

COVID 19

HEROES Act versus the HEALS Act: COMPARING THE PRIORITIES

HEROES ACT	HEALS ACT	COMPARISON
PASSED BY THE HOUSE	PROPOSED BY SENATE REPUBLICANS & THE WHITE HOUSE	OF THE TWO BILLS & WHAT THEY MEAN FOR AMERICANS
MEDICAID: URGENTLY NEEDED FEDERAL FUNDING AS UNEMPLOYMENT GROWS		
Increases federal funding for Medicaid from 6.2% to 14%	NO INCREASE	The Heals Act does not increase Medicaid funding. This means millions will be unable to enroll in or remain on Medicaid.
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS		
Extends \$600 supplemental unemployment insurance through January 2021	Reduces supplemental benefits from \$600 to \$200	The Heals Act cuts unemployment supplemental insurance to \$200. This means 32 million unemployed Americans will lose \$400 per week.
\$1,200 ONE-TIME PAYMENT		
\$1,200 additional one-time payment to all Americans	\$1,200 additional one-time payment and \$500 additional per dependent (same as CARES Act)	Will help desperate families across the country as the pandemic continues
STATE AND LOCAL BUDGETS: DESPERATELY NEEDING FUNDING FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES		
\$500 billion for states and D.C. \$375 billion for localities	NO ADDITIONAL FUNDING: \$105 billion for education, most of it going towards helping schools reopen in September	The Heals Act provides no additional funding for Medicaid, infrastructure, public hospitals, and other essential services.
HAZARD PAY FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS		
\$200 billion in funding for pandemic premium pay	NO HAZARD PAY	The Heals Act provides no hazard pay for essential workers – overworked and risking their lives daily – as the pandemic continues
MORE PPE (PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT) FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS		
Expedites production and distribution of PPE through the Defense Protection Act	SAYS NOTHING ABOUT PPE	While the Heroes Act increases PPE production to meet demand, the Heals Act is silent on PPE while COVID numbers surge in the country and PPE stockpiles are running out
TESTING AND TREATMENT		
\$75 billion for testing, tracing, isolation and hospital support	\$16 billion for testing	The Heals Act provides only a fraction of the needed funding, worsening the crisis. We cannot get the pandemic under control without enough testing.
FUNDING FOR HOSPITALS		
\$100 billion for hospitals	\$25 billion for hospitals	Safety net and rural hospitals need more money during the Covid crisis



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