

Federal Coronavirus Response Timeline

Date	Administration Action	Congressional Action
March 2	The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) took action to make more respirators available to health care personnel. The FDA granted the CDC's request for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to allow health care personnel to use certain industrial respirators during the COVID-19 outbreak in health care settings.	Senator Markey (D-MA) introduced the Coronavirus Vaccine Act .
March 3		Rep. Torres Small (D-NM) introduced the Border Health Security Act .
March 4		The House passed H.R. 6074, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act 415-2 .
March 5	The EPA released a list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.	The Senate passed H.R. 6074, the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act 96-1 . Senator Murray (D-WA) introduced the Paid Sick Days for Public Health Emergencies and Personal Family Care Act . Rep. Sablan (D-MP) introduced the Northern Mariana Islands Coronavirus Emergency Assistance Act .
March 9	The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published " Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19 " to help companies respond in the event of coronavirus in the workplace. The EPA notified registrants of disinfectants that due to the outbreak, the agency is expediting the review of submissions from companies requesting to add Emerging Viral Pathogens claims to their already-registered surface disinfectant labels.	Rep. Scott (D-VA) introduced the COVID-19 Health Care Worker Protection Act .
March 10	The FDA postponed most foreign inspections through April. Inspections outside the U.S. deemed mission-critical will still be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Rep. DeGette (D-CO) introduced the Covering Coronavirus Test Act .
March 11	President Trump signed a Proclamation to suspend the entry of most foreign nationals who have been in certain European countries (those in the Schengen Area) at any point during the 14 days prior to their scheduled arrival to the United States.	Senator Udall (D-NM) introduced the Border Health Security Act . Rep. Delgado (D-NY) introduced the Pandemic Response and Emergency Preparedness Act .

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	<p>The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) temporarily waived minimum slot-use requirements at US airports to help airlines that cancel flights due to the coronavirus (expires May 31).</p>	<p>Rep. Kilmer (D-WA) introduced the Coronavirus Worker Relief Act.</p> <p>Rep. DelBene (D-WA) introduced the Assistance for Workers Harmed by COVID-19 Act.</p> <p>Rep. Fudge (D-OH) introduced the Pandemic EBT Act.</p> <p>Rep. Blumenauer (D-OR) introduced the Resilient Elections During Quarantines and Natural Disasters Act.</p> <p>Rep. Wilson (D-FL) introduced the No Cost for COVID-19 Testing Act.</p> <p>Rep. Omar (D-MN) introduced the MEALS Act to grant certain waivers under the National School Lunch Act to address school closures due to COVID-19.</p> <p>Rep. Horsford (D-NV) introduced the Emergency Unemployment Insurance Stabilization and Access Act.</p> <p>Rep. Bonamici (D-OR) introduced the COVID-19 Child Nutrition Response Act.</p> <p>Rep. Murphy (D-FL) introduced the Emergency Paid Leave Act.</p>
<p>March 12</p>	<p>The Department of Labor announced new guidance outlining flexibilities that states have in administering their unemployment insurance (UI) programs to assist Americans affected by the outbreak.</p> <p>The Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM) announced relief provisions for exporters and financial institutions affected by the pandemic.</p> <p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) announced disaster assistance loans for small businesses impacted by coronavirus. SBA’s Economic Injury Disaster Loans offer up to \$2 million in assistance for a small business.</p>	<p>Senator Peters (D-MI) introduced the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Act.</p> <p>Senator Murray (D-WA) introduced the Supporting Students in Response to Coronavirus Act.</p> <p>Senator Wyden (D-OR) introduced the Resilient Elections During Quarantines and Natural Disasters Act.</p> <p>Senator Duckworth (D-IL) introduced a bill to direct DOL to issue an emergency temporary standard that requires certain employers to develop and implement a comprehensive plan to protect employees from exposure to COVID19.</p>

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		<p>Rep. Luetkemeyer (R-MO) introduced a bill to temporarily prohibit the federal financial regulators from requiring compliance with the CECL Rule by persons impacted by coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Stivers (R-OH) introduced a bill to require a report analyzing the effectiveness of the joint release on coronavirus issued by federal and state financial regulators.</p> <p>Rep. Scott (D-VA) introduced the Emergency Family and Medical Leave Expansion Act.</p> <p>Rep. Kind (D-WI) introduced a bill to provide for coverage of testing for COVID-19 at no cost sharing under the Medicare Advantage program.</p>
<p>March 13</p>	<p>President Trump declared a national emergency and invoked the Stafford Act. 85 Fed. Reg. 15337 (Mar. 18, 2020)</p> <p>The President signed a Memorandum on Expanding State-Approved Diagnostic Tests directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to facilitate state requests for flexibility to authorize laboratories to develop and perform tests used to detect COVID-19.</p> <p>The Department of Transportation (DOT) Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) waived certain hours of service regulations for commercial drivers transporting emergency supplies.</p> <p>The Department of Homeland Security issued a Notice of Arrival Restrictions outlining the process for American citizens, legal permanent residents, and their immediate families who are returning home after recently visiting certain European countries, China, and Iran.</p> <p>Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Ajit Pai issued a Keep Americans Connected Pledge under which telephone and broadband providers agree that for the next 60 days they will: (1) not terminate service to any residential or small business customers because of inability to pay bills due to disruptions caused by the pandemic; (2) waive any late fees incurred as a result of economic circumstances related to the pandemic; and (3) open Wi-Fi hotspots to any American in need.</p>	

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	<p>The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced expanded eligibility of federal assistance is available under FTA’s Emergency Relief Program to help transit agencies respond to the coronavirus in states where the Governor has declared an emergency.</p> <p>The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an expanded list of EPA-registered disinfectant products that have qualified for use against SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.</p>	
March 14	<p>The President issued Proclamation 9996, Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting 201 Novel Coronavirus.</p> <p>The Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued new temporary guidance regarding the enforcement of OSHA’s Respiratory Protection standard aimed at ensuring healthcare workers have full access to needed N95 respiratory protection in light of anticipated shortages.</p>	<p>The House passed H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act 363-40, 1 present.</p>
March 16	<p>The White House released The President’s Coronavirus Guidelines for America: 15 Days to Slow the Spread.</p> <p>The Department of Homeland Security announced that the United Kingdom and Ireland will also be added to the previously announced arrival restrictions that are in effect for the Schengen Area, China, and Iran.</p> <p>The FDA updated a policy originally issued on February 29 on diagnostic testing for coronavirus in order to achieve more rapid testing capacity.</p>	<p>The House passed H. Res. 904, technical corrections to H.R. 6201, by unanimous consent.</p> <p>Rep. Jackson Lee (D-TX) introduced a bill to provide certain unemployment assistance for individuals impacted by quarantine order for a national or state public health emergency.</p>
March 17	<p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) took steps to expand access to telehealth services, including expanding Medicare coverage and waiving potential HIPAA penalties.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture announced a collaboration with private sector entities to deliver nearly 1,000,000 meals a week to students in a limited number of rural schools closed due to the pandemic.</p> <p>The FDA took steps to help prevent disruptions in the food supply-chain by issuing a temporary policy for FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) supplier verification onsite audit requirements during the public health emergency.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve Board established a primary dealer credit facility (PDCF) to address illiquidity, mitigate disruptions in funding markets, support smooth market</p>	<p>Senator Warren (D-MA) introduced a bill to ensure that facilities of the Indian Health Service, facilities operated by an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or inter-tribal consortium, and facilities operated by an urban Indian organization receive items from the strategic national stockpile and qualified pandemic or epidemic products directly from HHS.</p> <p>Senator Jones (D-AL) introduced a bill to require private health insurance to rapidly cover preventative services and vaccines related to the coronavirus.</p> <p>Senator Warren (D-MA) introduced a bill to transfer all border wall funding to HHS and USAID to combat coronavirus.</p>

