



**Progressive Priorities in the Heroes Act**

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**PCAF thanks the following organizations for their insights and contributions:** AFSCME, American Economic Liberties Project, American Federation of Teachers, Americans for Tax Fairness, Center for American Progress, Center for Economic and Policy Research, Common Defense, Demand Progress, The Immigration Hub, IBEW, The Hub Project, MomsRising, National Employment Law Project, National Partnership for Women & Families, Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Public Citizen, Take on Wall Street, and Young Invincibles

On May 12, House Democratic leaders introduced [H.R. 6800](#), the Heroes Act, the fourth phase of coronavirus relief. This document compares the provisions of the Heroes Act with priorities laid out by the Congressional Progressive Caucus (CPC) Executive Board in an [April 9, 2020 letter](#). Additional provisions from the Heroes Act are summarized at the bottom.

If you have any suggested updates to this document, please email [matt@progressivecaucuscenter.org](mailto:matt@progressivecaucuscenter.org).

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**Prevent Layoffs, Protect Paychecks, and Allow Small Businesses and Nonprofits to Flourish**

**Work sharing**

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow businesses in every state to fully participate in the program, which allows employers to reduce workers' hours (rather than laying workers off), and use partial unemployment insurance to fill the gap created by lost wages</li> <li>• End the minimum employee limit, reduce required work hours to protect more jobs and allow small businesses to ramp back up, and permit additional hours to be covered by UI</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extends federal financing of CARES Act work sharing provisions through January 31, 2021</li> <li>• Ensures any state that enacts a work sharing law will receive full federal financing for all agreements in place after March 29</li> <li>• Does not address minimum employee limit and required work hours</li> </ul>

**Paycheck Guarantee Act**

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a paycheck guarantee program to directly cover workers' paychecks during the COVID-19 crisis, including workers at small businesses and nonprofits, to protect jobs, keep workers insured, and ensure businesses can quickly return to normal after the emergency ends</li> <li>• Provide coverage of up to 100% of qualified wages, with a salary cap of \$22,500 in wages per quarter</li> <li>• Provide coverage for maintenance expenses, including rent, utilities, and mortgage payments</li> <li>• Last until the unemployment rate remains below 7% for three months in a row</li> <li>• Place strong pro-worker conditions on federal assistance</li> <li>• Include strong audit and accountability conditions on use of funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not include the <a href="#">Paycheck Guarantee Act</a></li> <li>• Employee Retention Tax Credit enhancements             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Raises wage reimbursement rate from 50% to 80%</li> <li>◦ Raises qualified wages per employee from \$10,000 to \$45,000 in 2020</li> <li>◦ Lowers revenue loss requirement for eligibility from 50% to 10% , with phased-in credit between 10% and 50%</li> <li>◦ Raises large employer threshold from 100 employees to 1,500 employees (with \$41.5 million in revenue). These employers may only get a credit for wages for workers who are not providing services</li> <li>◦ Allows state and local governments to claim credit</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 50% refundable payroll credit to cover employers' fixed costs (such as rent, mortgage, and utility payments)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Limited to 25% of qualified wages or 25% of annual revenue (\$50,000 max)</li> <li>◦ Employers with a 10% revenue</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>loss will be eligible, with phased-in credit between 10% and 50%</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Employers must have fewer than 1,500 employees and under \$41.5 million in annual revenues</li> <li>○ Allows state and local governments to claim credit</li> <li>● 90% refundable individual income tax credit for self-employed individuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Revenue loss requirement for eligibility of 10%</li> <li>○ Credit scaled to revenue loss and capped at \$45,000</li> <li>○ Credit phases out over \$60,000 in income</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### Industry bailout oversight

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Repeal Mnuchin loophole, which gives the Treasury Department authority to override the CARES Act bailout conditions, including limitations on stock buybacks, dividends, and executive compensation</li> <li>● Provide subpoena power and independence for the newly created Special Inspector General</li> <li>● Require any company getting a bailout to respect collective bargaining agreements</li> <li>● Ensure strong real-time reporting requirements on all funds</li> <li>● Prohibit waivers of civil rights obligations on all funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Does not include further limitations on stock buybacks, dividends, or executive compensation</li> <li>● Protections for the independence of Inspectors General</li> <li>● Requires Treasury Department and Inspectors General to provide reports to Congress on COVID-19 programs</li> <li>● Mandates public reporting of payroll grants to air carriers</li> <li>● Requires SBA reporting on Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program</li> <li>● Extends involuntary furlough ban for air carriers receiving aviation worker relief and clarifies collective bargaining protections</li> <li>● Does not include prohibition on mergers</li> <li>● \$30 million for Government Accountability Office</li> </ul>

