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COVID-19 Legislative Update
December 7, 2020

The COVID-19 Legislative Update will be published on Monday evenings, until negotiations ramp up (or dissipate). **If we see text this week, there will be another update sent later this week.** For past updates, click here. For updates before May 8, click here. If you believe you have been accidentally unsubscribed, you can re-subscribe here.

12.7.2020. COVID-19 Legislative Update

Legislation

Supplemental IV

Timeline: After an increasingly pessimistic couple of weeks, last week showed some momentum for passing a COVID relief package before the end of the year. Two proposals were released last week – an updated version of Leader McConnell's $500 billion package and a framework unveiled by a bipartisan, bicameral group, including the Problem Solvers Caucus. The bipartisan group, calling themselves the "908 coalition", worked through the weekend, with the aim of dropping **text tomorrow or Wednesday**. If a COVID deal comes together, it will be combined with the omnibus, so there's only one vote needed before members fly out. Although the current CR runs out this Friday, Congress is gearing up to pass a one-week CR, **extending the deadline to finalize any COVID relief deal to next week**.

Process/Politics: Right now, it seems the focus is on taking things out of the Bipartisan Package rather than putting new items in. **Liability protection will be the last item negotiated and the text could even be released this week with liability protection bracketed**. On Wednesday, Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer put out a statement endorsing the bipartisan framework, calling for it to serve as the base for negotiations between the two parties. At this point, it seems **Democrats are willing to support the bipartisan group's product – they've have indicated that as long as their main priorities are being addressed in some form, they will support the bill**.

vaccine distribution, and thus, another COVID bill. A bill early next year would then include items that are left out of the current package. Some Democrats have been [calling](#) the current package as a "four-month emergency relief package", assuming another will be necessary in another four months.

Policy: We saw two packages be released last week – an updated version of Leader McConnell's $500 billion package and a framework unveiled by a bipartisan, bicameral group. The bipartisan framework clocks in at $908 billion, almost double McConnell's $500 billion proposal. However, the $908 billion is not all new money – they're still a plan to repurpose unobligated funds from the Paycheck Protection Program and Treasury funds. Thus, the net cost is lower than the $908 billion touted in the press. **Democrats and Republicans may characterize the topline differently**, however. Without getting too into the weeds, Democrats may refer to the bill's gross number ($908 billion) rather than its net number.

Problem Solvers/Bipartisan Framework: Last Tuesday, a bipartisan, bicameral group released a COVID package framework. Press release [here](#). Framework [here](#) and below.

- $160 billion for state, local, and tribal governments
- $180 billion for Unemployment Insurance (UI)
- $288 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), including support for restaurants and live events, and tax deductibility
- $12 billion for CDFI/MDIs
- $45 billion for airlines/airports, transit, Amtrak
- $16 billion for vaccine development/distribution and testing/tracing
- $35 billion for the Healthcare Provider Relief Fund
- $82 billion for education
- $4 billion for student loans
- $25 billion for rental housing assistance
- $26 billion for nutrition/agriculture
- $10 billion for U.S. Postal Service
- $10 billion for child care
- $10 billion for broadband
- $5 billion for opioid funding
- Short-term liability protection

Updated McConnell Plan: Last Tuesday, Leader McConnell released an updated version of the $500 billion COVID package he released earlier this fall. Summary [here](#).

Passed Legislation

Moving forward, this section will only include new information and guidance. For past information and guidance and passed legislation, please refer to the [archives](#). For a summary of all supplementals, please see [here](#).

- There has been no new information and guidance since the previous update.

Members of Congress in Quarantine or Treatment (new additions in bold)
Tested Positive (7): Sen. Kelly Loeffler (R-GA), Rep. Brian Steil (R-WI), Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT), **Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV), Rep. Austin Scott (R-GA), Rep. Ted Budd (R-NC), Rep. Robert Aderholt (R-AL)**
Currently Self-Quarantined (0):
Recovered (24): Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY), Rep. Joe Cunningham (D-SC), Rep. Ben McAdams (D-UT), Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), Rep. Mike Kelly (R-PA), Rep. Nydia Velazquez (D-NY), Rep. Neal Dunn (R-FL), Rep. Tom Rice (R-SC), Rep. Morgan Griffith (R-VA), Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-TX), Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL), Sen. Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Rep. Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon (R-Puerto Rico at large), Rep. Dan Meuser (R-PA), Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT), Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT), Sen. Thom Tillis (R-NC), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI), Rep. Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL), Rep. Bill Huizenga (R-MI), Rep. Drew Ferguson (R-GA), Rep. Don Young (R-AK), Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), Rep. Tim Walberg (R-MI), Rep. Cheri Bustos (D-IL), Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Rep. Ed Perlmutter (D-CO), Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO)
Completed Quarantine (48): Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Rep. Mark Meadows (R-NC)*, Sen. Lindsay Graham (R-SC), Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA), Rep. Sharice Davids (D-KS), Rep. Doug Collins (R-GA), Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), Sen. Cory Gardner (R-CO), Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL), Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL), Rep. Jason Crow (D-CO), Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA), Rep. Ben Ray Luján (D-NM), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL), Rep. John Yarmuth (D-KY), Rep. Adam Schiff (D-CA), Rep. Vincente Gonzalez (D-TX), Rep. Drew Ferguson (R-GA), Rep. David Schweikert (R-AZ), Rep. Anthony Brindisi (D-NY), Rep. David Price (D-NC), Rep. Ann Wagner (R-MO), Rep. Kathleen Rice (D-NY), Rep. Matt Cartwright (D-PA), Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK), Rep. Steve Scalise (R-LA), Rep. Frederica Wilson (D-FL), Rep. Andy Kim (D-NJ), Rep. Kendra Horn (D-OK), Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT), Sen. Mitt Romney (R-UT), Rep. Katie Porter (D-CA), Rep. Seth Moulton (D-MA), Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX), Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ), Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), Rep. Mikie Sherrill (D-NJ), Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Rep. Randy Weber (R-TX), Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX), Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA), Rep. Jody Hice (R-GA), Rep. Guy Reschenthaler (R-PA), Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI), Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE), Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE), Sen. James Lankford (R-OK), Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX), Rep. Mike Johnson (R-LA), Sen. Kamala Harris (D-CA), Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI)

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