

Below are key takeaways from the Cares Act relief bill that I thought you would appreciate knowing about:

Provides direct financial assistance payments to qualifying individuals:

- The bill provides one-time, direct financial assistance payments of \$1,200 to individuals with Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) up to \$75,000 or \$2,400 for married couples with combined AGI up to \$150,000. Payments would increase by an additional \$500 per qualifying child. The rebate amount is reduced by \$5 for each \$100 that a taxpayer's income exceeds the phase-out threshold.

Establishes new Coronavirus Relief Fund for state and local governments to address spending shortages related to the coronavirus pandemic:

- The bill provides \$150 billion in aid to states, tribal governments, territories and local governments with populations of over 500,000 people to address necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

Allots \$10 billion for Small Business Administration – Emergency EIDL Grants:

- Allots \$10 billion for Small Business Administration – Emergency EIDL Grants. The bill includes \$10 billion for the SBA Emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loans grants to help struggling small businesses cover expenses.

Includes an increase in unemployment compensation benefits:

- The bill includes an additional \$600 per week payment to each recipient of Unemployment Insurance or Pandemic Unemployment Assistance for up to four months.

Increase flexibility for senior nutrition programs:

- The bill increases options to provide home delivery and waives nutrition requirements for Older Americans Act (OAA) meal programs during the public health emergency to ensure local Area Agencies on Aging are able to maintain meal services for older members of the community.

Increase funding to support health centers addressing COVID-19:

- The bill would provide \$1.32 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 for supplemental awards for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19. These services would be administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) and directed to community health centers.

Instructs the Secretary of HHS to create plan to strengthen the healthcare workforce:

- The bill directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to, in no later than one year of the bill's enactment, "develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan with respect to the health care workforce development programs of the Department of Health and Human Services, including education and training programs. This guidance would include identifying current gaps and barriers and coordinating with other agencies to fund and administer related programs.

Temporary Relief for Federal Student Loan Borrowers:

- The bill requires the Secretary of Education to defer student loan payments, principal, and interest for six months, through September 30, 2020, without penalty to the borrower for all federally owned loans. This provides relief for over 95 percent of student loan borrowers.

Creates Limitations on Paid Sick Leave Act Limitations:

- The bill creates limitations and distinctions therein to require employers to provide no more than \$511 per day and/or \$5,110 in the aggregate for an employee for who is unable to work due to direct effects of COVID-19 OR \$200 per day and \$2,000 in the aggregate for an employee caring for an individual experiencing the effects of COVID-19.

\$1 billion and additional administrative flexibility for the Community Services Block Grant:

- For local Community Action Agencies to provide anti-poverty programs and services to residents experiencing increasing unemployment and financial instability as a result of the coronavirus.

\$30.75 billion for grants to provide emergency support to local school systems:

- This grant provides funding for local schools and higher education institutions to continue to provide educational services to students and support the ongoing functionality of school districts and institutions.

\$15.5 billion in additional funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

- This will support states and localities in deploying program flexibilities and meeting growing need for food assistance as a result of coronavirus.

Extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program:

- The bill delays the expiration of TANF from May 22, 2020 to November 30, 2020, providing important short-term certainty for county human services agencies and helping vulnerable county residents maintain access to this safety net program.

\$400 million in election assistance:

For the states to help prepare for the 2020 election cycle, including to increase the ability to vote by mail, expand early voting and online registration and increase the had a chance to read the Cares Act relief bill this morning. Here is a summary; it includes the following, but is not limited to: