
Legislative Group COVID-19 Update

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Congressional and Legislative Updates

As of this writing, Senators have yet to make final a Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) bill. Final text is anticipated at any time. Hope remains that once final bill language is circulated, Senators will move to its consideration, beginning with procedural votes, this evening. However, this afternoon, three Republican Senators, Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Ben Sasse (R-NE), and Tim Scott (R-SC), launched a last-minute objection to the package. They argue that laid-off employees would make more money from the unemployment insurance provision in the bill than they did while employed. Senate negotiators are working to address the issue. Senator Bernie Sanders has also voiced an objection to the three Republican Senators' objection, saying it would be tantamount to "corporate welfare." Senate leadership continues to work with Members about their concerns.

Senate offices have circulated sections of what we believe will be the final bill, and "section-by-section" summaries of some sections of the bill. The following documents are attached:

1. A section-by-section summary of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act),
2. A section-by-section summary of CARES Act tax and UI provisions released by SFC Chairman Grassley,
3. A section-by-section summary of the CARES Act health-related provisions released by SFC Chairman Grassley,
4. A summary of the emergency appropriations for coronavirus health response and agency operations,
5. A breakdown from Senate Republicans on the SBA provisions and other parts of Title 1 of the bill, and
6. A summary from Senate Democrats on the Act.

Moreover, you can find what is believed to be the final supplemental appropriations section (Division B) of the bill [here](#), and a summary of Division B [here](#).

Although it is not yet official, we are hearing that after the Senate votes on the CARE Act, it will be out of session until April 20. There is currently no agreement on how the House will vote on the Senate bill, given that Congress Members do not want to return to D.C. to vote. House approval of the measure by unanimous consent would be the best (if not the only) realistic path forward to get the bill to President Trump's desk.