### ***Provide Immediate and Direct Relief to Individuals and Families***

#### Direct cash assistance

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● At least \$2,000 per person to adults, plus \$1,000 for children for up to one year</li> <li>● Monthly recurring payments until employment-to-population ratio</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Retroactively expands CARES Act payments to Include ITIN tax filers, adult dependents, and full-time students below age 24</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reaches 60%</li> <li>● Include tax filers with ITINs as well as Social Security Numbers, dependent adults, children over 17, and college students</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Additional one-time \$1,200 payment per individual (up to \$6,000 per household) with expanded eligibility <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase from \$500 per dependent in CARES Act to \$1,200 per dependent</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### Social safety net programs

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Expand Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) &amp; Child Tax Credit</li> <li>● Waive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) work requirements</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Expands eligibility for childless EITC and increases maximum credit amount to \$1,487 in 2020</li> <li>● Makes Child Tax Credit fully refundable at \$3,000 per child (\$3,600 for a child under 6) in 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Includes 17-year-olds as qualifying children</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Makes Child and Dependent Tax Credit fully refundable, doubles eligible expenses, increases maximum credit rate 50%, and raises income phaseout threshold in 2020</li> <li>● Suspends TANF work requirements until January 2021</li> </ul>

### Nutrition assistance

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase SNAP benefit by 15% and minimum monthly SNAP benefit to \$30</li> <li>● Bar rules that would tighten eligibility for SNAP</li> <li>● Expand safe access to food by rapidly expanding the SNAP online purchasing program and allocating emergency funding for SNAP recipients to use for grocery delivery fees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increases SNAP benefit level by 15% and minimum minimum SNAP Benefit to \$30 per month</li> <li>● Waives work requirements for SNAP</li> <li>● Provides \$3 billion for child nutrition programs, \$1.1 billion for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), \$150 million for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for food banks), and \$100 million for meals and supportive services for seniors and disabled individuals</li> <li>● Extends Pandemic EBT until schools reopen for children who would have received free or reduced-price meals in school or child care</li> </ul>

## Student debt

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide at least \$30,000 in student loan debt cancellation</li> <li>● Expand the CARES Act student loan debt provisions to apply to all federal and private student loans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provides \$10,000 in student debt cancellation for both federal and private student loans of economically distressed borrowers (in default, deferral, forbearance, or at \$0 income-based repayment as of March 12, 2020)</li> <li>● Full student debt cancellation for borrowers defrauded by institutions that provided false or misleading representations on job placement, guaranteed employment, or credit transferability</li> <li>● Extends CARES Act suspension of payments to all federal student loan borrowers through September 30, 2021, with 30-day transition period</li> <li>● Extends CARES Act suspension of interest accrual to all federal student loans until September 30, 2021, with automatic extension if economy has yet to show initial signs of recovery</li> <li>● Allows borrowers to consolidate loans without losing prior payments for purpose of Public Service Loan Forgiveness and income-driven repayment</li> </ul>

## Financial protection

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Suspend the collection of all consumer debt, including medical debt</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Suspends negative credit reporting until 120 days after the end of the national emergency</li> <li>● Moratorium on consumer debt collection until 120 days after the end of the national emergency</li> </ul>

## Housing protections

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Extend the moratorium on evictions and foreclosures to include all housing, including renters</li> <li>● Suspend work requirements for federal housing programs</li> <li>● Prevent utility and internet shutoffs</li> <li>● Provide emergency services rental</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Nationwide 12-month moratorium on evictions and foreclosures for all renters and homeowners               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 60 days of mortgage forbearance for delinquent borrowers</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Enhanced bankruptcy protections for homeowners</li> </ul>

<p>assistance and increased funding for the homeless and housing insecure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Requires states and utilities receiving federal funds to prevent home energy and water shutoffs</li> <li>● Prohibits broadband and telephone disconnects, late fees, or data caps during pandemic</li> <li>● Utility assistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$1.5 billion Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program</li> <li>○ \$1.5 billion to assist low-income families with water bills</li> <li>○ \$4 billion for emergency home connectivity needs</li> <li>○ \$50 broadband benefit (\$75 benefit on tribal lands) for households with a laid-off or furloughed worker</li> <li>○ Unlimited minutes and data through FCC Lifeline program</li> </ul> </li> <li>● \$100 billion in Emergency Rental Assistance</li> <li>● \$75 billion for states, territories, and tribes to provide direct assistance to homeowners for mortgage payments, property taxes, property insurance, utilities, and other housing-related costs</li> <li>● \$11.5 billion in Homeless Assistance Grants</li> <li>● Emergency assistance for homeless veterans</li> <li>● \$1 billion for Housing Choice Vouchers</li> </ul>
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### Small businesses

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Moratorium on commercial evictions</li> <li>● Limit small business debt collection</li> <li>● Prevent predatory small business lending</li> <li>● Address small business and nonprofit losses via grants and forgivable loans</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Moratorium on small business and nonprofit debt collection until 120 days after COVID-19 crisis</li> <li>● Extends Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) through December 31, 2020 and creates set-asides for businesses with 10 or fewer employees and nonprofits</li> <li>● Expands PPP eligibility to all 501(c) organizations, except 501(c)(4) organizations engaged in campaign finance activities</li> <li>● Restricts use of PPP loans to compensate registered lobbyists</li> <li>● Eliminates the rule under which PPP loans are only forgiven if 75% of loan proceeds are spent on payroll</li> <li>● Mandates low-cost loan option through Federal Reserve's Main Street Lending</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for small businesses and nonprofits</li> <li>• \$10 billion for Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) grants</li> <li>• Expands the SBA 7(a) loan program.</li> <li>• Protects banks and insurers from adverse action by federal regulators for providing financial services to legal cannabis providers (SAFE Banking Act)</li> </ul>
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**Protect Public Health**

**Protect essential workers**

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazard pay</li> <li>• Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</li> <li>• OSHA emergency worker standard</li> <li>• Require that their employers adhere to CDC guidelines on testing</li> <li>• Strong whistleblower protections for publicly reporting on conditions</li> <li>• \$50 billion in child care assistance</li> <li>• Ensure undocumented workers performing essential functions are eligible to obtain legal status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authorizes \$13/hour hazard pay for essential workers, on top of regular wages, provided through Heroes Fund grants to employers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Employers can claim grants up to \$10,000 per essential worker</li> <li>◦ Includes public- and private-sector workers, regardless of immigration status</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Includes the COVID-19 Every Worker Protection Act <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Requires an OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard</li> <li>◦ Anti-retaliation protections for workers reporting infection control problems</li> <li>◦ Requires the CDC to collect and investigate reports of work-related COVID-19 transmissions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Requires masks for passengers and workers on airplanes, Amtrak, and large public transit agencies</li> <li>• Only \$7 billion for Child Care and Development Block Grants</li> <li>• \$850 million to fund child and family care for essential workers</li> <li>• Expands the definition of essential worker for family care funding</li> <li>• Provides employment authorization and protections from removal to critical infrastructure workers</li> <li>• \$25 million to protect migrant and seasonal farmworkers</li> </ul>



## Testing and contact tracing

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Development of a protocol and practices</li> <li>● Domestic production of test kits, PPE, and other equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$75 billion for testing and contact tracing</li> <li>● Establishes COVID-19 National Testing and Contact Tracing (CONTACT) Initiative, a national evidence-based system for testing, contact tracing, surveillance, containment and mitigation, including guidance on voluntary isolation and quarantine of positive cases</li> <li>● Centralized, public website with testing information</li> <li>● Mandates daily reporting of test results to HHS with data made publicly available</li> <li>● Requires public reporting of COVID-19 cases in nursing homes and authorizes strike teams when a nursing home outbreak is reported</li> <li>● Creates a CDC toll-free line for COVID-19 questions</li> <li>● Requires President to appoint Medical Supplies Response Coordinator</li> <li>● Directs expansion of vaccine manufacturing capacity</li> <li>● Reporting requirements and process improvements for the Strategic National Stockpile</li> <li>● Specifies that tests and PPE meet the requirements for production under the Defense Production Act</li> <li>● Online reporting portal for health entities on COVID-19 inventory and capacity</li> <li>● Prohibits price gouging on consumer goods and services including PPE, drugs, hand sanitizers, and healthcare services</li> <li>● Requires study on COVID-19 disinformation</li> </ul>

