

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY SHEET

Tracking No. 0197-20

DATE: August 19, 2020

TITLE OF RESOLUTION: AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NAVAJO NATION CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN

PURPOSE: This resolution, if approved, will establish the CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan and allocate \$90,000,000 to Chapters under the 50-50 formula for COVID-19 relief, response and mitigation efforts.

This written summary does not address recommended amendments as may be provided by the standing committee. The Office of Legislative Counsel requests each committee member to review the proposed resolution in detail.

5-DAY BILL HOLD PERIOD: Johnson
Website Posting Time/Date: 8:36pm 08-19-20
Posting End Date: 08-24-20
Eligible for Action: 08-25-20

Resources & Development Committee
Thence
Budget & Finance Committee
Thence
Naabik'iyáti' Committee
Thence
Navajo Nation Council

PROPOSED NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION
24th NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL -- Second Year, 2020

INTRODUCED BY


(Prime Sponsor)

TRACKING NO. 0197-20


AN ACTION
RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, BUDGET AND
FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND THE NAVAJO NATION
COUNCIL; APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE NAVAJO NATION CARES
FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN

BE IT ENACTED:

SECTION ONE. AUTHORITY

- A. The Navajo Nation Council is the governing body of the Navajo Nation. 2 N.N.C. § 102(A).
- B. The Naabik'iyáti' Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the responsibility to hear proposed resolution(s) that require final action by the Navajo Nation Council. 2 N.N.C. § 164(A)(9).
- C. The Budget and Finance Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo Nation Council with the enumerated powers to review and recommend to the Navajo Nation Council the budgeting, appropriation, investment and management of all funds and to promulgate rules and regulations related to contracting and financial matters. 2 N.N.C. §§ 300(B)(1) and (2).

1 D. The Resources and Development Committee is a standing committee of the Navajo
2 Nation Council empowered to provide legislative oversight on matters involving
3 Chapter activities. 2 N.N.C. § 500(C).
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5 **SECTION TWO. FINDINGS**

6 A. The World Health Organization (WHO) declared a Public Health Emergency of
7 International Concern related to the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19), a highly
8 contagious and sometimes fatal respiratory virus, on January 30, 2020; the U.S.
9 Department of Health and Human Services declared a Public Health Emergency related
10 to the COVID-19 outbreak on January 31, 2020; and the WHO declared a global
11 pandemic due to COVID-19 on March 11, 2020.

12 B. The Navajo Nation Commission on Emergency Management, with the concurrence of
13 Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez, declared a Public Health State of Emergency
14 on the Navajo Nation on March 11, 2020 due to COVID-19. Resolution No. CEM 20-
15 03-11. The Navajo Nation Department of Health subsequently issued numerous Public
16 Health Emergency Orders. Public Health Orders 2020-001 through 2020-014 are
17 incorporated by reference into this resolution.

18 C. As of August 18, 2020, the Navajo Nation Health Command Operations Center has
19 confirmed 9,486 COVID-19 cases and 484 COVID-related deaths on the Navajo
20 Nation.

21 D. The U.S. Congress on March 27, 2020, enacted the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and
22 Economic Security Act, Pub. L. No. 116-136, 134 Stat. 281 (2020) (the "CARES Act"),
23 which, at Title V, §5001, entitled "Coronavirus Relief Funds," attached as **Exhibit 1-**
24 **A**, sets aside \$8 billion in emergency aid for Tribal governments for the COVID-19
25 pandemic.

26 E. The CARES Act provides the Coronavirus Relief Fund shall be used to cover only
27 those costs that:

- 28 a. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency
29 with respect to COVID-19;
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1 b. are not accounted for in the Tribal budget most recently approved as of
2 March 27, 2020; and

3 c. are incurred from March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

4 F. The U.S. Treasury on April 22, 2020 issued "Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance for
5 State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal Governments" ("Treasury Guidance") related to the
6 permissible uses of the Coronavirus Relief Fund. **Exhibit 1-B.**

7 G. On May 28, 2020, the U.S. Treasury issued "Coronavirus Relief Fund Frequently
8 Asked Questions" ("Treasury FAQ"), attached as **Exhibit 1-C.**

9 H. As of June 30, 2020, the Navajo Nation has received seven hundred fourteen million
10 one hundred eighty-nine thousand six hundred thirty-one dollars and forty-seven cents
11 (\$714,189,631.47) as the Nation's share of the U.S. Treasury's initial distributions of
12 the Coronavirus Relief Fund.

13 I. The Navajo Nation has determined that immediately providing funding to Navajo
14 Nation Chapters to combat the effects of COVID-19 and mitigate the future spread at
15 the community level is vital in sustaining a comprehensive response to the COVID-19
16 public health emergency and mitigating the effects of the pandemic.

17 J. The purpose of the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Plan, attached
18 as **Exhibit 2**, is to immediately provide ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000) to Navajo
19 Nation Chapters (both LGA Certified and non-certified), through the Division of
20 Community Development, to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that
21 Navajo communities have access to the funding necessary to ensure that community
22 members are adequately protected from exposure to COVID-19 and able to comply
23 with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) COVID-19 prevention guidance necessary
24 to mitigate the spread of the virus.

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26 **SECTION THREE. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE CARES FUND**
27 **CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN**

28 A. The Navajo Nation hereby approves and adopts the CARES Fund Chapter Distribution
29 Expenditure Plan, as outlined in **Exhibit 2**, and hereby allocates ninety million dollars
30 (\$90,000,000) to Navajo Nation Chapters (both LGA Certified and non-certified),

1 through the Division of Community Development pursuant to 12 N.N.C. § 820 (O)'s
2 50/50 Chapter Distribution formula. Subject to technical correction by the Office of
3 Management and Budget, the amounts allocated to each Chapter are set forth at **Exhibit**
4 **3**.

5 B. The Coronavirus Relief Funds are externally restricted funds and the Navajo Nation
6 Appropriations Act, 12 N.N.C. §§ 800 *et seq.*, as applicable to externally restricted
7 funds, shall apply to the Expenditure Plans set forth herein; detailed Expenditure Plan
8 budgets shall not be subject to further legislative approval and shall, instead, be
9 developed and implemented through expedited budget procedures. The Office of
10 Management and Budget shall process the detailed budgets in the most expeditious
11 manner available to ensure that the funds are distributed within fifteen (15) days after
12 enactment of this resolution.

13 C. As set forth in Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CJY-67-20, the progress of all
14 Navajo Nation CARES Fund Expenditure Plans, which shall now include the Chapter
15 Distribution Expenditure Plan, shall be reviewed by the Budget and Finance and
16 Naabik'íyáti' Committees during the month of October 2020. The funding for any
17 project that has not made enough progress to demonstrate that it will be fully completed
18 by December 30, 2020 will be reallocated to the Hardship Assistance Expenditure Plan
19 enacted by CJY-67-20 through Naabik'íyáti' Committee resolution.

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21 **SECTION FOUR. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE CHAPTER**
22 **DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN ADMINISTRATION**

23 A. All entities receiving Navajo Nation CARES Fund funding herein shall ensure that all
24 funds allocated under the Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan are only expended for
25 the purposes set forth in **Exhibit 2**.

