Act**) is a nearly **\$2 trillion relief package** to help American families, businesses, and workers get back on their feet. It includes:

- \$350 billion for Paycheck Protection Program for small businesses
- \$100 billion for hospitals and health care providers
- Direct one-time payments of \$1,200 to most American adults
- An expansion of unemployment insurance and other social safety net programs

PACKAGE FOUR

On April 24, 2020, the Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (H.R. 266) became law. This coronavirus emergency funding bill which **allocates \$484 billion to strengthen the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Impact Disaster Loans for small businesses, \$75 billion for hospitals and other health care providers, funding to secure resources for frontline workers, and funding to expand testing capacity nationwide.**

PACKAGE FIVE

(Awaiting Senate Action)

On May 15, 2020, the House of Representatives passed the Heroes Act (H.R. 6800), a bipartisan **\$3 trillion** bill to help families, and businesses while preventing deep cuts to social services and public sector layoffs.

- Renews the weekly \$600 increase in unemployment payments.
- Authorizes a second round of \$1,200 relief payments.
- \$200 billion for essential worker hazard pay and funds.
- \$75 billion for COVID-19 testing, tracing, and isolation.
- \$175 billion in housing and renter assistance.
- \$875 billion in relief for state and local governments.
- Ensures COVID-19 treatment is cost free.
- Subsidizes COBRA costs.
- Extends programs that support Small Businesses, including the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Impact Disaster Loan Program.

PACKAGE SIX

(Awaiting Action in the Senate)

On October 1, 2020 the House of Representatives passed an updated version of the Heroes Act, a **\$2.2 trillion** bill to help families, and businesses while preventing deep cuts to social services and public sector layoffs.

- An estimated nearly \$7 billion for the State of Connecticut, Connecticut schools, and Connecticut municipalities.
- A second round of Economic Impact Payments to Americans.
- A weekly \$600 unemployment federal payments increase through next January.
- Bolstered housing assistance to help Americans pay their rents and mortgages.
- Support for small businesses and workers through an improved.
- Targeted relief for restaurants and the live entertainment industries.
- Additional funding for nutrition programs, including a 15 percent increase to the maximum SNAP benefit.
- Additional \$75 billion for COVID testing.
- \$3.6 billion for Election Assistance Grants and \$15 billion for the United States Postal Service.

[More information on the Heroes Act can be found here.](#)