

CONGRESSIONAL NEGOTIATORS STRIKE DEAL ON CORONAVIRUS RESCUE PACKAGE

A bipartisan agreement was reached late last night (March 24) on a recovery bill, with votes expected in the Senate (and possibly the House) today (March 25.)

The text of the agreement has *not* been released formally. We believe it will be out around 10:00am ET. As a result, we do not have guidance for you yet on the substance or its impact on the industry.

Democratic Leader Schumer released a letter to his colleagues identifying items secured in the bill:

- 4 months of extended unemployment insurance, instead of 3 months
- \$55 billion increase in the Marshall Plan for our Health Care System
- \$150 billion for a state, tribal, and local Coronavirus Relief fund
- \$10 billion for SBA emergency grants of up to \$10,000 to provide immediate relief for small business operating costs
- \$17 billion for SBA to cover 6 months of payments for small businesses with existing SBA loans
- \$30 billion in emergency education funding and \$25 billion in emergency transit funding
- \$30 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund to provide financial assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as private nonprofits providing critical and essential services
- More than \$10 billion for the Indian Health Services and other tribal programs
- Make rent, mortgage, and utility costs eligible for SBA loan forgiveness
- Ban stock buybacks for the term of the government assistance plus 1 year on any company receiving a government loan from the bill.
- Establish robust worker protections attached to all federal loans for businesses
- Create real-time public reporting of Treasury transactions under the Act, including terms of loans, investments or other assistance to corporations
- Create of Treasury Department Special Inspector General for Pandemic Recovery to provide oversight of Treasury loans and a Pandemic Response Accountability Committee to protect taxpayer dollars
- Add a retention tax credit for employers to encourage businesses to keep workers on payroll during the crisis
- Provide income tax exclusion for individuals who are receiving student loan repayment assistance from their employer
- Save hundreds of thousands of airline industry jobs and prohibit airlines from stock buybacks and CEO bonuses