

# THE HEROES ACT

A Bold Response to the Coronavirus Pandemic and the Economic Collapse



**HONORING OUR HEROES:** Provides nearly \$1 trillion to state, local, territorial and tribal governments who desperately need funds to pay vital workers like first responders, health workers, and teachers who keep us safe and are in danger of losing their jobs.

**A HEROES' FUND FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS:** Establishes a \$200 billion Heroes' fund to ensure that essential workers who have risked their lives working during the pandemic receive hazard pay.

**TESTING, TRACING AND TREATMENT:** Provides another \$75 billion for coronavirus testing, contact tracing and isolation measures, ensures every American can access free coronavirus treatment, and supports hospitals and providers.

**MORE DIRECT PAYMENTS:** Cushions the economic blow of the coronavirus crisis with a second round of more substantial economic impact payments of \$1,200 per family member, up to \$6,000 per household.

**PROTECTS PAYROLLS:** Enhances the new employee retention tax credit that encourages employers to keep employees on payroll, allowing 60 million Americans to remain connected to their paychecks and benefits.

**WORKER SAFETY:** Requires OSHA to issue a strong, enforceable standard within seven days to require all workplaces to develop and implement infection control plans based on CDC expertise, and prevents employers from retaliating against workers who report infection control problems.

**SUPPORTS SMALL BUSINESSES AND NONPROFITS:** Strengthens the Payroll Protection Program to ensure that it reaches underserved communities, nonprofits of all sizes and types and responds flexibly to small businesses by providing \$10 billion for Covid-19 emergency grants through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program.

**PRESERVES HEALTH COVERAGE:** Protects Americans losing their employer-provided health insurance with COBRA subsidies to maintain their coverage and creates a special enrollment period in the ACA exchanges for uninsured Americans.

**EXTENDS UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:** Extends weekly \$600 federal unemployment payments through next January, providing a vital safety net for the record number of Americans who are unemployed.

**HOUSING ASSISTANCE:** Helps struggling families afford a safe place to live with \$175 billion in new supports to assist renters and homeowners make monthly rent, mortgage and utility payments and other housing-related costs.

**FOOD SECURITY:** Addresses rising hunger with a 15 percent increase to the maximum SNAP benefit and additional funding for nutrition programs that help families put food on the table.

**SAFEGUARDS FOR OUR DEMOCRACY:** Includes new resources to ensure safe elections, an accurate Census, and preserve the Postal Service.