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	<p>functioning and help facilitate the availability of credit to American workers and businesses.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve Board established a Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF) to provide short-term credit to American businesses.</p> <p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued updated criteria on states for requesting disaster assistance loans for small businesses impacted by coronavirus. Under the revised criteria, states or territories are only required to certify that at least five small businesses within the state/territory have suffered substantial economic injury, regardless of where those businesses are located, to qualify for SBA Disaster Assistance. Further, disaster assistance loans will be available statewide, rather than only within counties identified as disaster areas by a Governor.</p>	<p>Senator Baldwin (D-WI) introduced a bill to require DOD to make coronavirus testing available to all members of the Armed Forces deployed to an area in which US Central Command has responsibility.</p> <p>Senators Markey (D-MA), Blumenthal (D-CT), Whitehouse (D-RI), and Baldwin (D-WI) wrote to Senate leadership and Appropriations Committee leadership urging including consumer and labor protections in any emergency spending package to help the airline and cruise industries.</p>
<p>March 18</p>	<p>President Trump signed an Executive Order on Prioritizing and Allocating Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of Covid-19.</p> <p>President Trump invoked the Defense Production Act to address medical equipment shortages. The Act, passed in 1950, is designed for use during war and allows the President to expedite and expand the supply of resources for homeland security, energy, or military purposes.</p> <p>The Administration requested an additional \$45.8 billion in FY20 supplemental funding to address the coronavirus outbreak.</p> <p>The White House announced a partnership with the Ad Council, major media networks, and digital platforms to effectively communicate accurate and timely information directly to the American people.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) suspended home foreclosures and evictions through the end of April.</p> <p>The Department of Labor announced the availability of up to \$100 million for Dislocated Worker Grants (DWGs) to help address the workforce-related impacts of the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Labor’s Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) issued a National Interest Exemption memorandum to facilitate response efforts. OFCCP will grant a limited, three-month exemption and waiver from some of the requirements of the laws administered by the agency.</p>	<p>The Senate passed H.R. 6201, the Families First Coronavirus Response Act 90-8.</p> <p>Senator Markey (D-MA) introduced a bill to require the President to designate an employee of the NSC to be responsible for pandemic prevention and response.</p> <p>Senator Shaheen (D-NH) introduced a bill to allow a tax credit for certain coronavirus-related charitable contributions for taxable year 2020.</p> <p>Senator Reed (D-RI) introduced a bill to restrict the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase or guarantee assets in response to the coronavirus disease.</p> <p>Senator Klobuchar (D-MN) introduced a bill to increase the availability of nursing facilities to access to telehealth services and obtain technologies to allow virtual visits during the coronavirus public health emergency.</p>

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	<p>In view of the special circumstances in the national interest presented by the novel coronavirus outbreak, OFCCP will grant a limited, three-month exemption and waiver from some of the requirements of the laws administered by the agency. The FDA issued guidance on conducting clinical trials during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve Board established a Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility (MMLF) to provide liquidity to the financial system, smooth functioning of money markets, support the flow of credit to Americans, and help stabilize the broader financial system.</p>	
<p>March 19</p>	<p>The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued guidelines defining critical workers who should maintain normal working schedules during the pandemic.</p> <p>The State Department issued a Level 4 travel advisory warning Americans against traveling abroad and encouraging Americans already overseas to shelter in place.</p> <p>The Department of Energy (DOE) announced it will fill the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) to its maximum capacity by purchasing 77 million barrels of American-made crude oil and announced a solicitation for the purchase of an initial 30 million barrels to begin filling the SPR. Solicitations for additional purchases will follow.</p>	<p>Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) introduced S. 3548, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, a third phase of coronavirus response legislation.</p> <p>Senator Harris (D-CA) introduced a bill to amend the Stafford Act to provide assistance to individuals affected by a pandemic.</p> <p>Senator Cruz (R-TX) introduced a bill to waive limitations on expansion of facility capacity under rural provider and hospital exception to ownership or investment prohibition during coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Tipton (R-CO) introduced a bill to require data-sharing regarding protecting the homeless from coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Zeldin (R-NY) introduced a bill to require issuance of guidance by the US Interagency Council on Homelessness regarding protecting the homeless for coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Budd (R-NC) introduced a bill to require public housing agencies to inform residents of a public housing project tests positive for coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Stivers (R-OH) introduced a bill to require HUD to issue guidance regarding protecting the homeless who reside in certain federally assisted properties from the coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Pocan (D-WI) introduced a bill to require DOD to make testing for coronavirus available to all members of the Armed</p>

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<p>March 20</p>	<p>The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) extended until July 15 the deadline to both file and pay 2019 taxes and estimated tax payments for tax year 2020 that are due on April 15.</p> <p>The Department of Education suspended federal student loan payments and waived interest during the national emergency. All borrowers with federally held student loans will automatically have their interest rates set to 0% for a period of at least 60 days. In addition, each of these borrowers will have the option to suspend their payments for at least two months to allow them greater flexibility during the national emergency.</p> <p>The Department of Education announced students impacted by school closures due to the pandemic can bypass standardized testing for the 2019-2020 school year.</p> <p>The FDA issued a new policy that allows manufacturers of certain FDA-cleared non-invasive, vital sign-measuring devices to expand their use so that health care providers can use them to monitor patients remotely. The devices include those that measure body temperature, respiratory rate, heart rate and blood pressure.</p> <p>The FDA issued two guidance documents to communicate its policy for the temporary manufacture of certain alcohol-based hand sanitizer products.</p> <p>US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) temporarily suspended premium processing for I-129 and I-140 petitions. USCIS will also accept all benefit forms and documents with reproduced original signatures, including the Form I-129, Petition for Nonimmigrant Worker, for submissions dated March 21, 2020, and beyond.</p> <p>HHS announced that the CDC will provide \$80 million in funding to tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian Organizations to support coronavirus response efforts.</p> <p>The HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) issued guidance on telehealth remote communications following its Notification of Enforcement Discretion during the public health emergency.</p>	<p>Senator Romney (R-UT) introduced a bill to provide for deferral of loan repayment for graduates during the period of the coronavirus.</p> <p>Senator Rounds (R-SD) introduced a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide payments to cattle producers to offset losses due to coronavirus.</p>

