

The Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act

The first bipartisan package to address to the coronavirus outbreak

HELPS STATES & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS PREPARE FOR THE CRISIS

The law provides money directly to state, local, and tribal governments to conduct public health preparedness. The law also provides support for the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to contain and combat the virus including quarantine efforts, purchase of test kits, and communicating with and informing public health institutions.

BOOSTS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The law boosts funding for the Biomedical Advance Research and Development Authority (BARDA) and National Institutes of Health (NIH) to support research, development and manufacturing for vaccines for COVID-19.

AIDS HEALTH CARE PREPAREDNESS

The law provides nearly \$1 billion dollars to purchase masks and personal protective equipment for state and local health agencies in areas with a shortage of medical supplies. Community Health Centers also receive funding which they can use to help smaller clinics in underserved urban and rural areas.

PROVIDES TELEHEALTH FLEXIBILITY

The law provides flexibility to Medicare providers to furnish telehealth services to more beneficiaries regardless of whether the beneficiary is in a rural community. This will allow Medicare recipients to receive care from physicians and other practitioners in their homes.

ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND FAMILIES

The law authorizes disaster loans for small business impacted by financial losses as a result of the coronavirus outbreak. The bill also restores funding for mental health and substance abuse treatment and prevention, and heating and cooling assistance for low-income families (LIHEAP).