



## **The HEALS Act Senate Proposal**

### **August 2020**

The proposed HEALS Act is a package bill made up of previous Senate Republican bills to address economic relief and the public health response to the COVID-19 epidemic.

The bill was introduced as a response to the HEROES Act, already passed by the House. A compromise between the bills will be worked out in ongoing negotiations.

The HEALS Act would create a new federal pandemic unemployment benefit of \$200 per week, to replace existing benefits that are expiring.

The bill includes \$160 billion in new relief loans to small businesses, seasonal businesses, and businesses in low-income areas.

It contains tax credits to encourage manufacturing on protective equipment, for pandemic-related business expenses, and for employee retention.

A new round of \$1,200 relief checks (plus \$500 per dependent) to taxpayers would be sent out.

The bill provides \$105 billion in aid payments to support education and re-opening schools, and provides liability protection to schools, businesses, and other organizations that follow reasonable re-opening precautions

\* It is important to note that this is only a proposal