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	In a memorandum to the Secretary of the Treasury scheduled to be published in the Federal Register on March 25, the President delegated authority to the Secretary for use of the Exchange Stabilization Fund in an aggregate amount of up to \$50 billion.	
March 21	HHS announced additional funding under its Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to support a clinical trial to evaluate Kevzara as a potential treatment for severely ill COVID-19 patients.	
March 22	<p>The President signed a Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19. FEMA and DHS will fund 100% of emergency assistance activities in California, New York, and Washington. The President also approved disaster declarations for all three states.</p> <p>The Department of Justice announced its first enforcement action against COVID-19 fraud.</p>	<p>A Senate procedural vote to advance H.R. 748, the legislative vehicle for S. 3548, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, failed 47-47 (60 vote threshold).</p> <p>Senator Casey (D-PA) introduced a bill to modify nutrition programs to address the coronavirus disease.</p> <p>Senator Booker (D-NJ) introduced a bill to prohibit depository institutions from assessing overdraft and non-sufficient fund fees during the coronavirus crisis and other disasters.</p>
March 23	<p>The White House announced the launch of the COVID-19 High Performance Computing Consortium to provide researchers worldwide with access to high performance computing resources to advance the pace of scientific discovery to stop the spread of coronavirus.</p> <p>President Trump signed an Executive Order on Preventing Hoarding of Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19, delegating to the Secretary of Health and Human Services authority to prevent hoarding of certain resources and to implement any restrictions on hoarding.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced an enhanced inspection process for healthcare facilities to assess whether or not they are prepared to meet CMS expectations for preventing the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) announced existing SBA disaster loan payments will be deferred through the end of 2020.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved an additional 11 state Medicaid waiver requests to provide flexibility to focus resources on combatting coronavirus. 13 such waivers have been approved.</p>	<p>A second Senate procedural vote to advance H.R. 748, the legislative vehicle for S. 3548, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, failed 49-46 (60 vote threshold).</p> <p>House Democrats introduced their own third phase of coronavirus response legislation, H.R. 6379, the Take Responsibility for Workers and Families Act.</p> <p>Reps. Velazquez (D-NY) and Smith (R-NJ) led a bipartisan bill to waive fees for travelers who require evacuation assistance from the State Department.</p> <p>Rep. Velazquez (D-NY) introduced the Ensuring Affordable Housing Security During the Coronavirus Emergency Act to suspend rental payments for anyone participating in Department of Housing and Urban Development and Department of Agriculture affordable housing programs.</p> <p>Rep. Wexton (D-VA) introduced a bill to require federal financial regulators to issue interagency regulatory guidance in order to provide forms of relief to borrowers and customers during pandemics and major disasters, to continue to operate and provide services and lending, and to require such regulators to</p>

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President Trump approved disaster declarations for [Iowa](#) and [Louisiana](#) to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.

conduct testing with financial institutions to assess pandemic or disaster preparedness.

Rep. Sherman (D-CA) introduced a [bill](#) to require issuers to disclose risks related to global pandemics.

Rep. Langevin (D-RI) introduced a [bill](#) to temporarily modify the John H. Chaffee Foster Care Program for Successful Transition to Adulthood in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rep. Horn (D-KS) introduced a [bill](#) to ensure that facilities of the Indian Health Service, facilities operated by an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or inter-tribal consortium, and facilities operated by an urban Indian organization receive items from the strategic national stockpile or qualified pandemic or epidemic products directly from HHS.

Rep. Espaillat (D-NY) introduced a [bill](#) to require the SBA to provide economic injury grants for small business concerns affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rep. Dean (D-PA) introduced a [bill](#) to provide relief for federal and private student loan borrowers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rep. Pappas (D-NH) introduced a [bill](#) to allow a tax credit for certain coronavirus-related charitable contributions for taxable year 2020.

Rep. Vargas (D-CA) introduced a [bill](#) to increase the amount available under the Defense Production Act to respond to the coronavirus epidemic.

Rep. Garcia (D-IL) introduced a [bill](#) to establish a moratorium on evictions from rental dwelling units during the public health emergency relating to coronavirus.

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		<p>Rep. Pressley (D-MA) introduced a bill to authorize emergency homeless assistance grants under the Emergency Solutions Grants program for response to coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Heck (D-WA) introduced a bill to provide emergency rental assistance under the HUD Emergency Solutions Grants program in response to the coronavirus public health emergency.</p> <p>Rep. Castro (D-TX) introduced a bill to provide support and flexibility to the Corporation for National and Community Service to respond to the coronavirus pandemic.</p>
<p>March 24</p>	<p>The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said in a Federal Register notice scheduled to be published on March 25 that it has tentatively decided to extend through October 24 the coronavirus-related limited waiver of the minimum slot usage requirement at JFK, LGA, and DCA airports. The notice also states the FAA has tentatively decided to extend through October 24 its coronavirus-related policy for prioritizing flights canceled at designated International Air Transport Association (IATA) Level 2 airports in the US (ORD, EWR, LAX, SFO). Both policies were originally set to expire on May 31.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded \$100 million to over 1,300 health centers with funding provided by the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act.</p> <p>HHS announced \$250 million in grants from the Administration for Community Living (ACL) to help communities provide meals for older adults as the result of additional funding provided by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.</p> <p>Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provided instructions to manufacturers to increase US supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) and devices.</p> <p>The FDA announced it will temporarily not enforce certain requirements to facilitate more opportunities for veterinarians to utilize telemedicine during the pandemic.</p>	<p>Rep. Green (D-TX) introduced a bill to provide assistance for fair housing enforcement activities associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Velazquez (D-NY) introduced a bill to provide community-based nonprofit feeding and anti-hunger groups with funding to partner with small and mid-sized restaurants to expand meal access and delivery for low-income and vulnerable populations during a pandemic or public health emergency.</p> <p>Senator Grassley (R-IA) introduced a bill to provide oversight for the care and assistance provided to businesses under the coronavirus relief package.</p>
<p>March 25</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Texas and Florida to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p>	<p>Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) announced that they reached an agreement on the CARES Act, the third phase of coronavirus response legislation. It passed 96-0.</p>

