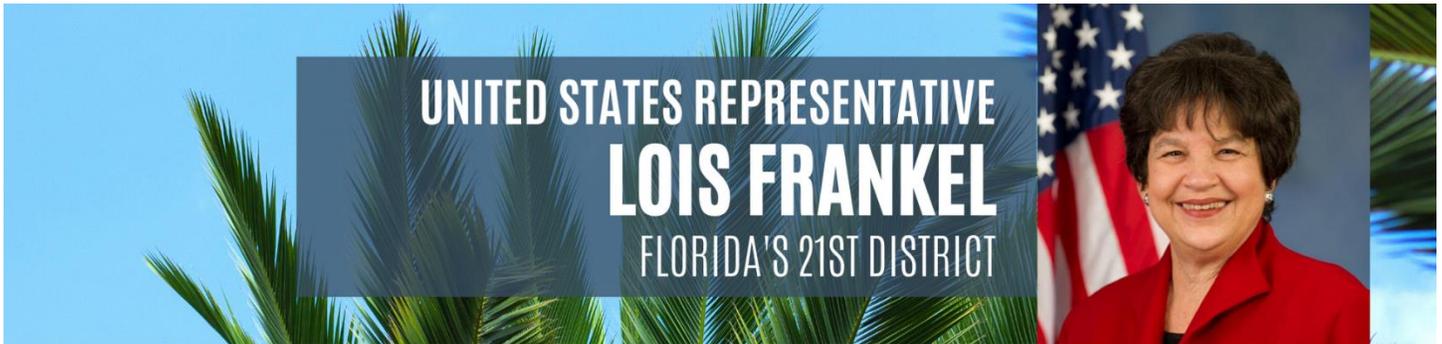


April 2021

# Frankly Speaking...



## **Rep. Frankel Invites Constituents to Participate in Virtual Town Hall on American Rescue Plan**

Congresswoman Frankel held a virtual town hall with local and national leaders to discuss financial and other relief available under the American Rescue Plan. The Congresswoman was joined by her colleague Congresswoman Annie Kuster, Dr. Alina Alonso, Director,

PBC Health Department, Verdenia Baker, Administrator, PBC, James Green, Director, PBC Community Service Department, Dr. Debra Robinson, PBC School Board and Debra Sales, Lead Lender Relation Specialist, South Florida Small Business Administration.

## **Rep. Frankel Highlights Support for Safely Reopening Schools in American Relief Plan**



Congresswoman Lois Frankel hosted an event at Dreyfoos High School to highlight critical support to safely reopen schools in the American Rescue Relief Plan. The bill will take dramatic steps to address the COVID-19 pandemic and economic fallout, and is vital to keeping Americans safe,

healthy, and financially stable as we continue to battle this ongoing crisis.

## **Rep. Frankel, Local Restaurant Owner Highlight Critical Economic Relief in American Rescue Plan for Small Businesses**

Congresswoman Lois Frankel hosted an event with local small business owner, Debbie Lakow and Rick Reikneis, Vice Chairman of the WPB Downtown Development Authority and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Board of the Palm Beaches. The plan takes immediate steps to address the Coronavirus pandemic and economic crisis. The bill provides critical support for small businesses through EIDL grants and expanded PPP eligibility, including grants for restaurant and bars; stimulus checks for Americans in need; a national vaccination program; funding for the childcare industry to help centers stay open and help families pay for care so they can get back to work; food, housing and health insurance assistance; and so much more.

-Over-

## **Important Information from the IRS regarding Stimulus Checks and Recalculation of Taxes on Unemployment Benefits**

As previously [announced](#), payments will begin being issued the weekend of April 3-4 to Social Security retirement, survivor or disability (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) beneficiaries who didn't file a 2020 or 2019 tax return and didn't use the Non-Filers tool last year. Most of these payments are projected to be sent electronically and received on April 7. The [Get My Payment](#) tool on [IRS.gov](#) will not be updated until the weekend of April 3-4 with information for Social Security and other federal beneficiaries expecting payments next week.

The IRS continues to review data received for Veterans Affairs (VA) benefit recipients and expects to determine a payment date and provide more details soon. Currently, the IRS estimates that Economic Impact Payments for VA beneficiaries who do not regularly file tax returns could be disbursed by mid-April. VA beneficiary payment information will be available in the Get My Payment tool at a future date.

To help taxpayers, the Internal Revenue Service announced today that it will take steps to automatically refund money this spring and summer to people who filed their tax return reporting unemployment compensation before the recent changes made by the American Rescue Plan. The legislation, signed on March 11, allows taxpayers who earned less than \$150,000 in modified adjusted gross income to exclude unemployment compensation up to \$20,400 if married filing jointly and \$10,200 for all other eligible taxpayers. The legislation excludes only 2020 unemployment benefits from taxes.

Because the change occurred after some people filed their taxes, the IRS will take steps in the spring and summer to make the appropriate change to their return, which may result in a refund. The first refunds are expected to be made in May and will continue into the summer.

For those taxpayers who already have filed and figured their tax based on the full amount of unemployment compensation, the IRS will determine the correct taxable amount of unemployment compensation and tax. Any resulting overpayment of tax will be either refunded or applied to other outstanding taxes owed.

For those who have already filed, the IRS will do these recalculations in two phases, starting with those taxpayers eligible for the up to \$10,200 exclusion. The IRS will then adjust returns for those married filing jointly taxpayers who are eligible for the up to \$20,400 exclusion and others with more complex returns.

There is no need for taxpayers to file an amended return unless the calculations make the taxpayer newly eligible for additional federal credits and deductions not already included on the original tax return.

For example, the IRS can adjust returns for those taxpayers who claimed the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and, because the exclusion changed the income level, may now be eligible for an increase in the EITC amount which may result in a larger refund. However, taxpayers would have to file an amended return if they did not originally claim the EITC or other credits but now are eligible because the exclusion changed their income.

# Gallery

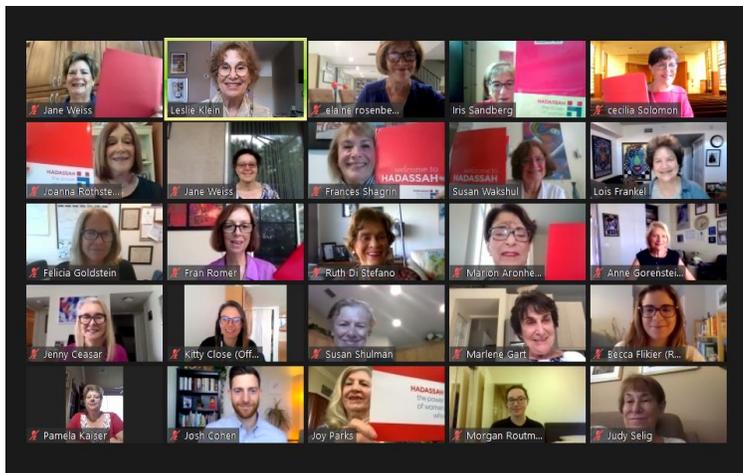


**Rep. Frankel Speaking with Elementary School Students**

**Rep. Frankel Meets with Palm Beach County Locals to Discuss Community Project Funding**



**Rep. Frankel Speaks with Hadassah Members**



PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE (561-998-9045) WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING IRS, VA OR ANY OTHER FEDERAL AGENCY. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COVID RELATED ISSUES PLEASE VISIT THE CONGRESSWOMAN'S WEBSITE AT **FRANKEL.HOUSE.GOV**