26 B. All entities receiving Navajo Nation CARES Fund funding herein shall ensure that all
27 funds allocated under their respective Expenditure Plans shall be incurred and
28 expended by no later than December 30, 2020.

29 C. All entities receiving Navajo Nation CARES Fund funding herein shall ensure that no
30 funds allocated under their respective Expenditure Plans are incurred or expended for

costs accounted for in the approved Fiscal Year 2020 Navajo Nation Comprehensive Budget approved by Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CS-30-19.

D. The Office of the Controller shall release the funding allocated under the respective Expenditure Plans as soon as the expedited budget procedures are completed.

E. The CARES Fund Expedited Procurement Rules and Procedures, enacted through CJY-67-20, shall apply to procurement activities for the Expenditure Plan set forth herein.

F. The funds allocated under the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Expenditure Plan set forth herein shall be used exclusively and only for the permissible uses set forth in the following:

1. This Resolution approving the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution s Expenditure Plan.

3. The Coronavirus Relief Fund which allows only those costs that:

a. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19;

b. are not accounted for in the Navajo Nation Fiscal Year 2020 Comprehensive Budget.

c. are incurred from March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020;

4. Consistent with the eligible uses described in the Treasury Guidance which includes the following guidance:

a. expenditures must be incurred “due to” the public health emergency which means that expenditures must be used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency; these expenditures may include expenditures incurred to allow the Tribal government to respond directly to the emergency, such as by addressing medical or public health needs, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to second-order effects of the emergency, such as by providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures;

b. expenditures must be “necessary”; the Department of the Treasury interprets this term broadly to mean that the expenditure is reasonably necessary for its

- intended use in the reasonable judgment of the government officials responsible for spending Coronavirus Relief Fund payments;
- c. expenditures may only be made to cover costs that were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020. A cost meets this requirement if either (a) the cost cannot lawfully be funded using a line item, allotment, or allocation with the budget; *or* (b) the cost is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation; and
 - d. expenditures must be for costs incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020. A cost is “incurred” when the responsible unit of government has expended funds to cover the cost.
- 5. Consistent with the eligible uses described in the U.S. Treasury Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).
 - 6. Consistent with the eligible uses as may be described in any and all future guidance, rules, or regulations of the Department of the Treasury or the Department of the Interior related to the Coronavirus Relief Fund pursuant to Title V of the CARES Act.
 - 7. Consistent with Navajo Nation laws, rules and regulations.
- G. All entities receiving Navajo Nation CARES Act Expenditure Plan funding herein expressly agree and affirm that by drawing down or receiving any of the funds allocated under their respective Expenditure Plan:
- a. the requested funds shall only be used for the purposes specified in Title V of the federal CARES Act and the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Act;
 - b. the administration, management, and implementation of this Expenditure Plan shall be consistent with the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Act, this legislation, and other applicable laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation; and
 - c. the costs to be covered under this Expenditure Plan are not included in the Navajo Nation Fiscal Year 2020 Comprehensive Budget, approved by Navajo Nation Council Resolution No. CS-30-19.

- 1 I. All recipients of Navajo Nation funds from the Navajo Nation CARES Fund must
2 follow and apply Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), as established
3 by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) for governmental entities,
4 and by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) for public and private
5 companies and non-profits.
- 6 J. If the Department of Justice, Office of the Controller, and Office of Management and
7 Budget concur that a proposed expenditure in the Expenditure Plans included herein is
8 an ineligible cost under the Navajo Nation CARES Fund, Coronavirus Relief Fund or
9 U.S. Treasury guidance, the amount of such proposed expenditure shall be returned to
10 the Navajo Nation CARES Fund after written notice, including analysis, to the Office
11 of the President and Vice-President and Naabik'íyáti' Committee.
- 12 K. The Budget and Finance Committee and Resources and Development Committee of
13 the Navajo Nation Council shall serve as the oversight committees for the Navajo
14 Nation Cares Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan.
- 15 L. The Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan and expenditures made there under shall be
16 governed by and construed in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Navajo
17 Nation.

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19 **SECTION FIVE. AMENDMENT**

20 This Resolution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the Navajo Nation
21 Council subject to action of the President of the Navajo Nation under 2 N.N.C. § 221 (B)
22 and the budget line-item veto authority delegated to the President by vote of the Navajo
23 People in 2009.

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25 **SECTION SIX. EFFECTIVE DATE**

26 This Resolution is effective upon its approval pursuant to 2 N.N.C. § 221(B) and the budget
27 line-item veto authority delegated to the President by vote of the Navajo People in 2009.

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29 **SECTION SEVEN. SAVING CLAUSE**

1 Should any provision of this legislation be determined invalid by the Navajo Nation
2 Supreme Court, or a District Court of the Navajo Nation without appeal to the Navajo
3 Nation Supreme Court, those portions of the legislation which are not determined invalid
4 shall remain the law of the Navajo Nation.
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maximum total compensation received by the officer or employee from the air carrier or contractor in calendar year 2019; and

(3) no officer or employee of the eligible business whose total compensation exceeded \$3,000,000 in calendar year 2019 may receive during any 12 consecutive months of such period total compensation in excess of the sum of—

(A) \$3,000,000; and

(B) 50 percent of the excess over \$3,000,000 of the total compensation received by the officer or employee from the eligible business in calendar year 2019.

(b) **TOTAL COMPENSATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term "total compensation" includes salary, bonuses, awards of stock, and other financial benefits provided by an air carrier or contractor to an officer or employee of the air carrier or contractor.

SEC. 4117. TAX PAYER PROTECTION.

The Secretary may receive warrants, options, preferred stock, debt securities, notes, or other financial instruments issued by recipients of financial assistance under this subtitle which, in the sole determination of the Secretary, provide appropriate compensation to the Federal Government for the provision of the financial assistance.

SEC. 4118. REPORTS.

(a) **REPORT.**—Not later than November 1, 2020, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report on the financial assistance provided to air carriers and contractors under this subtitle, including a description of any financial assistance provided.

(b) **UPDATE.**—Not later than the last day of the 1-year period following the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall update and submit to the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Financial Services and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate the report described in subsection (a).

SEC. 4119. COORDINATION.

In implementing this subtitle the Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 4120. DIRECT APPROPRIATION.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is appropriated, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$32,000,000,000 to carry out this subtitle.

TITLE V—CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

SEC. 5001. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended by inserting after title V the following:

"TITLE VI—CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

"SEC. 601. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.

"(a) **APPROPRIATION.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for making payments to States, Tribal governments, and units of local government under this section, \$150,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.

"(2) **RESERVATION OF FUNDS.**—Of the amount appropriated under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall reserve—

"(A) \$3,000,000,000 of such amount for making payments to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa; and

"(B) \$8,000,000,000 of such amount for making payments to Tribal governments.

"(b) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall pay each State and Tribal government, and each unit of local government that meets the condition described in paragraph (2), the amount determined for the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government, for fiscal year 2020 under subsection (c).