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	<p>In accordance with the President’s recent Executive Order to prevent hoarding of health and medical resources, Secretary of Health and Human Services Alex Azar announced a list of certain supplies subject to hoarding prevention measures.</p> <p>The Department of Defense established a joint task force to address requests for medical and personal protective equipment from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Departments of Health and Human Services and Homeland Security, and others.</p>	<p>Senators Klobuchar (D-MN), Blumenthal (D-CT), Hirono (D-HI), and Cortez Masto (D-NV) introduced the Disaster and Emergency Pricing Abuse Prevention Act aimed at preventing the sale of essential goods and services at excessive prices during, or in anticipation of a natural disaster, pandemic, or state of emergency.</p> <p>Senator Jones (D-AL) introduced a bill to place a moratorium on evictions during the coronavirus emergency.</p>
<p>March 26</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for New Jersey, Illinois, Missouri, and Maryland to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Homeland Security announced the deadline to obtain a REAL ID will be extended from October 1, 2020 to October 1, 2021 to account for the fact that many states have closed DMVs.</p> <p>The Department of Labor announced additional guidance to provide information to workers and employers about how each will be able to take advantage of protections and relief offered by the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture announced waivers to create flexibilities for children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities to get food during the national emergency.</p> <p>The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced additional flexibilities to increase the availability of disinfectant products for use against coronavirus.</p> <p>The EPA announced a temporary enforcement discretion policy for civil violations during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration issued guidance to provide restaurants and food manufacturers with flexibility regarding nutrition labeling to sell certain packaged foods during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of State authorized consular offices to expand the categories of H-2 visa applicants who applications can be adjudicated without an in-person interview.</p>	<p>Rep. Biggs (R-AZ) introduced a bill to provide tax and regulatory relief and health care flexibility to individuals and businesses affected by the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Steube (R-FL) introduced a bill to develop and carry out a strategy to seek reimbursement from China of funds made available by the US government to address coronavirus.</p>

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	<p>Secretary of State Pompeo announced that the Department of State will provide \$274 million in emergency health and humanitarian funding to 64 of the world’s most at-risk countries to better combat the pandemic.</p> <p>The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extended the Rural Health Care Program application window to June 30.</p> <p>The FCC granted temporary spectrum access to serve Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands during the pandemic.</p>	
<p>March 27</p>	<p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum directing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to use authority available under the Defense Production Act to require General Motors to accept, perform, and prioritize federal contracts for ventilators.</p> <p>President Trump signed an Executive Order on Delegating Additional Authority Under the Defense Production Act with Respect to Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>President Trump signed an Executive Order to Order the Selected Reserve and Certain Members of the Individual Ready Reserve of the Armed Forces to Active Duty.</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Puerto Rico and South Carolina to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) approved Wyoming’s state Medicaid waiver request to provide additional flexibility to care for Medicaid beneficiaries during the public health emergency. It is the 34th approved request.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) to allow for the emergency use in health care settings of certain ventilators and other equipment that can be modified for use as a ventilator.</p> <p>The FDA issued an EUA for a coronavirus test.</p> <p>The FDA issued updated guidance on conduct of clinical trials of medical products during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p>	<p>The House passed the CARES Act by voice vote and the President signed it into law.</p> <p>Senator Klobuchar (D-MN) and 16 other Senate Democrats wrote a letter to Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Chairman Simons urging the FTC to use the full extent of its authority to prevent abusive price gouging on consumer health products.</p> <p>Rep. Steil (R-WI) introduced a bill to rescind the appropriations made to the Kennedy Center in the CARES Act.</p>

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	<p>The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced steps to protect the nation’s gasoline supply in response to the pandemic.</p> <p>EPA Administrator Wheeler sent a letter to governors urging them to ensure that drinking water and wastewater employees are considered essential workers by state authorities when enacting restrictions such as shelter in place orders to curb the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) released its COVID-19 Response Plan.</p> <p>The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) temporarily waived access arbitrage rules to ensure continued access to major conference calling services.</p> <p>The FCC granted temporary spectrum access to 33 internet service providers to help serve rural communities facing an increase in broadband needs during the pandemic.</p>	
<p>March 28</p>	<p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governor’s Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 in Florida, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey.</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Colorado, Kentucky, Michigan, Massachusetts, and Guam to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a Domestic Travel Advisory for New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut urging residents of those states to refrain from non-essential domestic travel for 14 days. The Advisory does not apply to essential employees.</p> <p>The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) released updated guidance on critical infrastructure workers.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released new guidance on expanding the Accelerated and Advance Payment Program to a broader group of Medicare Part A providers and Part B suppliers for the duration of the public health emergency in accordance with the CARES Act.</p>	<p>The Massachusetts delegation wrote a letter to Secretary of State Pompeo and Acting Secretary of Homeland Security Wolf urging the Administration to continue to process and prioritize J-1 and H-1B visas for medical providers.</p> <p>Senate Banking Committee Chairman Crapo (R-ID) wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and Fed Chairman Powell urging them to quickly issue guidance to implement the CARES Act.</p>
<p>March 29</p>	<p>President Trump announced the Administration will extend nationwide social distancing guidelines, set to expire on March 30, through April 30.</p>	

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	<p>The first planeload of medical supplies delivered under Project Airbridge arrived in New York City from China. Project Airbridge is a public-private partnership that will support expedited arrival of medical supplies by plane, rather than ships, over the next 30 days. The first plane was funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for the District of Columbia, Georgia, Oregon, and Connecticut to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>Vice President Pence wrote a letter to hospital administrators requesting that all hospitals provide certain information related to the pandemic to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine. HHS accepted donations of 30 million doses of hydroxychloroquine sulfate and one million doses of chloroquine phosphate to the Strategic National Stockpile.</p> <p>The FDA issued a revised EUA to allow large-scale use of a system to decontaminate used N95 respirators during the pandemic.</p> <p>The FDA issued guidance outlining an enforcement policy to help expand availability and capability of sterilizers, disinfectant devices, and air purifiers.</p>	
<p>March 30</p>	<p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors’ Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 in Connecticut, Illinois, and Michigan.</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Kansas and Alabama, Rhode Island, and Pennsylvania to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Council of the Inspectors General announced that Acting Department of Defense Inspector General Glenn Fine will serve as the Chair of the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee (PRAC) pursuant to the CARES Act to oversee federal funds used for coronavirus response.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) will support non-clinical</p>	<p>Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Barrasso (R-WY) and Ranking Member Carper (D-DE) and House Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member Walden (R-OR) wrote a letter to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) requesting the agency use its authority to temporarily defer collection of fees and charges from NRC licensees.</p> <p>Senator Markey (D-MA) and other Senate Democrats introduced a resolution to express the sense of Congress regarding the need for a nationwide moratorium on electric and natural gas utility disconnections during the pandemic.</p> <p>Senate Finance Committee Chairman Grassley (R-IA), Ranking Member Wyden (D-OR), and other Committee members wrote letter to US Trade Representative Lighthizer requesting a delay</p>