## Health coverage

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No out-of-pocket costs for any COVID-19 care by expanding Medicare to cover those on unemployment and those who have lost insurance</li> <li>● Expand Medicaid eligibility for those at</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● No cost sharing for coronavirus treatment through Medicaid (regardless of immigration status and including uninsured people who states opt to cover), Medicare, Medicare Advantage,</li> </ul>

<p>risk of poverty or other uninsured</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP) funding</li> <li>● Provide strong incentives for states to expand Medicaid</li> <li>● Ensure all federal funding for Medicaid and other state administered programs include strong maintenance efforts to prevent harmful cuts to eligibility and benefits</li> <li>● Provide alternatives in states that have refused to expand Medicaid</li> <li>● Mandate a special Affordable Care Act enrollment period</li> </ul>	<p>group and individual market health plans, TRICARE, VA, and FEHB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increases FMAP by an additional 7.8 percentage points for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 period <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Extends 100% FMAP to Indian health providers</li> <li>○ Allows New York to receive FMAP increase despite recent Medicaid changes</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Increases federal payments for home- and community-based services by an additional 10 percentage points for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 period</li> <li>● Special enrollment period for Medicare</li> <li>● Two-month special enrollment period for ACA for any reason</li> <li>● Notification of options for workers losing employer-sponsored health coverage</li> <li>● 100% tax credit for COBRA coverage premiums through January 2021</li> <li>● Creates risk corridor programs for individual, group, and Medicare Advantage health insurance plans during the COVID-19 emergency</li> <li>● Authorizes coronavirus treatment reimbursement for uninsured individuals</li> <li>● \$100 billion grants to hospitals and health care providers to reimburse expenses and lost revenue due to coronavirus</li> </ul>
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### State, local, tribal, and territorial governments

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both robust public health support and support for state budgets to head off fiscal austerity and a decline in essential services</li> <li>● Include localities that are smaller than 500,000</li> <li>● Parity for tribes, territories, and the District of Columbia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● State and Local Coronavirus Relief Funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$500 billion for state governments</li> <li>○ \$375 billion for local governments of all sizes</li> <li>○ \$20 billion for tribal governments</li> <li>○ \$20 billion for territories</li> <li>○ Provides full parity and \$755 million backfill for DC</li> </ul> </li> <li>● \$90 billion for State Fiscal Stabilization Fund grants to states to support schools and postsecondary institutions</li> <li>● \$15 billion for highways</li> <li>● \$15.75 billion for transit agencies</li> <li>● \$9.6 billion for emergency aid and services through Social Services Block Grants</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$5 billion for Community Development Block Grants</li> <li>● \$2.1 billion CDC funding for federal, state, and local public health agencies</li> <li>● Authorizes the Federal Reserve to purchase 10-year notes from state and local governments</li> <li>● Support for Indian Country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$2.1 billion for Indian Health Service (IHS)</li> <li>○ Access to Strategic National Stockpile for IHS and tribal health organizations</li> <li>○ Tribal eligibility for Public Health Emergency Preparedness program</li> <li>○ \$900 million for tribal governments through Bureau of Indian Affairs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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### Racial and ethnic health disparities

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Require the CDC in coordination with HHS to collect and distribute data</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Applies anti-discrimination protections to coronavirus relief</li> <li>● Requires public report on COVID-19 by race, ethnicity, age, sex, and gender within 14 days</li> <li>● Modernization for health inequities data across federal health agencies</li> <li>● Research on tribal health inequities</li> <li>● Report to Congress on evidence-based responses strategies to reduce disparities related to COVID-19</li> <li>● Longitudinal study on impact of COVID-19 on recovered patients</li> <li>● \$50 million for environmental justice grants</li> </ul>

