

HELP IS ON THE WAY

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Today, after unnecessary delay in the Senate, the House passed a vital third phase of coronavirus legislation. **Thanks to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, help is on the way for families and small businesses throughout Georgia's 12th District.**

As our nation faces an unprecedented crisis, our response must be robust. This legislation will deliver \$2 trillion in financial aid to individuals, businesses, and hospitals, and it will continue funding an aggressive response to combating the coronavirus by investing in new medicines, therapeutics, and vaccines.

Here's a breakdown of what's included in the legislation:

How the CARES Act Helps American Families

- Authorizes a one-time tax rebate check of \$1,200 per individual or \$2,400 per couple and \$500 per eligible child.
- There are no earned income or tax liability requirements to receive these rebate checks
- As long as a person has a valid Social Security number, they can receive the credit – so this means workers, those receiving welfare benefits, Social Security beneficiaries, and all others are eligible.
- They are eligible at full amount for Americans whose income is less than \$75,000 for individuals, \$112,500 for head of household, and \$150,000 for married couples and reduced for higher income earners.
- Phases out completely at \$99,000 for individuals and \$198,000 for married couples.
- Expands unemployment insurance to cover gig workers and self-employed and non-profit employees.

How the CARES Act Helps Small Businesses

- Creates a new Paycheck Protection Program, a SBA-backed loan program to help small businesses pay for expenses.
- Loans taken by small businesses to keep employees on payroll may be forgiven.
- 501 (c)(3)s will also be eligible for this program.
- Federal government will forgive 8 weeks of cash flow, rent and utilities at 100% up to 2.5x average monthly payroll.
- Contact your lender directly about this program.
- Authorizes additional funds for the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loans
- Apply at disasterloan.sba.gov
- Assists our airports by providing \$10 billion in grants through the Airport Improvement Program to help them maintain employment and continue operations, as well as \$3 billion in payroll support grants to airline contractors
- Provides \$454 billion to assist transportation related businesses negatively affected the coronavirus, including port facilities.

How the CARES Act Ensures Access To Care For All Americans

- Increase in Medicare reimbursement rate to assist providers caring for our most vulnerable population.
- Increases access to testing by allowing the Strategic National Stockpile to stockpile swabs necessary for test kits.
- Allows the FDA to quickly approve the use of new medication and treatments.
- Facilitates the use of new and innovative telemedicine technology to protect and contain the spread of COVID-19.

How the CARES Act Directly Combats the Pandemic

- \$340 billion supplemental appropriation
 - \$150 billion for states, cities, localities to fight pandemic.
 - Support for health care workers and hospitals.
 - Funding for PPE.
 - Support for our local responders.
 - Funding for the research of new treatments and vaccines.
 - Support for small businesses.
 - Support our local colleges and universities.
 - Support for veteran health care.
 - Support for DOD response to COVID-19.

How the CARES Act Helps Farmers

- Provides \$9.5 billion to the Secretary to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing support for agricultural producers including producers of specialty crops, producers that supply local food systems, including farmers markets, restaurants, and schools, and livestock producers, including dairy producers,”
- Secures \$14 billion for replenishment of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).
- Gives \$20.5 million to the Business and Industry Loan Guarantee program to provide guarantees to loans made by private lenders to rural businesses, similar to SBA loans for rural communities.
- Grants \$100 million to ReConnect, a program to expand rural broadband access, to provide around \$350 million to \$400 million in loans and grants.

As a reminder, **you can find up-to-date information regarding the coronavirus here:**

- [A coronavirus resource page on my website](#)
- [The CDC's main coronavirus homepage](#)
- [Georgia Department of Public Health Website](#)

While the days ahead will be tough, I'm hoping you feel encouraged knowing **help is on the way**. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to [contact my office](#).

Sincerely,

Rick Allen – Member of Congress