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<p>studies and a Phase 1 clinical trial of a COVID-19 vaccine. The clinical trial is set to begin no later than fall 2020 with the goal of making the vaccine available for emergency use in early 2021.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) issued temporary waivers and new rules to provide the healthcare system with additional flexibility to respond to the coronavirus. The actions fall into four categories: increasing hospital capacity, expanding the healthcare workforce, reducing paperwork, and further promoting telehealth in Medicare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing hospital capacity: allow communities to take advantage of local ambulatory surgery centers that have canceled elective surgeries; temporarily permit non-hospital buildings and spaces to be used for patient care and quarantine sites; allow hospitals, labs, and other entities to perform tests for COVID-19 outside of hospitals; allow hospital emergency departments to test and screen patients at drive-through and off-campus test sites; allow ambulances to transport patients to a wider range of locations; allow physician-owned hospitals to temporarily increase the number of licensed beds, operating rooms, and procedure rooms; allow hospitals to bill for services outside their four walls; • Expanding the healthcare workforce: allow hospitals and healthcare systems to increase workforce capacity by removing barriers for hire; allow hospitals to use other practitioners (i.e., physician associates and nurse practitioners) to the fullest extent possible; allow certified registered nurse anesthetists to operate without supervision of a physician; allow hospitals to provide benefits and support to medical staffs (i.e., meals and laundry service); allow healthcare providers to enroll in Medicare temporarily; • Reducing paperwork: temporarily eliminate certain paperwork requirements; cover respiratory-related devices and equipment for any medical reason under Medicare; waive requirement for hospitals to have written policies on processes and visitation of patients who are in COVID-19 isolation; provide temporary relief from many audit and reporting requirements; • Expanding telehealth in Medicare: allow for more than 80 additional services to be furnished via telehealth; allow providers to bill for telehealth visits at the same rate as in-person visits; allow telehealth to fulfill many face-to-face visit requirements for clinicians to see patients in inpatient rehabilitation facilities, hospice, and home health; make clear that clinicians can provide remote patient monitoring services to patients with acute and chronic conditions and can be provided for patients with only one disease; allow 	<p>to the proposed June 1 entry into force of the US-Mexico-Canada trade agreement (USMCA). The Senators expressed concern that businesses, under pressure from the pandemic, may not have the information or capacity to comply with new rules at this time.</p> <p>A group of Senate Republicans wrote a letter to Interior Secretary Bernhardt asking him to suspend, reduce, or delay federal royalty payments for oil, gas, and coal to the Treasury.</p> <p>The bipartisan leadership of the Senate Small Business and Aging Committees wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and SBA Administrator Carranza urging them to swiftly implement the Keeping American Workers Paid and Employer Act, part of the CARES Act.</p> <p>Senators Barrasso (R-WY) and Bennet (D-CO) and Reps. Roe (R-TN) and Schrier (D-WA) led a letter signed by 122 members of Congress to Secretary of Health and Human Services Azar calling on the Department to use funding provided by the CARES Act to sustain rural health providers.</p> <p>House Judiciary Committee Chairman Nadler (D-NY) and Rep. Bass (D-CA) wrote a letter to Attorney General Barr urging the Department of Justice to use authority granted under the CARES Act to protect vulnerable prisoners.</p> <p>House Financial Services Committee Ranking Member Patrick McHenry (R-NC) wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Chairman Clayton urging them to ensure emergency relief and economic recovery benefits all Americans, including gig workers.</p>
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physicians to supervise clinical staff using virtual technologies when appropriate.

The Treasury Department [issued guidance](#) for airlines and related eligible businesses to apply for \$58 billion in grants and loans authorized by the CARES Act. Guidelines and application procedures for air carriers and contractors to seek payroll support is available [here](#). Procedures and minimum requirements for loans to air carriers and other eligible businesses is available [here](#).

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) published a [Safety Alert for Operators](#) (SAFO) pertaining to temporary parking of overflow aircraft. The SAFO notes that runways that have already been permanently closed or abandoned can be made available for overflow parking, as long as the aircraft meets the standards.

In a Federal Register [notice](#) scheduled to be published on March 31, the FAA announced that pilots and flight engineers will be able to fly with expired medical certificates through June 30 due to extraordinary circumstances.

US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [announced](#) additional flexibility for applicants and petitioners to respond to USCIS Requests for Evidences (RFE) and Notices of Intent to Deny (NOID).

USCIS [announced](#) it will reuse previously submitted biometrics to process Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization, extension requests while Application Support Centers (ASCs) are closed during the pandemic.

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Chairman Pai [circulated](#) an Order for a vote to stand up a \$100 million Connected Care Pilot Program plus an emergency \$200 million COVID-19 Telehealth Program appropriated in the CARES Act.

The FCC [announced](#) steps to help ensure that no current Lifeline subscribers are involuntarily removed from the program during the pandemic by waiving several rules that could otherwise result in de-enrollment.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) [announced](#) that direct payments to Americans under the CARES Act will begin in the next three weeks and will be distributed automatically, with no action required for most people. Some seniors and others who typically do not file returns will need to submit a simple tax return to receive the payment. More details will be announced.

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	<p>The Army Corps of Engineers is evaluating sites as possible alternate care facilities.</p>	
<p>March 31</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Ohio and Montana to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Treasury Department and Small Business Administration (SBA) announced they are mobilizing banks and other lending institutions to provide small businesses with needed capital through the \$349 billion Paycheck Protection Program established by the CARES Act.</p> <p>The Treasury Department announced it is delaying tax and reporting due dates for alcohol, tobacco, firearms, and ammunitions businesses.</p> <p>The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a show cause order proposing that air carriers receiving financial assistance under the CARES Act maintain minimum air services on a nationwide basis, with some exceptions, to ensure that covered air carriers maintain a defined schedule of flights to communities they served prior to March 1. The proposed order applies to air carriers offering scheduled passenger service and all-cargo carriers, though at this time, DOT does not propose to require service obligations of all-cargo carriers. It does not cover charter or air taxi operations.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued guidance for industry on Notifying FDA of Permanent Discontinuance or Interruption in Manufacturing Under Section 506C of the FD&C Act amid supply chain disruptions and product shortages attributable to the pandemic.</p> <p>The FDA announced a new Coronavirus Treatment Acceleration Program (CTAP) to expedite the development of potentially safe and effective life-saving treatments.</p> <p>US Surgeon General Jerome Adams and Assistant Secretary for Health Brett Giroir wrote an open letter to hospitals on optimizing ventilator use during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) secured the votes necessary to advance Chairman Pai’s proposed COVID-19 Telehealth Program to distribute \$200 million provided by the CARES Act.</p> <p>The FCC approved a waiver to allow competitive eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) to focus Universal Service Funds for communities hardest hit by the pandemic.</p>	<p>House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Rep. Khanna (D-CA) sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and Small Business Administrator Carranza urging the Administration to consider startups in their regulatory guidance when implementing the CARES Act.</p> <p>Senate Finance Committee Chairman Grassley (R-IA) published answers to frequently asked questions on the employee retention credit established by the CARES Act.</p> <p>Senator Markey (D-MA) and several other Senate Democrats sent a letter to 11 airlines urging them to issue full cash refunds to customers who cancel flights, as well as Americans stranded abroad, during the COVID-19 crisis.</p>

