



COVID-19 Legislation: Impact On Our Organizations & The Communities We Serve

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2020

12:00-1:30 PM, ET

Welcome



Deborah Smolover

Executive Director, America Forward

Managing Partner, New Profit

- I: Welcome and Overview of Agenda
- II: Overview of Legislative Action to Date and Outlook
- III: Education
- IV: Workforce
- V: Presidential Engagement Update
- VI: America Forward Engagement and Outreach
- VII: Questions & Answers
- VIII: Closing & Next Steps

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Overview: Legislative Action to Date

COVID-19 Relief Package #1 - Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act ([H.R.6074](#))

- **Latest Action:** Signed into law on Friday, March 6.
- **Highlights:**
 - Includes \$8.3 billion in emergency funding.
 - Bill provides for vaccine development, research and equipment stockpiles, and supporting State and local health budgets.
 - The bill does not contain any education- or workforce-related provisions.
 - The bill includes provisions for the implementation of disaster loans for both small businesses and nonprofits. Loans are available at up to \$2 million at 2.75% interest for nonprofits.

Overview: Legislative Action to Date

COVID-19 Relief Package #2 - the Families First Coronavirus Response Act ([H.R.6201](#))

- **Latest Action:** Signed into law on Wednesday, March 18.
- **Highlights:**
 - Includes a total of \$3.5 billion in emergency funding.
 - Provides \$1 billion in nutritional aid.
 - Includes USDA waiver authority related to school meals and child nutrition.
 - Expands access to COVID-19 testing.
 - Expands emergency paid sick leave and family medical leave.
 - Provides emergency unemployment stabilization (including grants to States for activities related to disbursing unemployment benefits).

Overview: Legislative Action on Horizon

COVID-19 Relief Package in Progress - Bipartisan Senate Bill (Legislative text in progress)

- **Latest Action:**

- Senate Republicans and Democrats struck a deal in the early hours of Wednesday, March 25.
- Senate leaders have indicated a vote will take place later today (March 25).
- House leaders looking at expedited process to get this to President Trump for signature by end of week.
- Note that amidst Senate standstill, the House introduced its Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act ([H.R.6379](#)) on Monday, March 23.

- **Highlights:**

- Includes \$2 trillion in emergency funding.
- Includes relief to business and industry (e.g. airlines - while prohibiting stock buybacks)
- Includes \$10 billion for SBA emergency grants and \$17 billion for SBA to cover 6 months of payments for small businesses with existing SBA loans.
- Includes \$30 billion for a Disaster Relief Fund to provide financial assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as private nonprofits providing critical and essential services.
- Includes Funding for Agencies
 - Including \$30 billion in emergency education funding

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Education - Supplemental Bill Provisions to Highlight

- **Education Flexibility Provisions**
 - K-12
 - Higher Ed
 - National Service
- **Funding for Agencies**
- **Education Stabilization Fund**



Education - Regulatory Actions

- **K-12**
 - Assessment and Accountability Waivers
 - Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) and Office of Civil Rights (OCR) joint Guidance
- **Higher Ed**
 - State Waivers (+ institution role)
 - Student Loans

Education & Related Issues to Consider

- **Digital Learning (K-12 and Higher Ed)**
 - Equity gaps are a barrier to successful digital learning
 - There will be learning loss and must be supports to address this
 - Looking ahead to the next school year
- **2020 Census**
 - How to continue reaching hard-to-reach populations to ensure funding is allocated where it is most needed?
- **Q&A**



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Workforce, Income Security, Nonprofit Relief

- **Unemployment Insurance, Wages and Sick Leave**
 - Current and prospective Congressional action, as of today
 - Withholding implications
- **Food Security**
 - What Congress is doing to address this so far
- **Relief for Non-Profits, including SBA Loans**
 - What short term options exist for nonprofits facing major cash flow challenges? What additional options may exist soon?
 - Additional relief options for nonprofits, beyond SBA/loans
 - Recommendations with respect to SBA loans

Other Pressing Issues for Coalition

- **Prospects for Congressional Action on “Extenders”**
 - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Community Health Centers.
- **Possible channels for leveraging community finance**
 - CDFIs, Community Development Block grant dollars, etc.
- **Q&A**

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2020 Presidential Election Overview

- High level update on current state of the race, impact of COVID-19
- Presented by:
 - Trey Nix (Lamar Street Communications)
 - Joe Maloney (Locust Street Group)

Democratic delegates

2,300 delegates allocated so far

1,991 to win nomination



Joseph R.
Biden Jr.