"(2) **DIRECT PAYMENTS TO UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**—If a unit of local government of a State submits the certification required by subsection (c) for purposes of receiving a direct payment from the Secretary under the authority of this paragraph, the Secretary shall reduce the amount determined for that State by the relative unit of local government population proportion amount described in subsection (c)(5) and pay such amount directly to such unit of local government.

"(c) **PAYMENT AMOUNTS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a State that is 1 of the 50 States shall be the amount equal to the relative population proportion amount determined for the State under paragraph (3) for such fiscal year.

"(2) **MINIMUM PAYMENT.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—No State that is 1 of the 50 States shall receive a payment under this section for fiscal year 2020 that is less than \$1,250,000,000.

"(B) **PRO RATA ADJUSTMENTS.**—The Secretary shall adjust on a pro rata basis the amount of the payments for each of the 50 States determined under this subsection without regard to this subparagraph to the extent necessary to comply with the requirements of subparagraph (A).

"(3) **RELATIVE POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the relative population proportion amount determined under this paragraph for a State for fiscal year 2020 is the product of—

"(A) the amount appropriated under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) for fiscal year 2020 that remains after the application of paragraph (2) of that subsection; and

"(B) the relative State population proportion (as defined in paragraph (4)).

"(4) **RELATIVE STATE POPULATION PROPORTION DEFINED.**—For purposes of paragraph (3)(B), the term "relative State population proportion" means, with respect to a State, the quotient of—

"(A) the population of the State; and

"(B) the total population of all States (excluding the District of Columbia and territories specified in subsection (a)(2)(A)).

"(5) **RELATIVE UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.**—For purposes of subsection (b)(2), the term "relative unit of local government population proportion amount" means, with respect to a unit of local government and a State, the amount equal to the product of—

"(A) 45 percent of the amount of the payment determined for the State under this subsection (without regard to this paragraph); and

"(B) the amount equal to the quotient of—

"(1) the population of the unit of local government; and

"(2) the total population of the State in which the unit of local government is located.

"(6) **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TERRITORIES.**—The amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a State that is the District of Columbia or a territory specified in subsection (a)(2)(A) shall be the amount equal to the product of—

"(A) the amount set aside under subsection (a)(2)(A) for such fiscal year; and

"(B) each such District's and territory's share of the combined total population of the District of Columbia and all such territories, as determined by the Secretary.

"(7) **TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.**—From the amount set aside under subsection (a)(2)(B) for fiscal year 2020, the amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a Tribal government shall be the amount the Secretary shall determine, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and Indian Tribes, that is based on increased expenditures of each such Tribal government (or a tribally-owned entity of such Tribal government) relative to aggregate expenditures in fiscal year 2019 by the Tribal government (or tribally-owned entity) and determined in such manner as the Secretary determines appropriate to ensure that all amounts available under subsection (a)(2)(B) for fiscal year 2020 are distributed to Tribal governments.

"(8) **DATA.**—For purposes of this subsection, the population of States and units of local governments shall be determined based on the most recent year for which data are available from the Bureau of the Census.

"(d) **USE OF FUNDS.**—A State, Tribal government, and unit of local government shall use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover only those costs of the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government that—

"(1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);

"(2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment of this section for the State or government; and

"(3) were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

"(e) **CERTIFICATION.**—In order to receive a payment under this section, a unit of local government shall provide the Secretary with a certification signed by the Chief Executive for the unit of local government that the local government's proposed uses of the funds are consistent with subsection (d).

"(f) **INSPECTOR GENERAL OVERSIGHT; RECOUPMENT.**—

"(1) **OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY.**—The Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury shall conduct monitoring and oversight of the receipt, disbursement, and use of funds made available under this section.

"(2) **RECOUPMENT.**—If the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury determines that a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government has failed to comply with subsection (d), the amount equal to the amount of funds used in violation of such subsection shall be booked as a debt of such entity owed to the Federal Government. Amounts recovered under this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury.

"(3) **APPROPRIATION.**—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury, \$35,000,000 to carry out oversight and recoupment activities under this subsection. Amounts appropriated under the preceding sentence shall remain available until expended.

"(4) **AUTHORITY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to diminish the authority of any Inspector General, including such authority as provided in the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

"(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

"(1) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term "Indian Tribe" has the meaning given that term in section

4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(e)).

"(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'unit of local government' means a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level with a population that exceeds 500,000.

"(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Treasury.

"(4) STATE.—The term 'State' means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

"(5) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'Tribal government' means the recognized governing body of an Indian Tribe."

(b) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2020 under section 601(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (as added by subsection (a)) shall be subject to the requirements contained in Public Law 116-94 for funds for programs authorized under sections 330 through 340 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254 through 259).

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 6001. COVID-19 BORROWING AUTHORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "COVID-19 emergency" means the emergency involving Federal primary responsibility determined to exist by the President under section 501(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191(b)) with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

(2) the term "Postal Service" means the United States Postal Service.

(b) ADDITIONAL BORROWING AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding section 2005 of title 39, United States Code, or any other provision of law, if the Postal Service determines that, due to the COVID-19 emergency, the Postal Service will not be able to fund operating expenses without borrowing money—

(1) the Postal Service may borrow money from the Treasury in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000,000—

(A) to be used for such operating expenses; and

(B) which may not be used to pay any outstanding debt of the Postal Service; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury may lend up to the amount described in paragraph (1) at the request of the Postal Service, upon terms and conditions mutually agreed upon by the Secretary and the Postal Service.

(c) PRIORITIZATION OF DELIVERY FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the COVID-19 emergency, the Postal Service—

(1) shall prioritize delivery of postal products for medical purposes; and

(2) may establish temporary delivery points, in such form and manner as the Postal Service determines necessary, to protect employees of the Postal Service and individuals receiving deliveries from the Postal Service.

SEC. 6002. EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amounts provided under this division are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this division is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

DIVISION B—EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CORONAVIRUS HEALTH RESPONSE AND AGENCY OPERATIONS

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For an additional amount for the "Office of the Secretary", \$9,500,000,000, to remain available until expended, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing support for agricultural producers impacted by coronavirus, including producers of specialty crops, producers that supply local food systems, including farmers markets, restaurants, and schools, and livestock producers, including dairy producers: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for "Office of Inspector General", \$750,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That the funding made available under this heading in this Act shall be used for conducting audits and investigations of projects and activities carried out with funds made available in this Act to the Department of Agriculture to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", \$55,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including for necessary expenses for salary costs associated with the Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Program: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For an additional amount for "Marketing Services", \$45,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including necessary expenses for salary costs associated with commodity grading, inspection, and audit activities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For an additional amount for "Food Safety and Inspection Service", \$33,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including for support of temporary and intermittent workers, relocation of inspectors, and, notwithstanding 21 U.S.C. 468, 695 and 1053 and 7 U.S.C. 2219a, costs of overtime inspectors under the Federal Meat Inspec-

tion Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including necessary expenses to hire temporary staff and overtime expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for "Rural Business Program Account", \$20,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, for the cost of loans for rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in subsection (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For an additional amount for "Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program", \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq.: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for "Child Nutrition Programs", \$8,800,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For an additional amount for "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program", \$15,810,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$15,510,000,000 shall be placed in a contingency reserve to be allocated as the Secretary deems necessary to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this

maximum total compensation received by the officer or employee from the air carrier or contractor in calendar year 2019; and

(3) no officer or employee of the eligible business whose total compensation exceeded \$3,000,000 in calendar year 2019 may receive during any 12 consecutive months of such period total compensation in excess of the sum of—

(A) \$3,000,000; and

(B) 50 percent of the excess over \$3,000,000 of the total compensation received by the officer or employee from the eligible business in calendar year 2019.