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	<p>The Department of Education announced new deadline flexibility for career and technical education (CTE) leaders who are required to submit local CTE plans for FY20-23 by April 15</p> <p>The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) issued an Order to identify operational solutions to cargo delivery system challenges related to COVID-19.</p> <p>The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) launched the Employee Retention Tax Credit.</p> <p>The US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) extended certain patent and trademark-related deadlines pursuant to the CARES Act.</p>	
<p>April 1</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for North Dakota, Hawaii, and the Northern Mariana Islands to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Education proposed new rules to govern distance learning for higher education students.</p> <p>The Department of Justice (DOJ) announced \$850 million is available to help public safety agencies through the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding program authorized by the CARES Act.</p> <p>The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published FAQs to help small and midsize business navigate paid sick and family leave tax credits.</p> <p>Treasury and the IRS announced that Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file tax returns will not need to file an abbreviated return to receive an Economic Impact payment.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) announced a temporary rule implementing new paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.</p> <p>DOL released a second round of FAQs covering issues related to the H-2A temporary agricultural labor certification program.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a memorandum providing regulatory waivers of certain Continuum of Care (CoC), Emergency Solutions</p>	<p>House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Thompson (D-MS) said he will introduce legislation to establish an independent, bipartisan, Congressionally-chartered commission to evaluate and report on the nation’s preparedness and response to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Neguse (D-CO) introduced a bill to provide \$25 billion to the Postal Service Fund amidst the pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Rose (D-NY) introduced a bill to establish a program to provide low-interest loans to health care organizations to assist with anticipated revenue loss or higher operating costs as a result of COVID-19.</p> <p>Rep. Lawson (D-FL) introduced a bill to provide for a temporary debt collection moratorium.</p> <p>Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Ranking Member Carper (D-DE) and other Senate Democrats sent a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) raising concerns about the agency’s response to the pandemic.</p> <p>14 House Committee chairs wrote a letter to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Acting Director Russell Vought requesting an immediate extension of public comment periods, hearings, and meetings during the pandemic and that OMB</p>

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	<p>Grant (ESG), Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) and Consolidated Plan requirements to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and provide additional support to eligible individuals economically impacted by COVID-19.</p> <p>HUD announced a new tailored set of mortgage payment relief options for single family homeowners with FHA-insured mortgages who are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19, as well as an extension period for seniors with Home Equity Conversion Mortgages.</p> <p>The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) published recommendations for states, localities, and territories that have implemented shelter in place or travel restrictions that may impact freight and passenger transportation.</p>	<p>direct agencies to extend public comment periods by at least 45 days beyond the end of the declared national emergency.</p> <p>Senate Finance Committee Chairman Grassley (R-IA) published FAQ on unemployment insurance under the CARES Act.</p>
<p>April 2</p>	<p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum under the Defense Production Act (DPA) to secure supplies for manufacturers to build ventilators. He also signed a Presidential Memorandum under the DPA authorizing FEMA to acquire N-95 respirators from 3M or any of its subsidiaries or affiliates.</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Virginia, the Virgin Islands, and Tennessee to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum on Providing Federal Support for Governors' Use of the National Guard to Respond to COVID-19 in Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, and the Virgin Islands.</p> <p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) published the interim final rule outlining how it will implement the Paycheck Protection Program. It also made available the final borrower application form and the lender electronic data form.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced how \$3.064 billion will be allocated through its Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs pursuant to the CARES Act. HUD is writing new grant formulas for the remaining \$9.136 billion in relief funding.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it will exercise enforcement discretion and not impose penalties for violations of certain HIPAA</p>	<p>Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) announced a new House Select Committee on the Coronavirus Crisis chaired by Majority Whip Clyburn (D-SC) responsible for response and relief expenditures oversight.</p> <p>House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Thompson (D-MS) wrote letters to the nation's governors asking them to help the Committee account for medical supplies and equipment requested from and provided by the federal government.</p> <p>Senator Hawley (R-MO) wrote a letter to SBA Administrator Carranza expressing concern about the eligibility of churches and religious non-profits to participate in the Paycheck Protection Program.</p>

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	<p>provisions for public health and oversight activities during the public health emergency.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) released its unemployment insurance weekly claims report.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) updated guidance on blood donation to address the urgent need for blood during the pandemic.</p> <p>HHS and Department of Justice (DOJ) distributed more than half a million medical supplies confiscated from price gougers to frontline responders in New York and New Jersey.</p> <p>The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced \$25 billion is available to public transportation systems to respond to COVID-19 pursuant to the CARES Act.</p> <p>The Department of Energy (DOE) announced a solicitation to immediately make 30 million barrels of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve’s (SPR) oil storage capacity available to US oil producers that are struggling due to COVID-19.</p>	
<p>April 3</p>	<p>President Trump signed a Presidential Memorandum on Allocating Certain Scarce or Threatened Health and Medical Resources to Domestic Use.</p> <p>President Trump announced he will nominate Brian Miller to be Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery within the Treasury Department. Miller is currently Special Assistant to the President and Senior Associate Counsel in the Office of White House Counsel.</p> <p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for New Hampshire, Indiana, West Virginia, Arkansas, and Oregon to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Treasury Department and Small Business Administration (SBA) published an Interim Final Rule on Affiliation and additional guidance on the affiliation rules for the Paycheck Protection Program.</p> <p>The SBA announced in a Federal Register notice that Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declarations have been issued for each state and territory.</p>	<p>Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) said in a statement that Congress should “double down on the downpayment we made in CARES by passing a CARES 2 package,” specifying a need for further assistance to small business, to expand unemployment insurance, and provide more resources for the healthcare system.</p> <p>Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) said that healthcare is his top priority for Phase 4 of coronavirus response legislation.</p> <p>House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Thompson (D-MS) introduced bill to establish a National Commission Regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Neguse (D-CO) introduced a bill to prohibit debt from medically necessary procedures related to COVID-19 from being included on credit reports.</p> <p>Rep. Davis (R-IL) introduced a bill to establish the National Commission on the COVID-19 Pandemic.</p>

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	<p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued new guidance on use of cloth face coverings and published FAQ.</p> <p>The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued an Enforcement Notice clarifying, in the context of the COVID-19 public health emergency, carriers’ responsibilities regarding refunds.</p> <p>The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) published a Notice of Enforcement Discretion to enable states to permit food trucks to operate at federally funded Interstate Highway rest areas during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced \$200 million in Indian Housing Block Grants (IHBG) is available to respond to COVID-19.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) announced additional guidance to provide information to workers and employers about paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave pursuant to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act.</p> <p>DOL issued interim enforcement guidance for respiratory protection during the N95 shortage due to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) waived sponsorship identification requirements for COVID-19 public service announcements.</p> <p>The FCC temporarily waived restrictions on hiring contractors for American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation services to meet increased demand.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced a second application window for funding under the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) grant program running from April 14-July 13.</p> <p>The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced steps to provide additional financial, benefits, and claims relief for veterans.</p>	<p>Rep. Chu (D-CA) introduced a bill to ensure that all communities have access to COVID-19 testing, treatment, public health information, and relief benefits regardless of immigration status or English proficiency.</p> <p>Rep. Carter (R-GA) introduced a bill to direct the FTC to develop and disseminate information to the public about scams related to COVID-19.</p> <p>Rep. Omar (D-MN) introduced a bill to require that school food authorities and local educational agencies not collect unpaid meal fees during the pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Hayes (D-CT) introduced a bill to modify nutrition programs to address coronavirus.</p> <p>Rep. Murphy (D-FL) introduced a bill to establish a National Commission on the Coronavirus Disease Pandemic.</p> <p>Reps. Neguse (D-CO) and Lieu (D-CA) introduced the Price Gouging Prevention Act to prohibit price gouging throughout the current and future public health crises.</p>
<p>April 4</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Arizona, Nevada, Maine, Utah, Nebraska, and Wisconsin to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p>	<p>Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) sent a letter to House colleagues reiterating the need to pass a CARES 2 package to extend and expand the CARES Act. She cited more assistance for small businesses (including farmers), extending unemployment benefits, additional direct payments, and additional resources</p>