### Paid sick, family and medical leave

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● End the exclusion for employers with more than 500 employees</li> <li>● Remove hardship exemptions</li> <li>● Allow local governments and government entities to benefit from offsetting tax credits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ends the exclusion for employers with more than 500 employees</li> <li>● Removes hardship exceptions</li> <li>● Expands workers' ability to use paid sick days and paid leave</li> <li>● Allows local governments and government entities to benefit from offsetting tax credits</li> <li>● Extends emergency paid leave until the end of 2021</li> </ul>

## Jails, prisons, and detention facilities

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Release people who pose no significant public safety risk</li> <li>● Ensure public health and safety, including testing and treatment, for those who remain incarcerated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Mandates release into community supervision of federal prisoners and pretrial detainees who are non-violent</li> <li>● Expands court authority to order compassionate release for federal prisoners and to reduce sentences</li> <li>● Increases the availability of home detention for non-violent elderly prisoners</li> <li>● \$600 million for Pandemic Justice Response Grants to address COVID-19 in correctional institutions, support pre-trial citation and release, and fund Juvenile Specific Services</li> <li>● \$250 million for Second Chance grants for ex-prisoner reintegration and anti-recidivism</li> <li>● \$200 million for Bureau of Prisons for medical testing and services, PPE, hygiene supplies and services, and sanitation services</li> <li>● \$300 million for Byrne Justice Assistance Grants to supply PPE and control outbreaks at prisons             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Funding cannot be withheld from sanctuary jurisdictions</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Moratorium on court-imposed fees and fines during the COVID-19 crisis</li> <li>● Immediate interim cap on voice and video call rates from prisons or jails with permanent caps within 18 months</li> <li>● Ensures confidential electronic communication between those in custody and their attorneys</li> <li>● Medicaid eligibility for inmates 30 days prior to release</li> <li>● Requires ICE to conduct file reviews for those in custody and prioritize for release for those not subject to mandatory detention</li> <li>● Requires ICE to provide free and unlimited access to phones, soap, sanitizer, and other necessary hygiene products</li> </ul>

## Immigration

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Delay immigration deadlines and non-detained court hearings during the pandemic</li> <li>● Automatically renew work authorization and non-immigrant status</li> <li>● Suspend the harmful public charge rule</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Automatically extends temporary immigration status or work authorization set to expire during crisis                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Automatically extends work permits for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and Temporary Protected Status (TPS) recipients for at least the original time period granted to the individual</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Remote swearing-in ceremony must be available for any individuals approved for naturalization</li> <li>● Use of Medicaid may not be considered under the public charge rule</li> </ul>

## Domestic violence

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase support for domestic violence agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$100 million for Violence Against Women Act programs</li> <li>● \$90 million for family violence and child abuse prevention and services</li> </ul>

## Reproductive rights

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Reject any restrictions to reproductive health care and access</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Does not include language restricting reproductive health care and access</li> </ul>

## Community Health Centers

<b><i>CPC Priorities</i></b>	<b><i>Heroes Act</i></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provide immediate emergency funding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● \$7.6 billion for Health Centers to support health care services for underserved populations</li> <li>● \$10 million for Ryan White HIV/AIDS clinics</li> </ul>

## Ensure Safe Elections

### Voting access

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vote-by-mail requirement for 2020 federal elections</li> <li>• Maintain access to in-person voting for those who do not have access to mail voting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guarantees vote-by-mail for the November 2020 elections and all future elections</li> <li>• Requires states to create safety contingency plans to enable voting in federal elections during a public health or national emergency</li> <li>• Ensures that absentee ballots are accessible to voters with disabilities</li> <li>• Ensures that people can register to vote by mail or online</li> <li>• Provides for expanded voting access on Indian lands</li> </ul>

### Voting rights

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pass core pieces of the Voting Rights Advancement Act</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires at least 15 consecutive days of early voting in federal elections</li> </ul>

### Election Assistance Grants

<b>CPC Priorities</b>	<b>Heroes Act</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate at least an additional \$3.6 billion for state-administered elections</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3.6 billion for Election Assistance Grants</li> </ul>

