



CONGRESSMAN MIKE KELLY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 16TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA



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Dear Neighbor,

Thank you for taking the time to read this sixth update on efforts to fight the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) and to limit its harmful economic effect. This edition focuses specifically on actions by federal agencies, food assistance for laid off workers and students, and impending Congressional action to provide assistance to all Americans.

Update on Mitigation and Assistance Offered by Federal Agencies

President Trump has deployed a "whole-of-government" approach to combating coronavirus, which means all federal agencies are using their existing authority to help Americans during this difficult time. Those actions include the following:

- **Medicare** now covers telehealth services, which means safer medical care for seniors at risk from COVID-19. Read more here: [Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services](#).
- While **Social Security** field offices are currently closed to the public, the agency is still processing benefits payments and providing vital services by phone or online. My offices are also able to assist you, so do not hesitate to contact us for help. Read more here: [Social Security Administration](#).
- The **Small Business Administration** [approved Pennsylvania's request](#) for a disaster declaration. Small businesses can now apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan here: [U.S. Small Business Administration](#). For more information, call SBA disaster assistance center at 800-659-2955, or email: disastercustomerservice@sba.gov.
- The **U.S. Treasury and IRS** announced a [90-day deferral of tax payments](#) for most Americans. Currently, you are still required to file your taxes by April 15, but will not have to make payments for several months if you owe money. Penalties and interest will not be charged. I asked Secretary Mnuchin to extend the filing deadline as well: [Kelly Urges IRS to Extend Tax Filing Deadline Amidst Coronavirus Uncertainty](#)
- The **U.S. Department of House and Urban Development** announced a moratorium on foreclosures and evictions for single family homeowners with FHA-insured mortgages for 60 days to help those who lost their jobs stay in their homes. More here: [HUD Provides](#)

[Immediate Relief for Homeowners Amid Nationwide Coronavirus Response.](#)

- The **Department of Defense** is helping the effort to fight coronavirus by making available masks, ventilators, and labs to the Department of Health and Human Services for distribution to medical providers. Read more about that effort here: [U.S. Department of Defense](#).

Food Assistance for Pennsylvanians Out of Work or School

Many Pennsylvanians have been laid off as a result of shuttered businesses, and with schools and colleges closed, many students require food assistance. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is directing families to contact local food banks, which are delivering to agencies, pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens throughout our state. Those eligible for assistance include:

- Those out of work without pay, including service workers not receiving shifts at a temporarily closed non-essential business.
- Those who rely on school or college meal plans at closed schools.

Find information on your local food bank at this link: [Wolf Administration Directs Families to Emergency Food Assistance During COVID-19 Mitigation.](#)

Resources for Educators Adjusting to Distance Learning

Thank you to our educators and school administrators for what you do to teach and train our next generation of leaders. As you look for ways to continue your vital work, please consider the Smithsonian Institution's Learning Labs, which give teachers access to digital resources from museums, research centers, libraries, archives and more. These include recommended lessons and activities.

For more information, visit: [Distance Learning Resources from the Smithsonian.](#)

Congressional Action to Provide Relief to Workers, Small Businesses, and COVID-19 Patients

As you may be aware by now, Congress and President Trump already enacted H.R. 6074, an \$8 billion supplemental funding bill to increase access to testing kits, provide more supplies to doctors and hospitals, and some economic relief to workers and businesses.

This week, we enacted a second relief package, H.R. 6201. This bill includes the following:

- Refundable tax credits to reimburse local businesses - dollar for dollar - for paid and family leave wages for employees.
- Allows for small businesses to use tax deposits to pay sick leave.
- For small businesses with insufficient deposits to cover costs, it gives the Department of the Treasury authority to advance funding.
- Provides emergency administrative grants to states to help process unemployment applications and make payments.
- Provides additional funding for WIC to help low-income pregnant women or those with young children who are laid off because of coronavirus.
- Provides additional funding for the Senior Nutrition program and Administration for Community Living for home delivery of pre-packaged meals for low-income seniors.
- Provides additional funding to the Emergency Food Assistance Program to assist local food banks in feeding low-income Americans during this emergency.
- Allows the Department of Agriculture to approve state plans for emergency EBT benefits to

households with children who would have otherwise received free or reduced-price meals at school.

We are also working on a third relief package, and I will update you on those efforts soon. **Please do not hesitate to contact one of my district offices if you have questions about any of this information.** Please rest assured that the Trump Administration and your representatives in Congress are working together in a bipartisan manner to stem the spread of this virus, prepare our medical system for an influx of cases, and provide relief to workers and businesses affected. We will get through this! Americans have faced tougher challenges and defeated them all.

Sincerely,



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress

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