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	<p>The Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a business review letter to several medical supplies companies announcing it would not challenge collaborative efforts to produce and distribute personal protective equipment (PPE).</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) published Unemployment Insurance Guidance Letter 15-20 providing guidance to states for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation.</p> <p>The Small Business Administration (SBA) issued guidance clarifying that all faith-based organizations impacted by COVID-19 are eligible to participate in the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to the extent they meet the CARES Act eligibility criteria.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued guidance on clinical electronic thermometers.</p> <p>The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) published FAQs on airport grants under the CARES Act.</p>	<p>for state and local governments and the healthcare sector as priorities.</p>
<p>April 5</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Delaware, South Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Mississippi to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) published Unemployment Insurance Program Letter 16-20 providing guidance to states for implementation of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance program.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued guidance on infusion pumps and accessories.</p>	
<p>April 6</p>	<p>The Treasury Department published FAQ on the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).</p> <p>The Treasury Department published Q&A on loans to air carriers and eligible businesses and national security businesses under the CARES Act alongside a draft application form.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve announced it will establish a facility to facilitate lending to small businesses via the PPP by providing term financing backed by PPP loans.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that \$186 million will be made available to state and local jurisdictions for additional resources to respond</p>	<p>Senators Klobuchar (D-MN) and Hoeven (R-ND) led a large bipartisan group of senators on a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Perdue urging the Administration to ensure the continuity of food supply to rural areas by providing certain temporary relief to farmers.</p> <p>Senators Cramer (R-ND) and Klobuchar (D-MN) and Reps. Welch (D-VT) and Marshall (R-KS) led a letter to congressional leadership calling for funds to help small broadband providers sustain services and upgrades for students and low-income families in forthcoming coronavirus response legislation.</p>

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	<p>to COVID-19. HHS also announced that it is purchasing rapid point-of-care COVID-19 tests for state, territorial, and tribal public health labs.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) published a new Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) poster aimed at reducing workplace exposure to COVID-19.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) hosted a webinar on guidance on enforcement policy for personal protective equipment (PPE) during the pandemic. FDA also posted FAQs on shortages of surgical masks and gowns and FAQs on 3D printing of medical devices, accessories, components, and parts during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced it is donating 225,000 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) to state and local responders.</p> <p>The Department of Education announced a new streamlined process for providing states funding flexibilities to meet the needs of students and educators during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published recommendations for running errands including grocery shopping, getting takeout and gas, and doctor visits.</p>	
<p>April 7</p>	<p>President Trump approved a disaster declaration for Minnesota to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Treasury Department updated its FAQs on the Paycheck Protection Program.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve and other federal financial agencies issued a joint statement on loan modifications by financial institutions working with customers affected by the coronavirus.</p> <p>The Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a Final Order on minimum service requirements for airlines receiving aid under the CARES Act.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) sent a letter to clinicians summarizing actions to ensure maximum flexibility for treating patients.</p> <p>CMS approved approximately \$34 billion for healthcare providers through the expansion of the Accelerated and Advance Payment Program.</p>	<p>Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) said he will work with Treasury Secretary Mnuchin and Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY) to approve additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program on April 9 by unanimous consent or voice vote.</p> <p>A group of Democratic Senators wrote a letter to the Department of Justice calling on the Bureau of Prisons to use new CARES Act authority to waive phone charges for incarcerated people during the pandemic.</p> <p>Senators Klobuchar (D-MN) and Grassley (R-IA) wrote a letter to Attorney General Barr urging the Department of Justice (DOJ) to vigorously enforce Executive Order 13910 to prevent price gouging.</p> <p>Senators Grassley (R-IA) and Duckworth (D-IL) led a group of bipartisan Senators on a letter to Secretary of Agriculture Purdue requesting additional funds for the biofuel industry</p>

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	<p>CMS updated its recommendations to limit non-emergent, elective treatment, and preventative medical services for patients.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) published FAQs for patients about clinical trials during the pandemic.</p> <p>The FDA published a Temporary Policy Regarding Enforcement of the Egg Safety Rule During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.</p> <p>The FDA published FAQs on animal food safety and COVID-19.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published guidance for building water systems after a prolonged shutdown due to COVID-19.</p> <p>The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) posted supplemental award information for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) grants funds under the CARES Act.</p>	<p>through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) during the pandemic.</p> <p>Several House Democrats introduced the COVID-19 Price Gouging Prevention Act to empower the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and state attorneys general to fine sellers who increase prices unreasonably during the national emergency.</p> <p>Rep. Davis (D-IL) introduced a bill to provide funding for child and adult care so essential workers can report to work during the pandemic.</p> <p>Rep. Neguse (D-CO) introduced a bill to provide for an enhanced coronavirus relief fund for governments with a population of 500,000 or less.</p> <p>Rep. Perlmutter (D-CO) introduced a bill to provide for an enhanced coronavirus relief fund.</p> <p>House Budget Committee Chairman Yarmuth (D-KY) wrote a letter to Acting Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Vought asking for details on how the CARES Act will be implemented.</p> <p>Joint Economic Committee Vice Chair Beyer (D-VA) wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin urging the Department to provide clear guidance to small businesses and lenders on Paycheck Protection Program implementation. Beyer also wrote a letter to Acting Secretary of Homeland security Wolf urging stricter COVID-19 protocols at US airports.</p>
<p>April 8</p>	<p>President Trump approved a disaster declaration for Vermont to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Treasury Department updated its FAQs on the Paycheck Protection Program.</p> <p>The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a temporary final rule banning export of certain medical protective equipment without authorization.</p>	<p>Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) and Senate Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY) issued a joint statement outlining priorities for an interim emergency coronavirus package, including an additional \$250 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program (with \$125 designated to flow through community-based financial institutions that serve farmers, family, women, minority, and veteran-owned entities); \$100 billion for hospitals, health centers, and health systems; \$150 billion for state and local</p>