(b) **TOTAL COMPENSATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “total compensation” includes salary, bonuses, awards of stock, and other financial benefits provided by an air carrier or contractor to an officer or employee of the air carrier or contractor.

SEC. 4117. TAX PAYER PROTECTION.

The Secretary may receive warrants, options, preferred stock, debt securities, notes, or other financial instruments issued by recipients of financial assistance under this subtitle which, in the sole determination of the Secretary, provide appropriate compensation to the Federal Government for the provision of the financial assistance.

SEC. 4118. REPORTS.

(a) **REPORT.**—Not later than November 1, 2020, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report on the financial assistance provided to air carriers and contractors under this subtitle, including a description of any financial assistance provided.

(b) **UPDATE.**—Not later than the last day of the 1-year period following the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall update and submit to the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Financial Services and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate the report described in subsection (a).

SEC. 4119. COORDINATION.

In implementing this subtitle the Secretary shall coordinate with the Secretary of Transportation.

SEC. 4120. DIRECT APPROPRIATION.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, there is appropriated, out of amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$32,000,000,000 to carry out this subtitle.

TITLE V—CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS

SEC. 5001. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 301 et seq.) is amended by inserting after title V the following:

“TITLE VI—CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND

“SEC. 501. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND.

“(a) **APPROPRIATION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for making payments to States, Tribal governments, and units of local government under this section, \$150,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.

“(2) **RESERVATION OF FUNDS.**—Of the amount appropriated under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall reserve—

“(A) \$3,000,000,000 of such amount for making payments to the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa; and

“(B) \$8,000,000,000 of such amount for making payments to Tribal governments.

“(b) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE PAYMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall pay each State and Tribal government, and each unit of local government that meets the condition described in paragraph (2), the amount determined for the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government, for fiscal year 2020 under subsection (c).

“(2) **DIRECT PAYMENTS TO UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**—If a unit of local government of a State submits the certification required by subsection (e) for purposes of receiving a direct payment from the Secretary under the authority of this paragraph, the Secretary shall reduce the amount determined for that State by the relative unit of local government population proportion amount described in subsection (c)(5) and pay such amount directly to such unit of local government.

“(c) **PAYMENT AMOUNTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a State that is 1 of the 50 States shall be the amount equal to the relative population proportion amount determined for the State under paragraph (3) for such fiscal year.

“(2) **MINIMUM PAYMENT.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—No State that is 1 of the 50 States shall receive a payment under this section for fiscal year 2020 that is less than \$1,250,000,000.

“(B) **PRO RATA ADJUSTMENTS.**—The Secretary shall adjust on a pro rata basis the amount of the payments for each of the 50 States determined under this subsection without regard to this subparagraph to the extent necessary to comply with the requirements of subparagraph (A).

“(3) **RELATIVE POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.**—For purposes of paragraph (1), the relative population proportion amount determined under this paragraph for a State for fiscal year 2020 is the product of—

“(A) the amount appropriated under paragraph (1) of subsection (a) for fiscal year 2020 that remains after the application of paragraph (2) of that subsection; and

“(B) the relative State population proportion (as defined in paragraph (4)).

“(4) **RELATIVE STATE POPULATION PROPORTION DEFINED.**—For purposes of paragraph (3)(B), the term “relative State population proportion” means, with respect to a State, the quotient of—

“(A) the population of the State; and

“(B) the total population of all States (excluding the District of Columbia and territories specified in subsection (a)(2)(A)).

“(5) **RELATIVE UNIT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT POPULATION PROPORTION AMOUNT.**—For purposes of subsection (b)(2), the term “relative unit of local government population proportion amount” means, with respect to a unit of local government and a State, the amount equal to the product of—

“(A) 45 percent of the amount of the payment determined for the State under this subsection (without regard to this paragraph); and

“(B) the amount equal to the quotient of—

“(1) the population of the unit of local government; and

“(2) the total population of the State in which the unit of local government is located.

“(6) **DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND TERRITORIES.**—The amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a State that is the District of Columbia or a territory specified in subsection (a)(2)(A) shall be the amount equal to the product of—

“(A) the amount set aside under subsection (a)(2)(A) for such fiscal year; and

“(B) each such District’s and territory’s share of the combined total population of the District of Columbia and all such territories, as determined by the Secretary.

“(7) **TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.**—From the amount set aside under subsection (a)(2)(B) for fiscal year 2020, the amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to a Tribal government shall be the amount the Secretary shall determine, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and Indian Tribes, that is based on increased expenditures of each such Tribal government (or a tribally-owned entity of such Tribal government) relative to aggregate expenditures in fiscal year 2019 by the Tribal government (or tribally-owned entity) and determined in such manner as the Secretary determines appropriate to ensure that all amounts available under subsection (a)(2)(B) for fiscal year 2020 are distributed to Tribal governments.

“(8) **DATA.**—For purposes of this subsection, the population of States and units of local governments shall be determined based on the most recent year for which data are available from the Bureau of the Census.

“(d) **USE OF FUNDS.**—A State, Tribal government, and unit of local government shall use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover only those costs of the State, Tribal government, or unit of local government that—

“(1) are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);

“(2) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment of this section for the State or government; and

“(3) were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

“(e) **CERTIFICATION.**—In order to receive a payment under this section, a unit of local government shall provide the Secretary with a certification signed by the Chief Executive for the unit of local government that the local government’s proposed uses of the funds are consistent with subsection (d).

“(f) **INSPECTOR GENERAL OVERSIGHT; RECOUPMENT.**—

“(1) **OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY.**—The Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury shall conduct monitoring and oversight of the receipt, disbursement, and use of funds made available under this section.

“(2) **RECOUPMENT.**—If the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury determines that a State, Tribal government, or unit of local government has failed to comply with subsection (d), the amount equal to the amount of funds used in violation of such subsection shall be booked as a debt of such entity owed to the Federal Government. Amounts recovered under this subsection shall be deposited into the general fund of the Treasury.

“(3) **APPROPRIATION.**—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated to the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury, \$35,000,000 to carry out oversight and recoupment activities under this subsection. Amounts appropriated under the preceding sentence shall remain available until expended.

“(4) **AUTHORITY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.**—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to diminish the authority of any Inspector General, including such authority as provided in the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

“(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

“(1) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian Tribe” has the meaning given that term in section

4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304(e)).

"(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'unit of local government' means a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level with a population that exceeds 500,000.

"(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Treasury.

"(4) STATE.—The term 'State' means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

"(5) TRIBAL GOVERNMENT.—The term 'tribal government' means the recognized governing body of an Indian Tribe."

