

## ***Policy Resolution Group COVID-19 Legislative Update***

***March 30, 2020***

This is our first post-Phase Three update, and going forward we will send updates based on events—so some days you may receive more than one, and other days none. Today’s note focuses on early discussions about provisions that could be included in Phase Four legislation, as well as our regularly updated library of relevant documents. Finally, we encourage everyone to visit the PRG tracker of agency actions that is in the update below, and please let us know if you have questions about implementation of the Phase Three program.

### ***Phase Four Chatter***

- **Infrastructure.**
  - House Transportation Chairman Peter DeFazio (D-OR) has stated that he plans to "double down on an infrastructure package that repairs the breach left by years of neglect."
  - House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) said she "would hope" that infrastructure can be part of the response. "In the next bill, maybe."
  - Staff for Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman Barrasso (R-WY) stated that he is working to include his bipartisan highway infrastructure bill, *America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act*, in Phase Four legislation.
- **Hazard Pay.** President Donald Trump told Fox News that hazard pay for hospital workers dealing with the coronavirus is being “looked at.”
- **Clean Energy Tax Provisions.** Renewable energy groups will continue to seek changes to start construction and safe harbor deadlines in response to COVID-19; expanded use of renewable credits for monetization; and creation of a tax credit to support stand-alone energy storage.
- **Payroll Tax Holiday.** The President has been a vocal advocate of suspending the payroll tax, and Stephen Moore has reportedly been working to persuade the Administration to support suspending the payroll tax until the end of the year as part of a Phase Four package.
- **State Funding.** Many Democrats, spurred on by concerns from governors such as Governor Andrew Cuomo from New York, are arguing for a substantial increase in the amount of funds available to state and local governments.

- **Expanded Food Stamps and Related Benefits.** Both Speaker Pelosi and former Vice President Biden have argued that Phase Four should include health care coverage for COVID-19 patients, more funding for pension funds, and expanded food stamp programs. Biden has also called for student loan forgiveness and increased Social Security payments to at-risk seniors.

### **Agency Guidance and Notices**

- PRG has started tracking how Federal agencies are managing their operations and oversight obligations in the face of widespread COVID-19 responses, including managing enforcement and compliance obligations. Visit our [website](#) to find more.
- Bracewell LLP has organized a COVID-19 relief task force that includes practitioners from multiple offices and practice areas. The task force is designed to help our clients understand their options and effectively advocate for their interests in the context of COVID-19 relief. Your point of contact at Bracewell can help you learn more, if you have questions.

### **The Library**

#### **Phase Three**

##### *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*

- Final legislative [text](#).
- Senate Summaries
  - Senate Majority Leader section-by-section [summary](#).
  - Senate Committee on Appropriations [summary](#) of the supplemental appropriations division.
  - Senate Committee on Finance [summary](#) of unemployment insurance and tax provisions.
  - Senate Committee on Finance [summary](#) of health provisions.
  - Senate HELP Committee [one-pager](#) on its provisions.
  - Senate Small Business & Entrepreneurship Committee
    - Section-by-section [summary](#) and [one-pager](#) of small business provisions.
    - [Guide](#) for small businesses navigating the *CARES Act*.
    - Paycheck Protection Program [FAQs](#) for small businesses.
  - Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs [summary](#) on its provisions.

- House Summaries
  - House GOP Conference [one-pager](#).
  - House GOP Conference topline [summary](#).
  - House Minority Leader topline [summary](#).
  - Schumer Dear Colleague [letter](#).
- Joint Committee on Taxation [estimated revenue effects](#) of the CARES Act.
- Third Party Summaries
  - Congressional Research Service [summary](#) of certain tax relief provisions.
  - National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) [summary](#) of employer provisions.
  - Solar Energy Industries Association [summary](#).
  - Tax Foundation [summary](#).
  - Bloomberg Government [summary](#).
  - National Public Radio [summary](#).
  - CNBC [summary](#).
  - Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council [summary](#) of small business provisions.

### **Previous Stimulus Packages**

#### Phase One: Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020

- Public Law No: 116-123 [text](#).
- Congressional Research Service [summary](#).

#### Phase Two: Families First Coronavirus Response Act

- Public Law No: 116-127 [text](#).
- House Appropriations Committee [summary](#).
- Policy Resolution Group [summary](#).
- Congressional Research Service [summary](#) of the tax credit for paid leave.
- Department of Labor [summary](#) of employer paid leave requirements (Note: These will be impacted by the CARES Act that is likely to pass the House imminently).

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- Department of Treasury [news release](#) about the new law.
  - Kaiser Family Foundation [summary](#).
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