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<p>The Indian Health Service (IHS) announced it is expanding access to telehealth services across IHS federal facilities.</p> <p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced ventilator contracts with GM and Philips under the Defense Production Act. HHS also announced an agreement with DuPont to expedite the delivery of protective suits.</p> <p>HHS announced new guidance authorizing licensed pharmacists to order and administer COVID-19 tests authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).</p> <p>HHS awarded over \$1.3 billion to over 1,000 health centers pursuant to the CARES Act to help communities respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) issued updated guidance focused on infection control to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in inpatient and outpatient care settings.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued guidance for critical infrastructure workers to be permitted to continue to work following exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are put in place.</p> <p>The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued guidance granting temporarily relief from certain requirements for flight attendants to protect them from contracting COVID-19.</p> <p>The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) issued a letter to distributors on delivery of medical supplies under the Stafford Act.</p> <p>FEMA and Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) issued a joint statement on procedures pertained to attempts to export PPP overseas.</p> <p>The Department of Energy (DOE) announced it will provide \$30 million for advanced research in machine learning and artificial intelligence research to support solving challenges like COVID-19.</p> <p>The Department of Labor (DOL) issued an alert with safety tips for protecting retail workers during the pandemic.</p>	<p>governments; and a 15% increase to the maximum SNAP benefit.</p> <p>13 Senate Democrats wrote a letter to congressional leadership calling for funding for local journalism and media in forthcoming economic stimulus legislation.</p> <p>Senators Durbin (D-IL) and Warren (D-MA) wrote a letter to Education Secretary DeVos urging the Department to exclude for-profit colleges from funding available under the CARES Act.</p> <p>Senator Markey (D-MA) wrote a letter to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) calling for comprehensive guidelines for companies that provide online conferencing services and best practices to protect safety and privacy.</p> <p>Senators Durbin (D-IL) and Duckworth (D-IL) wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin raising concerns about how the Department is implementing financial assistance to the aviation sector.</p> <p>A group of bipartisan senators wrote a letter to Treasury Secretary Mnuchin calling on the Financial Stability Oversight Council (FSOC) to take immediate action to avoid a housing finance system crisis due to the pandemic.</p> <p>House Oversight and Reform Committee Chairwoman Maloney (D-NY) introduced a bill to allow deputy inspectors general to chair the Pandemic Response Accountability Committee.</p>
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	<p>DOL expanded its temporary guidance for respirator fit-testing to apply to all workplaces that require respirator use.</p> <p>The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) released a Public Notice establishing the procedures for funding its COVID-19 Telehealth Program.</p> <p>The Department of Education issued a fact sheet on use of grant funds during the pandemic.</p> <p>The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) extended through May 15 hours of service rules for truck drivers carrying COVID-19 response supplies.</p>	
<p>April 9</p>	<p>President Trump approved disaster declarations for Idaho and Alaska to make funding available to state, tribal, and local governments and certain nonprofits to respond to the pandemic.</p> <p>The Treasury Department launched the Main Street Business Lending Program to make loans available to mid-size businesses and the Municipal Liquidity Facility to make direct financing available to state and localities.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve announced additional actions to provide up to \$2.3 trillion in loans and released term sheets for the Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility, the Primary Market Corporate Credit Facility, the Secondary Market Corporate Credit Facility, the Municipal Liquidity Facility, the Paycheck Protection Program Lending Facility, the Main Street New Loan Facility, and the Main Street Expanded Loan Facility.</p> <p>The Federal Reserve, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), and the Comptroller of the Currency published an interim final rule to encourage lending to small businesses through the Paycheck Protection Program.</p> <p>The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) extended over 300 tax filing, payment, and administrative deadlines for businesses, tax-exempt organizations, and certain estates and trusts.</p> <p>The Department of Education announced more than \$6 billion in funds authorized by the CARES Act will be immediately distributed to colleges and universities to provide direct emergency cash grants to college students.</p>	<p>Senate Majority Leader McConnell (R-KY) sought unanimous consent to authorize an additional \$250 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program. Senate Democrats objected and offered another proposal to authorize the \$250 billion, as well as additional funds for health care providers, additional funds for state, local and tribal governments, a 15% increase to the maximum Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit, and modifications to CARES Act state election assistance funding. McConnell objected.</p> <p>The Senate Commerce Committee convened a paper hearing on Enlisting Big Data in the Fight Against Coronavirus.</p> <p>Senators Brown (D-OH), Schatz (D-HI), and Warren (D-OH) wrote a letter to Federal Reserve Chairman Powell calling on the Fed to stop banks from buying back their own stock and paying out dividends.</p>

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	<p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it will exercise enforcement discretion and will not impose penalties for violations of HIPAA rules in connection with good faith operation of COVID-19 testing sites.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued best practices on safe food handling and employee health in retail food settings during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced that Michigan is the first state approved to operate Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer to provide assistance to families of children eligible for free or reduced-price meals dealing with school closures pursuant to the Families First Coronavirus Act.</p> <p>USDA announced that agricultural producers have 12 months, rather than nine, to repay Marketing Assistance Loans pursuant to the CARES Act.</p> <p>The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a waiver for states concerning third party CDL skills test examiners in response to the COVID-19 emergency.</p> <p>The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a temporary rent suspension to ease the financial burden on disaster survivors in California, Florida, North Carolina, and Texas.</p> <p>The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) issued interim Trusted Internet Connections guidance to help federal agencies leverage existing resources to secure networks.</p> <p>The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) extended its No Sail Order for all cruise ships.</p>	
<p>April 10</p>	<p>The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced it is beginning to deliver an initial \$30 billion in CARES Act relief to providers.</p> <p>The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued temporary policy guidance regarding non-standard personal protective equipment (PPE) practices for sterile compounding by pharmacy compounders not registered as outsourcing facilities during the public health emergency.</p> <p>The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) announced it is adjusting 2020 aggregate production quotas for certain controlled substances and the assessment of annual</p>	<p>Senate Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY) and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin spoke and agreed to “pursue bipartisan talks with the leadership of House and Senate Democrats and Republicans” on interim funding for the Paycheck Protection Program.</p> <p>Rep. Schiff (D-CA) and Senators Harris (D-CA) and Feinstein (D-CA) introduced the National Commission on the COVID-19 Pandemic in the United States Act.</p>

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needs for ephedrine and pseudoephedrine in response to the public health emergency.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) [announced](#) over \$1 billion is available to Amtrak to support its COVID-19 response pursuant to the CARES Act.

The FRA published a [Safety Advisory](#) recommending that railroads develop and implement procedures consistent with federal best practices to ensure safety of railroad operations and maintenance during the national emergency.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) [announced](#) it will begin accepting applications for the COVID-19 Telehealth Program through a dedicated [portal](#) on April 13 at 12:00 PM ET.

The FCC provided [guidance](#) to public safety entities on requesting temporary authority and waivers in response to COVID-19.

Senator Sanders (I-VT) and Rep. Jayapal (D-WA) introduced the [Health Care Emergency Guarantee Act](#) to allow Medicare to pay all treatment costs for uninsured and cover all out-of-pocket costs for those coronavirus patients without public or private insurance.

Senators Warren (D-MA) and Harris (D-CA) [introduced](#) the Price Gouging Prevention Act to prohibit price gouging of consumer goods throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and future emergencies. It is the companion to legislation introduced by Reps. Neguse (D-CA) and Lieu (D-CA).

Senators Romney (R-UT) and Murphy (D-CT) introduced a bill to establish a Global Health Security Interagency Review Council and a US Coordinator for Global Health Security.