(b) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—Amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2020 under section 601(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (as added by subsection (a)) shall be subject to the requirements contained in Public Law 116-94 for funds for programs authorized under sections 330 through 340 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254 through 256).

TITLE VI—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 6001. COVID-19 BORROWING AUTHORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term "COVID-19 emergency" means the emergency involving Federal primary responsibility determined to exist by the President under section 601(b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5191(b)) with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

(2) the term "Postal Service" means the United States Postal Service.

(b) ADDITIONAL BORROWING AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding section 2005 of title 39, United States Code, or any other provision of law, if the Postal Service determines that, due to the COVID-19 emergency, the Postal Service will not be able to fund operating expenses without borrowing money—

(1) the Postal Service may borrow money from the Treasury in an amount not to exceed \$10,000,000,000—

(A) to be used for such operating expenses; and

(B) which may not be used to pay any outstanding debt of the Postal Service; and

(2) the Secretary of the Treasury may lend up to the amount described in paragraph (1) at the request of the Postal Service, upon terms and conditions mutually agreed upon by the Secretary and the Postal Service.

(c) PRIORITIZATION OF DELIVERY FOR MEDICAL PURPOSES DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during the COVID-19 emergency, the Postal Service—

(1) shall prioritize delivery of postal products for medical purposes; and

(2) may establish temporary delivery points, in such form and manner as the Postal Service determines necessary, to protect employees of the Postal Service and individuals receiving deliveries from the Postal Service.

SEC. 6002. EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amounts provided under this division are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(b) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this division is designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

DIVISION B—EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CORONAVIRUS HEALTH RESPONSE AND AGENCY OPERATIONS

The following sums are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

For an additional amount for the "Office of the Secretary", \$9,500,000,000, to remain available until expended, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus by providing support for agricultural producers impacted by coronavirus, including producers of specialty crops, producers that supply local food systems, including farmers markets, restaurants, and schools, and livestock producers, including dairy producers: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For an additional amount for "Office of Inspector General", \$750,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That the funding made available under this heading in this Act shall be used for conducting audits and investigations of projects and activities carried out with funds made available in this Act to the Department of Agriculture to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", \$55,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including for necessary expenses for salary costs associated with the Agriculture Quarantine and Inspection Program: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

MARKETING SERVICES

For an additional amount for "Marketing Services", \$45,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including necessary expenses for salary costs associated with commodity grading, inspection, and audit activities: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE

For an additional amount for "Food Safety and Inspection Service", \$33,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including for support of temporary and intermittent workers, relocation of inspectors, and, notwithstanding 21 U.S.C. 468, 695 and 1053 and 7 U.S.C. 2219a, costs of overtime inspectors under the Federal Meat Inspec-

tion Act, the Poultry Products Inspection Act, and the Egg Products Inspection Act: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

FARM PRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

For an additional amount for "Salaries and Expenses", \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, including necessary expenses to hire temporary staff and overtime expenses: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

RURAL BUSINESS—COOPERATIVE SERVICE

RURAL BUSINESS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For an additional amount for "Rural Business Program Account", \$20,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, for the cost of loans for rural business development programs authorized by section 310B and described in subsection (g) of section 310B of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

RURAL UTILITIES SERVICE

DISTANCE LEARNING, TELEMEDICINE, AND BROADBAND PROGRAM

For an additional amount for "Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program", \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally, for telemedicine and distance learning services in rural areas, as authorized by 7 U.S.C. 950aaa et seq.: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

DOMESTIC FOOD PROGRAMS

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAMS

For an additional amount for "Child Nutrition Programs", \$8,800,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

For an additional amount for "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program", \$15,810,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2021, to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading in this Act, \$15,810,000,000 shall be placed in a contingency reserve to be allocated as the Secretary deems necessary to support participation should cost or participation exceed budget estimates to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus: *Provided further*, That of the amount provided under this

**Coronavirus Relief Fund
Guidance for State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal Governments
April 22, 2020**

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to recipients of the funding available under section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"). The CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (the "Fund") and appropriated \$150 billion to the Fund. Under the CARES Act, the Fund is to be used to make payments for specified uses to States and certain local governments; the District of Columbia and U.S. Territories (consisting of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands); and Tribal governments.

The CARES Act provides that payments from the Fund may only be used to cover costs that—

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.¹

The guidance that follows sets forth the Department of the Treasury's interpretation of these limitations on the permissible use of Fund payments.

Necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency

The requirement that expenditures be incurred "due to" the public health emergency means that expenditures must be used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency. These may include expenditures incurred to allow the State, territorial, local, or Tribal government to respond directly to the emergency, such as by addressing medical or public health needs, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to second-order effects of the emergency, such as by providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures.

Funds may not be used to fill shortfalls in government revenue to cover expenditures that would not otherwise qualify under the statute. Although a broad range of uses is allowed, revenue replacement is not a permissible use of Fund payments.

The statute also specifies that expenditures using Fund payments must be "necessary." The Department of the Treasury understands this term broadly to mean that the expenditure is reasonably necessary for its intended use in the reasonable judgment of the government officials responsible for spending Fund payments.

Costs not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020

The CARES Act also requires that payments be used only to cover costs that were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020. A cost meets this requirement if either (a) the cost cannot lawfully be funded using a line item, allotment, or allocation within that budget or (b) the cost

¹ See Section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the CARES Act.

is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation.

The “most recently approved” budget refers to the enacted budget for the relevant fiscal period for the particular government, without taking into account subsequent supplemental appropriations enacted or other budgetary adjustments made by that government in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency. A cost is not considered to have been accounted for in a budget merely because it could be met using a budgetary stabilization fund, rainy day fund, or similar reserve account.

Costs incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020

A cost is “incurred” when the responsible unit of government has expended funds to cover the cost.

Nonexclusive examples of eligible expenditures

Eligible expenditures include, but are not limited to, payment for:

1. Medical expenses such as:
 - COVID-19-related expenses of public hospitals, clinics, and similar facilities.
 - Expenses of establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity, including related construction costs.
 - Costs of providing COVID-19 testing, including serological testing.
 - Emergency medical response expenses, including emergency medical transportation, related to COVID-19.
 - Expenses for establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities for COVID-19-related treatment.
2. Public health expenses such as:
 - Expenses for communication and enforcement by State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments of public health orders related to COVID-19.
 - Expenses for acquisition and distribution of medical and protective supplies, including sanitizing products and personal protective equipment, for medical personnel, police officers, social workers, child protection services, and child welfare officers, direct service providers for older adults and individuals with disabilities in community settings, and other public health or safety workers in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - Expenses for disinfection of public areas and other facilities, e.g., nursing homes, in response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 - Expenses for technical assistance to local authorities or other entities on mitigation of COVID-19-related threats to public health and safety.
 - Expenses for public safety measures undertaken in response to COVID-19.
 - Expenses for quarantining individuals.
3. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

4. Expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures, such as:
 - Expenses for food delivery to residents, including, for example, senior citizens and other vulnerable populations, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
 - Expenses to facilitate distance learning, including technological improvements, in connection with school closings to enable compliance with COVID-19 precautions.
 - Expenses to improve telework capabilities for public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
 - Expenses of providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
 - COVID-19-related expenses of maintaining state prisons and county jails, including as relates to sanitation and improvement of social distancing measures, to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
 - Expenses for care for homeless populations provided to mitigate COVID-19 effects and enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions.
5. Expenses associated with the provision of economic support in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency, such as:
 - Expenditures related to the provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures.
 - Expenditures related to a State, territorial, local, or Tribal government payroll support program.
 - Unemployment insurance costs related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise.
6. Any other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria.

