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included a higher amount of direct payment assistance for people, from \$600 in the original bill introduced by Senate Republicans, to \$1200 in the final bipartisan agreement. Members also fought for an additional \$500 child tax credit per child and a moratorium on foreclosures and evictions.

Additionally, CBC Members secured \$447 million for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), among other priorities included.

<u>Congress must first ensure the health, security, and financial stability of the American people impacted by COVID-19, and not just the health of Wall Street.</u>

<u>That's why the Congressional Black Caucus advocated for several provisions adopted in the Senate Coronavirus relief package such as:</u>

- <u>Unemployment Compensation:</u> Expansion of unemployment benefits to \$600 per week in addition to the base max eligible for unemployment insurance;
- Funding HBCUs: \$447 million to HBCUs of the \$1.05B for Minority Serving Institutions;
- Direct Financial Payments: Direct payments for as much as \$1,200 for individual taxpayers, and \$500 per child, phased out when incomes exceed \$75,000 for individuals and \$150,000 for couples filing jointly.
- <u>Protection for Families:</u> \$15.5 billion in additional funding for SNAP to ensure all Americans, including seniors and children, receive the food they need.
- <u>Support for college students:</u> Provides temporary moratorium of 6 months for federal student loans.
- <u>Protecting Homes:</u> Temporary Moratorium on eviction filings for all federally backed mortgage loans
- Black Businesses: Gives the Minority Business Development Agency \$10 million to make grants to minority-owned businesses.
- <u>Small Businesses: Provides funding through the Small Business Administration for special</u> emergency loans of up to \$10 million for eligible nonprofits and small businesses.
- Criminal Justice Support and Reform: \$100 million for the Federal Bureau of Prisons to respond to the coronavirus pandemic with critical resources. Additional benefits for the prison system will include: ensuring all incarcerated individuals and staff are tested for Coronavirus, prioritizing the release of incarcerated individuals in prisons, jails, and detention centers through elemency, commutations and compassionate release; immediate temporary release to home confinement for those determined to be low-risk defenders; and for individuals who will remain incarcerated during this time the allowance of video conferencing and telephone calls free of charge to preserve families and their visitation needs
- Anti-poverty support: Provides \$1 billion for the Community Services Block Grant and \$750 million for Head Start.
- <u>Community Development:</u> Authorizes \$2 billion in Community Development Block Grants to build healthier communities.
- Protection for the Homeless: \$4 billion in homeless assistance grants
- Health Care: \$127 billion for medical response efforts, including tax credits for manufacturers of ventilators, masks, and other resources; both funding and flexibility to address the surge in mental health needs.
- Protection for Our College Students: Use of Supplemental Educational Opportunity
  Grants (SEOG) for emergency financial aid to assist undergraduates or graduate students;
  also allows institutions to make Federal Work-Study payments to students unable to fulfill

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their work obligations up to one year.

• Support for Education: \$1.1 billion of emergency education relief funds will go directly to Title I, ESEA schools; \$100 million for Project SERV to help schools implement distance learning; \$25 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine to expand investments in telemedicine and broadband; and an additional \$100 million for the Rural Utilities Service's Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program, and prioritize 90 percent of the funds to go to rural areas.

The CARES Act is a welcomed next step to providing some relief for Black people around the country and the CBC will continue to fight for full and equitable relief for our communities in subsequent stimulus packages.

## **About the CBC**

Since its establishment in 1971, the Congressional Black Caucus has been committed to using the full Constitutional power, statutory authority, financial resources of the federal government, community leadership, and international standing to ensure Black people have the opportunity to achieve their dreams.

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