



Dear Neighbor,

The COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis have made this year painful for so many: over 320,000 families have lost loved ones, millions of workers have lost their jobs, and countless households are unable to make ends meet.

Yesterday, Congress passed critical relief to help us crush the COVID-19 virus and put money in the pockets of struggling families. The agreement recognizes that we cannot get our economy working unless we can get the coronavirus under control. Read on to see how this new legislation could help you.

- **Accelerating Free Vaccine Distribution:** The new legislation provides billions of dollars to accelerate the free and equitable distribution of safe vaccines to as many Americans as possible as soon as possible. Vaccinations have already begun for health care workers and long-term care residents. Up-to-date details on Florida's COVID-19 vaccine distribution plans can be found at the Florida Department of Health, [here](#).
- **Enhanced Unemployment Insurance Benefits:** An additional \$300 per week in unemployment benefits for 11 more weeks are available to those who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own. These funds will be

distributed by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. To check eligibility and apply for benefits, click [here](#).

- **Direct Payments for Families:** A new round of direct payments will be sent as early as next week, worth up to \$600 per adult and dependent child. For earnings above \$75,000 per single person or \$150,000 per married couple, the payment will be reduced by \$5 for every \$100 of income earned above those thresholds. Payments will be delivered by the IRS via direct deposit or check, depending on what information you have previously provided the IRS, and should begin to go out as soon as next week. For up to date information on distribution, visit the IRS's website [here](#).
- **Small Business Support:** \$284 billion was added to the Paycheck Protection Program to help small businesses pay employees and cover expenses, including applying for a second loan for most businesses. Small business owners can visit the SBA's website, [here](#), to find qualified lenders and further assistance.
- **Housing Assistance:** \$25 billion for emergency rental assistance and an extension of the federal eviction moratorium through Jan. 31, 2021. These funds will be distributed through local governments. When funds are available, information on how to apply will be posted on Palm Beach County's website, [here](#).
- **Health Support:** \$22 billion for free COVID-19 testing and contact tracing efforts. Find a list of free COVID testing sites in Palm Beach County [here](#).
- **Education:** \$58 billion for K-12 schools, \$22 billion for higher education, and \$3.2 billion in emergency funds for

low-income families to access broadband. Find more information on how the Palm Beach School District is working to provide all student with access to reliable internet [here](#).

- **Child Care:** \$10 billion for childcare providers and \$250 million for Head Start. For more information on how to access child care assistance, visit the Early Learning Coalition of Palm Beach County, [here](#).
- **Nutrition:** \$26 billion for nutrition assistance including a 15% increase to SNAP benefits and additional funding for food banks and senior nutrition program. [Click here](#) for more information on SNAP and [here](#) for local food assistance programs.
- **Transportation:** \$45 billion in relief for transit agencies, keeping our country's public transportation running. These funds will be sent directly to state and local governments.

This is the latest information we have on these relief programs, and more details will be released in the coming weeks. Please visit [my website](#) for the most up-to-date information or call my office at (561) 998-9045 if you have questions about how to access relief.

I look forward to working with the new Biden-Harris Administration to meet the remaining needs of the American people and our local governments during this historic health and financial crisis.

A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

As always, [I encourage everyone to follow the CDC's best practices](#) and rely on the [CDC](#), [Palm Beach County Health](#)


[Department](#), and [Florida Health Department](#) for the most accurate and up-to-date information on confirmed cases.

If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to my office in Boca Raton or D.C. by calling the numbers listed below. For regular updates, follow me on social media @RepLoisFrankel or sign up for my newsletter [here](#).

Sincerely,



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



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