Nonexclusive examples of ineligible expenditures²

The following is a list of examples of costs that would *not* be eligible expenditures of payments from the Fund.

1. Expenses for the State share of Medicaid.³
2. Damages covered by insurance.
3. Payroll or benefits expenses for employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

² In addition, pursuant to section 5001(b) of the CARES Act, payments from the Fund may not be expended for an elective abortion or on research in which a human embryo is destroyed, discarded, or knowingly subjected to risk of injury or death. The prohibition on payment for abortions does not apply to an abortion if the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest; or in the case where a woman suffers from a physical disorder, physical injury, or physical illness, including a life-endangering physical condition caused by or arising from the pregnancy itself, that would, as certified by a physician, place the woman in danger of death unless an abortion is performed. Furthermore, no government which receives payments from the Fund may discriminate against a health care entity on the basis that the entity does not provide, pay for, provide coverage of, or refer for abortions.

³ See 42 C.F.R. § 433.51 and 45 C.F.R. § 75.306.

4. Expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal program, such as the reimbursement by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act of contributions by States to State unemployment funds.
5. Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services.
6. Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime.
7. Severance pay.
8. Legal settlements.

**Coronavirus Relief Fund
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated as of May 28, 2020**

The following answers to frequently asked questions supplement Treasury's Coronavirus Relief Fund ("Fund") Guidance for State, Territorial, Local, and Tribal Governments, dated April 22, 2020, ("Guidance").¹ Amounts paid from the Fund are subject to the restrictions outlined in the Guidance and set forth in section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act").

Eligible Expenditures

Are governments required to submit proposed expenditures to Treasury for approval?

No. Governments are responsible for making determinations as to what expenditures are necessary due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 and do not need to submit any proposed expenditures to Treasury.

The Guidance says that funding can be used to meet payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency. How does a government determine whether payroll expenses for a given employee satisfy the "substantially dedicated" condition?

The Fund is designed to provide ready funding to address unforeseen financial needs and risks created by the COVID-19 public health emergency. For this reason, and as a matter of administrative convenience in light of the emergency nature of this program, a State, territorial, local, or Tribal government may presume that payroll costs for public health and public safety employees are payments for services substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, unless the chief executive (or equivalent) of the relevant government determines that specific circumstances indicate otherwise.

The Guidance says that a cost was not accounted for in the most recently approved budget if the cost is for a substantially different use from any expected use of funds in such a line item, allotment, or allocation. What would qualify as a "substantially different use" for purposes of the Fund eligibility?

Costs incurred for a "substantially different use" include, but are not necessarily limited to, costs of personnel and services that were budgeted for in the most recently approved budget but which, due entirely to the COVID-19 public health emergency, have been diverted to substantially different functions. This would include, for example, the costs of redeploying corrections facility staff to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions through work such as enhanced sanitation or enforcing social distancing measures; the costs of redeploying police to support management and enforcement of stay-at-home orders; or the costs of diverting educational support staff or faculty to develop online learning capabilities, such as through providing information technology support that is not part of the staff or faculty's ordinary responsibilities.

Note that a public function does not become a "substantially different use" merely because it is provided from a different location or through a different manner. For example, although developing online instruction capabilities may be a substantially different use of funds, online instruction itself is not a substantially different use of public funds than classroom instruction.

¹ The Guidance is available at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Coronavirus-Relief-Fund-Guidance-for-State-Territorial-Local-and-Tribal-Governments.pdf>.

May a State receiving a payment transfer funds to a local government?

Yes, provided that the transfer qualifies as a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health emergency and meets the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act. Such funds would be subject to recoupment by the Treasury Department if they have not been used in a manner consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act.

May a unit of local government receiving a Fund payment transfer funds to another unit of government?

Yes. For example, a county may transfer funds to a city, town, or school district within the county and a county or city may transfer funds to its State, provided that the transfer qualifies as a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health emergency and meets the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance. For example, a transfer from a county to a constituent city would not be permissible if the funds were intended to be used simply to fill shortfalls in government revenue to cover expenditures that would not otherwise qualify as an eligible expenditure.

Is a Fund payment recipient required to transfer funds to a smaller, constituent unit of government within its borders?

No. For example, a county recipient is not required to transfer funds to smaller cities within the county's borders.

Are recipients required to use other federal funds or seek reimbursement under other federal programs before using Fund payments to satisfy eligible expenses?

No. Recipients may use Fund payments for any expenses eligible under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance. Fund payments are not required to be used as the source of funding of last resort. However, as noted below, recipients may not use payments from the Fund to cover expenditures for which they will receive reimbursement.

Are there prohibitions on combining a transaction supported with Fund payments with other CARES Act funding or COVID-19 relief Federal funding?

Recipients will need to consider the applicable restrictions and limitations of such other sources of funding. In addition, expenses that have been or will be reimbursed under any federal program, such as the reimbursement by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act of contributions by States to State unemployment funds, are not eligible uses of Fund payments.

Are States permitted to use Fund payments to support state unemployment insurance funds generally?

To the extent that the costs incurred by a state unemployment insurance fund are incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, a State may use Fund payments to make payments to its respective state unemployment insurance fund, separate and apart from such State's obligation to the unemployment insurance fund as an employer. This will permit States to use Fund payments to prevent expenses related to the public health emergency from causing their state unemployment insurance funds to become insolvent.

Are recipients permitted to use Fund payments to pay for unemployment insurance costs incurred by the recipient as an employer?

Yes, Fund payments may be used for unemployment insurance costs incurred by the recipient as an employer (for example, as a reimbursing employer) related to the COVID-19 public health emergency if such costs will not be reimbursed by the federal government pursuant to the CARES Act or otherwise.

The Guidance states that the Fund may support a "broad range of uses" including payroll expenses for several classes of employees whose services are "substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency." What are some examples of types of covered employees?

The Guidance provides examples of broad classes of employees whose payroll expenses would be eligible expenses under the Fund. These classes of employees include public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Payroll and benefit costs associated with public employees who could have been furloughed or otherwise laid off but who were instead repurposed to perform previously unbudgeted functions substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency are also covered. Other eligible expenditures include payroll and benefit costs of educational support staff or faculty responsible for developing online learning capabilities necessary to continue educational instruction in response to COVID-19-related school closures. Please see the Guidance for a discussion of what is meant by an expense that was not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020.

In some cases, first responders and critical health care workers that contract COVID-19 are eligible for workers' compensation coverage. Is the cost of this expanded workers compensation coverage eligible?