## Additional Provisions

### Unemployment Insurance (UI)

- Extends pandemic UI provisions (including \$600/week supplement, expanded eligibility, additional 13 weeks, and no waiting week) through January 31, 2021
- Interest-free loans to states through June 30, 2021
- 100% reimbursement for extended unemployment compensation extended through June 30, 2021
- \$15 million for federal administration and \$925 million to assist states in processing UI claims
- Does not include job seekers' allowance or other expansion of CARES Act provisions

### Tax provisions

- Repeals the \$135 billion tax break for "pass-throughs"
- Limits the carry-back period for writing off net operating losses
- Provides above-the-line deduction for first responders and frontline workers

- Creates a 30% refundable payroll tax credit (50% for essential workers) for employer benefits covering personal, family, living, or funeral expenses related to COVID-19
- Doubles above-the-line deduction for teacher expenses
- Removes cap for state and local tax deduction in 2020 and 2021

### **Broadband**

- \$1.5 billion in “homework gap” funding for Wi-Fi hotspots, connected devices for students and library patrons
- Open public Wi-Fi hotspots at no cost
- Expedites the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund auction to expand internet services in rural America.

### **Postal Service**

- \$25 billion to ensure continued operations
- Additional protections for postal workers
- Repeals restrictions on \$10 billion in borrowing authority under CARES Act

### **Census**

- \$410 million for additional expenses due to COVID-19
- Allows 120-day delay in publication of apportionment and state redistricting data
- Protections for data quality

### **Pensions**

- Relief for troubled Multiemployer Pension Plans (similar to Butch Lewis Act, but with a special partition program through 2024)
  - Plans would receive enough financial assistance to stay solvent for 30 years with no cuts
- Extends amortization for single employer plans from 7 years to 15 years
- Extends pension funding stabilization percentages for single employer plans
- Includes composite plans (GROW Act), which labor unions are divided on

### **Higher education**

- \$10.15 billion in direct funding for colleges and universities
- Extends eligibility for emergency relief grants to students regardless of immigration status
- Excludes emergency financial aid grants from need analysis for federal financial aid
- Individuals receiving unemployment benefits when applying for federal financial aid treated as dislocated workers through the award year following COVID-19 emergency
- Outreach to recently unemployed individuals on federal financial aid eligibility and financial aid applicants on availability of other means-tested federal benefit programs
- Institutional Stabilization Program for financially distressed institutions

### **Mental health**

- \$3 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, including \$150 million for tribes
- Research on mental health impact of COVID-19
- Designation of 9-8-8 universal dialing code for National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
- Report to Congress on servicemember suicides during COVID-19 emergency

## Veterans

- 25% increase in disability payments for veterans whose disability is blindness, deafness, amputees, traumatic brain injury, or who have attendant caregivers
- Suspends VA debt collection activities until 60 days after public health emergency
- Extends deadlines for veterans to file claims and appeals until 90 days after emergency ends
- Provides consumer protections for servicemembers and their families who need them due to stop-movement orders, death, or catastrophic disability
- Requires the VA to reimburse IHS and tribally run health facilities for treatment of Native American veterans

## Federal employees

- \$10 billion for COVID-19 related work duties
- Requires agencies allow telework for all eligible employees and contractors
- Allows first responders to stay in current retirement plans
- Ensures federal employees diagnosed with coronavirus receive workers' compensation
- Eligible for same premium pay as state, local, tribal and private-sector workers

## Agriculture

- Emergency assistance for livestock, poultry, and dairy producers
- \$16.5 billion in direct payments to agricultural producers

## Hate crimes

- Grant funding for the collection and reporting of hate crimes data (Jabara-Heyer NO HATE Act)
- Grants for law enforcement activities and crime reduction programs to prevent, address, or otherwise respond to hate crimes

## Research

- Requires scientific integrity policies for all federal agencies involved in scientific research
- \$4.745 billion for NIH to expand COVID-19-related research
- \$4.5 billion for Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA)
- Research, surveillance, and response efforts for wildlife-borne diseases

## National service

- Provides a stipend for AmeriCorps volunteers whose service was interrupted
- Requires a study on increasing the capacity of national service programs to respond to COVID-19

## Foreign affairs

- Establishes Global Health Security Agenda Interagency Review Council
- Requires presidential appointment of a U.S. Coordinator for Global Health Security
- Authorizes U.S. participation in the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations