

Senate Proposals for Coronavirus Relief vs. Revised House HEROES Act

Last updated: September 30, 2020

***Please note that this is a non-exhaustive comparison of the revised version of the HEROES Act (also known as HEROES 2.0), which had originally passed the House back in May but was introduced in its current revised form on September 28, and the recent coronavirus relief proposals from Senate Republicans. Those proposals are the HEALS Act, and the Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Businesses Act, introduced on September 8 (a draft of the bill was released in August, summarized here). We will continue updating this fact sheet as we review the new bill.

For more on what's in each bill, check out our fact sheets on the revised HEROES Act <u>here</u>, the HEALS Act <u>here</u>, and the Delivering Immediate Relief to America's Families, Schools and Small Businesses Act <u>here</u>.

Is it in the bill?	HEROES Act 2.0	HEALS Act	Skinny Bill
Additional funding for states' Medicaid programs	✓	Х	х
Dedicated additional funding for Medicaid home and			
community based services (HCBS)	✓	Х	x
Medicaid maintenance of effort provision (MOE)*	✓	Х	Х
Special enrollment period for ACA marketplace	✓	Х	Х
Funding for housing programs	✓	✓	Х
Emergency rental assistance	✓	Х	Х
Expanded eviction and foreclosure protection	✓	Х	х
Immunity from liability for significant harm related to			
COVID-19 for any business, non-profit, school, or medical			
provider in the vast majority of circumstances, which will			
threaten the safety of people with disabilities and older			
adults in congregate settings, make it easier for			
employers to escape liability for discrimination and safety			
violations in the workplace, and allow businesses to			
refuse to accommodate disabled people	X	✓	✓
Expansion of emergency paid sick and family and medical			
leave	✓	Х	Х
Hazard pay for direct care workers	✓	Х	Х
Funding for the Administration for Community Living	✓	✓	X
Dedicated funding for Developmental Disabilities Act			
programs	✓	✓	X
Nursing home safety provisions	✓	✓	Х
Inclusion of disability status in data collection*	✓	Х	Х

Permanent funding of the Money Follows the Person			
(MFP) program	х	х	X
Increased funding for Social Security and SSI	Х	Х	Х
Nutrition assistance	✓	Х	Х
Education funding*	✓	✓	✓
Dedicated funding for special education services	Х	Х	Х
Aid to states for expanded absentee and mail-in voting			
and same day voter registration	✓	X	Х
Supplemental unemployment compensation*	✓	✓	✓
Additional "recovery rebate" payments	✓	✓	Х
Provision of "recovery rebates" to all dependents	✓	✓	Х
Provision of "recovery rebates" to people using taxpayer			
ID numbers	✓	X	Х
Expansion of 90-day refills of prescriptions and medical			
supplies beyond Medicare and to people who rely on			
controlled substances	Х	X	X
Disaster relief that is responsive to the needs of the			
disability community	Х	X	X
Substance use prevention and treatment funding	✓	✓	Х
Suicide prevention funding	✓	✓	Х
Community mental health services funding	✓	✓	Х
Emergency response grants to address COVID-19 related			
behavioral health needs	✓	✓	X
State and local aid for COVID-19 response*	✓	Х	Х
Child care funding	✓	✓	✓

Important notes:

- MOE: The original HEROES Act passed in May had a maintenance of effort (MOE) provision attached to increased Medicaid funding to keep states from taking coverage away from anyone or implementing changes that would make it harder to get Medicaid coverage that did not apply to New York. The new bill does not include a carve-out for New York.
- **Education:** In the Senate's proposals, one third of the funding is available immediately; two-thirds of the funding is available only once there is a plan in place for reopening schools
- **Unemployment:** The HEROES Act would reestablish the \$600 per week in supplemental unemployment insurance that expired on July 31, 2020. The HEALS Act, would have provided a supplement of \$200 per week until October, then changing to replace 70% of the person's prior wages until the end of December 2020. It also would have counted supplemental unemployment insurance as income when calculating eligibility for need-based programs like Medicaid beginning in October 2020. The skinny bill would provide \$300 per week until December 27, 2020.
- Data collection: The HEROES Act includes disability status in some data collection, but not all
- **State and local aid:** The Senate's skinny bill claws back funds to provide loans to states, municipalities, and certain businesses.