Increased workers compensation cost to the government due to the COVID-19 public health emergency incurred during the period beginning March 1, 2020, and ending December 30, 2020, is an eligible expense.

If a recipient would have decommissioned equipment or not renewed a lease on particular office space or equipment but decides to continue to use the equipment or to renew the lease in order to respond to the public health emergency, are the costs associated with continuing to operate the equipment or the ongoing lease payments eligible expenses?

Yes. To the extent the expenses were previously unbudgeted and are otherwise consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance, such expenses would be eligible.

May recipients provide stipends to employees for eligible expenses (for example, a stipend to employees to improve telework capabilities) rather than require employees to incur the eligible cost and submit for reimbursement?

Expenditures paid for with payments from the Fund must be limited to those that are necessary due to the public health emergency. As such, unless the government were to determine that providing assistance in the form of a stipend is an administrative necessity, the government should provide such assistance on a reimbursement basis to ensure as much as possible that funds are used to cover only eligible expenses.

May Fund payments be used for COVID-19 public health emergency recovery planning?

Yes. Expenses associated with conducting a recovery planning project or operating a recovery coordination office would be eligible, if the expenses otherwise meet the criteria set forth in section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance.

Are expenses associated with contact tracing eligible?

Yes, expenses associated with contract tracing are eligible.

To what extent may a government use Fund payments to support the operations of private hospitals?

Governments may use Fund payments to support public or private hospitals to the extent that the costs are necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, but the form such assistance would take may differ. In particular, financial assistance to private hospitals could take the form of a grant or a short-term loan.

May payments from the Fund be used to assist individuals with enrolling in a government benefit program for those who have been laid off due to COVID-19 and thereby lost health insurance?

Yes. To the extent that the relevant government official determines that these expenses are necessary and they meet the other requirements set forth in section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance, these expenses are eligible.

May recipients use Fund payments to facilitate livestock depopulation incurred by producers due to supply chain disruptions?

Yes, to the extent these efforts are deemed necessary for public health reasons or as a form of economic support as a result of the COVID-19 health emergency.

Would providing a consumer grant program to prevent eviction and assist in preventing homelessness be considered an eligible expense?

Yes, assuming that the recipient considers the grants to be a necessary expense incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and the grants meet the other requirements for the use of Fund payments under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance. As a general matter, providing assistance to recipients to enable them to meet property tax requirements would not be an eligible use of funds, but exceptions may be made in the case of assistance designed to prevent foreclosures.

May recipients create a "payroll support program" for public employees?

Use of payments from the Fund to cover payroll or benefits expenses of public employees are limited to those employees whose work duties are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

May recipients use Fund payments to cover employment and training programs for employees that have been furloughed due to the public health emergency?

Yes, this would be an eligible expense if the government determined that the costs of such employment and training programs would be necessary due to the public health emergency.

May recipients use Fund payments to provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families directly impacted by a loss of income due to the COVID-19 public health emergency?

Yes, if a government determines such assistance to be a necessary expenditure. Such assistance could include, for example, a program to assist individuals with payment of overdue rent or mortgage payments to avoid eviction or foreclosure or unforeseen financial costs for funerals and other emergency individual needs. Such assistance should be structured in a manner to ensure as much as possible, within the realm of what is administratively feasible, that such assistance is necessary.

The Guidance provides that eligible expenditures may include expenditures related to the provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures. What is meant by a "small business," and is the Guidance intended to refer only to expenditures to cover administrative expenses of such a grant program?

Governments have discretion to determine what payments are necessary. A program that is aimed at assisting small businesses with the costs of business interruption caused by required closures should be tailored to assist those businesses in need of such assistance. The amount of a grant to a small business to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures would also be an eligible expenditure under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as outlined in the Guidance.

The Guidance provides that expenses associated with the provision of economic support in connection with the public health emergency, such as expenditures related to the provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures, would constitute eligible expenditures of Fund payments. Would such expenditures be eligible in the absence of a stay-at-home order?

Fund payments may be used for economic support in the absence of a stay-at-home order if such expenditures are determined by the government to be necessary. This may include, for example, a grant program to benefit small businesses that close voluntarily to promote social distancing measures or that are affected by decreased customer demand as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

May Fund payments be used to assist impacted property owners with the payment of their property taxes?

Fund payments may not be used for government revenue replacement, including the provision of assistance to meet tax obligations.

May Fund payments be used to replace foregone utility fees? If not, can Fund payments be used as a direct subsidy payment to all utility account holders?

Fund payments may not be used for government revenue replacement, including the replacement of unpaid utility fees. Fund payments may be used for subsidy payments to electricity account holders to the extent that the subsidy payments are deemed by the recipient to be necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency and meet the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance. For example, if determined to be a necessary expenditure, a government could provide grants to individuals facing economic hardship to allow them to pay their utility fees and thereby continue to receive essential services.

Could Fund payments be used for capital improvement projects that broadly provide potential economic development in a community?

In general, no. If capital improvement projects are not necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, then Fund payments may not be used for such projects.

However, Fund payments may be used for the expenses of, for example, establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity or improve mitigation measures, including related construction costs.

The Guidance includes workforce bonuses as an example of ineligible expenses but provides that hazard pay would be eligible if otherwise determined to be a necessary expense. Is there a specific definition of "hazard pay"?

Hazard pay means additional pay for performing hazardous duty or work involving physical hardship, in each case that is related to COVID-19.

The Guidance provides that ineligible expenditures include "[p]ayroll or benefits expenses for employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency." Is this intended to relate only to public employees?

Yes. This particular nonexclusive example of an ineligible expenditure relates to public employees. A recipient would not be permitted to pay for payroll or benefit expenses of private employees and any financial assistance (such as grants or short-term loans) to private employers are not subject to the restriction that the private employers' employees must be substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.

May counties pre-pay with CARES Act funds for expenses such as a one or two-year facility lease, such as to house staff hired in response to COVID-19?

A government should not make prepayments on contracts using payments from the Fund to the extent that doing so would not be consistent with its ordinary course policies and procedures.

Must a stay-at-home order or other public health mandate be in effect in order for a government to provide assistance to small businesses using payments from the Fund?

No. The Guidance provides, as an example of an eligible use of payments from the Fund, expenditures related to the provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures. Such assistance may be provided using amounts received from the Fund in the absence of a requirement to close businesses if the relevant government determines that such expenditures are necessary in response to the public health emergency.

Should States receiving a payment transfer funds to local governments that did not receive payments directly from Treasury?

Yes, provided that the transferred funds are used by the local government for eligible expenditures under the statute. To facilitate prompt distribution of Title V funds, the CARES Act authorized Treasury to make direct payments to local governments with populations in excess of 500,000, in amounts equal to 45% of the local government's per capita share of the statewide allocation. This statutory structure was based on a recognition that it is more administratively feasible to rely on States, rather than the federal government, to manage the transfer of funds to smaller local governments. Consistent with the needs of all local governments for funding to address the public health emergency, States should transfer funds to local governments with populations of 500,000 or less, using as a benchmark the per capita allocation formula that governs payments to larger local governments. This approach will ensure equitable treatment among local governments of all sizes.

