

Underwood Priorities Included in Bipartisan CARES Act to Help Illinois Families

Helping Illinois Families

- Delivers immediate financial support for individuals, with up to \$1,200 per individual and \$500 per child in direct assistance.
- Provides individuals receiving unemployment benefits with an additional \$600 per week for up to four months, on top of state unemployment benefits to make up for 100 percent of lost wages.
 - An additional 13 weeks of federally funded unemployment insurance benefits are immediately available for individuals who have exhausted their state unemployment benefits.
- Requires group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance to cover any qualifying coronavirus preventive service—including vaccines—without cost-sharing.
- Requires Medicare Part B and Medicare Advantage to provide coverage of a coronavirus vaccine without cost-sharing.
- Increases funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant program by \$3.5 billion and temporarily expands eligibility to keep childcare options available for essential workers responding to coronavirus regardless of their income level.
- Ensures independent contractors and those who are self-employed have access to worker protections, including unemployment insurance and small business loans.
- Includes credit protection provisions for consumers whose finances are negatively affected.
- Ties common-sense worker and consumer protections to assistance to airlines and other industries, helping ensure taxpayer funds are being used appropriately.
- Extends the required minimum distribution deadlines, ensuring that retirees whose retirement plans have recently suffered large losses have time to allow their assets to regain value.
- Extends this year's federal tax filing deadline to July 15, 2020.
- Includes \$820 million for activities authorized under the Older Americans Act related to coronavirus, including \$100 million for family caregivers and \$200 million for supportive services.
- Defers student loan payments for 6 months, through September 30, 2020, without penalty to the borrower for all federally owned loans.
 - Suspends interest accrual for such loans, meaning balances for borrowers will not grow.

Aiding Community Organizations and Entities

- Establishes a \$150 billion relief fund to help states and localities address unexpected budget gaps caused by the coronavirus response.
- Delivers \$100 billion directly to hospitals to support their health care providers and their operations as they respond to coronavirus.
- Delays scheduled Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital cuts through November 30, 2020.
- Suspends the Medicare sequester cuts for an additional year.
- Includes bipartisan legislation that Congresswoman Underwood introduced on March 13, 2020, to commission a report on the security of America's medical product supply chain.
- Requires the Strategic National Stockpile to include personal protective equipment (PPE) and diagnostic tests.
- Provides \$1 billion for the Defense Production Act to be invoked so that more PPE can be produced and distributed to communities like ours.
- Provides \$45 billion to a disaster relief fund for state and local governments that can be used for PPE and other purposes.
- Includes \$45 million for Family Violence Prevention and Services grants to support local domestic violence shelters as they face increased needs.
- Extends mandatory funding for community health centers at current levels through November 30, 2020 and provides \$1.32 billion in supplemental funding to community health centers on the front lines of testing and treating patients for coronavirus.
- Provides funding to the CDC to support the efforts of states and communities to purchase PPE, coronavirus testing kits, and invest in other preparedness and response efforts.
- Includes \$25 billion in funding for transit systems and operating costs to keep buses and commuter rail running.
- Establishes a \$30.75 billion Education Stabilization Fund to support states as schools face costs related to coronavirus, including the purchase of educational technology to support online learning.
- Includes \$50 million for the Institute of Museum and Library Services to expand digital network access in areas of the country where such access is lacking, including the purchase of internet-enabled devices.
- Waives the requirement that higher education institutions return federal funds in the case of students who left school as a result of coronavirus.
- Includes \$400 million for Election Security Grants to states to help protect our elections from disruption due to the pandemic.
- Includes \$100 million for Assistance to Firefighters Grants, which can pay for PPE and other supplies our first responders need.

Supporting Small Businesses

- Provides \$9.5 billion for agricultural producers impacted by coronavirus, including producers of specialty crops and producers that supply our local food systems.
- Delivers over \$377 billion in support to small businesses.
 - \$10 billion in Emergency Economic Injury Grants to small businesses that apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
 - The loans can be used to pay for expenses that could have been met if the pandemic had not occurred, including payroll and other operating expenses.
 - The grants can be used to provide paid sick leave to employees, maintain payroll, meet increased production costs due to supply chain disruptions, or pay business obligations, including debts, rent, and mortgage payments.
 - Expands eligibility for Economic Injury Disaster Loans to include private nonprofits, cooperatives, and others.
 - Waives the credit elsewhere test and certain other requirements.
 - Nearly \$350 billion for a Paycheck Protection Program to provide small businesses with zero-fee loans of up to \$10 million with principal and interest deferred for up to one year.
 - Up to eight weeks of average payroll and other costs will be forgiven if the business retains its employees and their salary levels.
 - Loans can be used for payroll support, such as employee salaries, paid sick or medical leave, insurance premiums, and mortgage, rent, and utility payments.
 - Waives affiliation rules for businesses in the hospitality and restaurant industries, franchises that are approved on the SBA's Franchise Directory, and small businesses that receive financing through the Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) program.
 - Waives the collateral and personal guarantee requirements and the credit elsewhere test.
 - Provides \$562 million to ensure prompt processing of Economic Injury Disaster Loans.
 - Includes \$275 million in grants to Small Business Development Centers and other institutions that can provide information, resources, and guidance to small business owners during this crisis.