Bernie
Sanders



2020 Presidential Engagement

2020 Presidential Calendar

Sat, April 4	AK & HI Democratic Primaries; WY caucuses
Tue, April 7	WI primaries
Sun, April 26	Puerto Rico Democratic Primary (<i>rescheduled from March</i>)
Tue, April 28	DE, NY, PA Primaries
Sat, May 2	Guam Democratic Primaries, KS Democratic primaries
Tue, May 12	NE & WV primaries
Tue, May 19	GA (<i>rescheduled from March</i>), OR
Tue, June 2	OH (<i>rescheduled from March</i>), MD, RI, CT (<i>rescheduled from April</i>), IN (<i>rescheduled from May</i>), DC, MT, NJ, NM & SD Primaries
Sat, June 6	Virgin Island Democratic Caucuses
Sat, June 20	LA primaries (<i>rescheduled from April</i>)
Tue, June 23	KY primaries (<i>rescheduled from May</i>)
July 13 - 16	Democratic National Convention

2020 Presidential Engagement



Shifting from an in-person strategy: Site Visits, Roundtables, Town Halls

To a digital media approach to our engagement in the 2020 election cycle: Social Media, Virtual Town Halls, Earned Media, White Papers, Virtual Meetings with Candidates, etc.



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Engagement & Outreach

- We want to continue to hear from you via [Questionnaire](#) or via email at: america_forward@newprofit.org
- America Forward Coalition Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AmericaForwardCoalition>
- Additional America Forward Webinars, Office Hours and Newsletters
- Amplifying your projects, solutions, and ideas with one another, our network, and candidates & policymakers



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Resources

Guidance

- [USDA Pandemic Guidance](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools, Workplaces & Community Locations](#)
- [USDOE COVID-19 Information and Resources for Schools and School Personnel](#)
- [SBA Small Business Guidance & Loan Resources](#)
- [USDOE press release on ESSA waivers for testing and accountability provisions](#)
- [USDOE press release on suspension for federal student loan payments with waived interest](#)
- [USDOE Supplemental Fact Sheet Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Preschool, Elementary and Secondary Schools While Serving Children with Disabilities](#)

Legislation

- Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act ([H.R.6074](#))
- Families First Coronavirus Response Act ([H.R.6201](#))

(Related)

- [Sen. Schumer's Dear Colleague letter](#)

Memos

- Penn Hill Group Memo: ["Waiver Authorities and Other Flexibilities Available to ED in Responding to the Coronavirus"](#)

Resources

Letters America Forward has signed onto

1. A national collaboration of charities issued a [letter](#) to Congress, coordinated by the National Council of Nonprofits, requesting a \$60 billion infusion of support to help the nonprofit charitable sector continue to serve vulnerable families and communities in the wake of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
2. National service [letter](#), led by Voices for National Service, which requests \$250 million in emergency funding to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), as well as several other key supports for AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs
3. [Letter](#) supporting Today's Students- vulnerable students in higher education- coordinated by Higher Learning Advocates, that calls for allowing for direct emergency funds to cover students' basic needs; allowing for flexibility with the Pell Grant Lifetime Eligibility Usage, and ensuring no penalty to Satisfactory Academic Progress
4. Election integrity letter led by the Leadership Conference and co-chairs of our Voting Rights Task Force (previous version of the letter [here](#))

Follow-up questions?

Contact Karen Quarles, Government Affairs Director: karen_quarles@newprofit.org



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