For example, a State received the minimum \$1.25 billion allocation and had one county with a population over 500,000 that received \$250 million directly. The State should distribute 45 percent of the \$1 billion it received, or \$450 million, to local governments within the State with a population of 500,000 or less.

May a State impose restrictions on transfers of funds to local governments?

Yes, to the extent that the restrictions facilitate the State's compliance with the requirements set forth in section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance and other applicable requirements such as the Single Audit Act, discussed below. Other restrictions are not permissible.

If a recipient must issue tax anticipation notes (TANs) to make up for tax due date deferrals or revenue shortfalls, are the expenses associated with the issuance eligible uses of Fund payments?

If a government determines that the issuance of TANs is necessary due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, the government may expend payments from the Fund on the accrued interest expense on TANs and unbudgeted administrative and transactional costs, such as necessary payments to advisors and underwriters, associated with the issuance of the TANs.

May recipients use Fund payments to expand rural broadband capacity to assist with distance learning and telework?

Such expenditures would only be permissible if they are necessary for the public health emergency. The cost of projects that would not be expected to increase capacity to a significant extent until the need for distance learning and telework have passed due to this public health emergency would not be necessary due to the public health emergency and thus would not be eligible uses of Fund payments.

Are costs associated with increased solid waste capacity an eligible use of payments from the Fund?

Yes, costs to address increase in solid waste as a result of the public health emergency, such as relates to the disposal of used personal protective equipment, would be an eligible expenditure.

May payments from the Fund be used to cover across-the-board hazard pay for employees working during a state of emergency?

No. The Guidance says that funding may be used to meet payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Hazard pay is a form of payroll expense and is subject to this limitation, so Fund payments may only be used to cover hazard pay for such individuals.

May Fund payments be used for expenditures related to the administration of Fund payments by a State, territorial, local, or Tribal government?

Yes, if the administrative expenses represent an increase over previously budgeted amounts and are limited to what is necessary. For example, a State may expend Fund payments on necessary administrative expenses incurred with respect to a new grant program established to disburse amounts received from the Fund.

May recipients use Fund payments to provide loans?

Yes, if the loans otherwise qualify as eligible expenditures under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act as implemented by the Guidance. Any amounts repaid by the borrower before December 30, 2020, must be either returned to Treasury upon receipt by the unit of government providing the loan or used for another expense that qualifies as an eligible expenditure under section 601(d) of the Social Security Act. Any amounts not repaid by the borrower until after December 30, 2020, must be returned to Treasury upon receipt by the unit of government lending the funds.

May Fund payments be used for expenditures necessary to prepare for a future COVID-19 outbreak?

Fund payments may be used only for expenditures necessary to address the current COVID-19 public health emergency. For example, a State may spend Fund payments to create a reserve of personal protective equipment or develop increased intensive care unit capacity to support regions in its jurisdiction not yet affected, but likely to be impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic.

Questions Related to Administration of Fund Payments

Do governments have to return unspent funds to Treasury?

Yes. Section 601(f)(2) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001(a) of the CARES Act, provides for recoupment by the Department of the Treasury of amounts received from the Fund that have not been used in a manner consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act. If a government has not used funds it has received to cover costs that were incurred by December 30, 2020, as required by the statute, those funds must be returned to the Department of the Treasury.

What records must be kept by governments receiving payment?

A government should keep records sufficient to demonstrate that the amount of Fund payments to the government has been used in accordance with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act.

May recipients deposit Fund payments into interest bearing accounts?

Yes, provided that if recipients separately invest amounts received from the Fund, they must use the interest earned or other proceeds of these investments only to cover expenditures incurred in accordance with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act and the Guidance on eligible expenses. If a government deposits Fund payments in a government's general account, it may use those funds to meet immediate cash management needs provided that the full amount of the payment is used to cover necessary expenditures. Fund payments are not subject to the Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990, as amended.

May governments retain assets purchased with payments from the Fund?

Yes, if the purchase of the asset was consistent with the limitations on the eligible use of funds provided by section 601(d) of the Social Security Act.

What rules apply to the proceeds of disposition or sale of assets acquired using payments from the Fund?

If such assets are disposed of prior to December 30, 2020, the proceeds would be subject to the restrictions on the eligible use of payments from the Fund provided by section 601(d) of the Social Security Act.

Are Fund payments to State, territorial, local, and tribal governments considered grants?

No. Fund payments made by Treasury to State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments are not considered to be grants but are "other financial assistance" under 2 C.F.R. § 200.40.

Are Fund payments considered federal financial assistance for purposes of the Single Audit Act?

Yes, Fund payments are considered to be federal financial assistance subject to the Single Audit Act (31 U.S.C. §§ 7501-7507) and the related provisions of the Uniform Guidance, 2 C.F.R. § 200.303 regarding internal controls, §§ 200.330 through 200.332 regarding subrecipient monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit requirements.

Are Fund payments subject to other requirements of the Uniform Guidance?

Fund payments are subject to the following requirements in the Uniform Guidance (2 C.F.R. Part 200): 2 C.F.R. § 200.303 regarding internal controls, 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330 through 200.332 regarding subrecipient monitoring and management, and subpart F regarding audit requirements.

Is there a Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number assigned to the Fund?

Yes. The CFDA number assigned to the Fund is 21.019, pending completion of registration.

If a State transfers Fund payments to its political subdivisions, would the transferred funds count toward the subrecipients' total funding received from the federal government for purposes of the Single Audit Act?

Yes. The Fund payments to subrecipients would count toward the threshold of the Single Audit Act and 2 C.F.R. part 200, subpart F re: audit requirements. Subrecipients are subject to a single audit or program-specific audit pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.501(a) when the subrecipients spend \$750,000 or more in federal awards during their fiscal year.

Are recipients permitted to use payments from the Fund to cover the expenses of an audit conducted under the Single Audit Act?

Yes, such expenses would be eligible expenditures, subject to the limitations set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.425.

If a government has transferred funds to another entity, from which entity would the Treasury Department seek to recoup the funds if they have not been used in a manner consistent with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act?

The Treasury Department would seek to recoup the funds from the government that received the payment directly from the Treasury Department. State, territorial, local, and Tribal governments receiving funds from Treasury should ensure that funds transferred to other entities, whether pursuant to a grant program

or otherwise, are used in accordance with section 601(d) of the Social Security Act as implemented in the Guidance.

**NAVAJO NATION CARES FUND
CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN**



I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan is to allow for the use and expenditure of ninety million dollars (\$90,000,000.00) by Navajo Nation Chapters (both LGA Certified and non-certified) to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensure that Navajo communities have access to the funding necessary to ensure that community members are adequately protected from exposure to COVID-19 and to mitigate the spread of the virus. Any Expenditure Plan funds that are unspent as of December 30, 2020, will revert back to the Navajo Nation CARES Fund.

Allowable expenditures include, but are not limited to: personal protective equipment, (gloves, masks, hand sanitizer, thermometers, anti-bacterial soap, first-aid supplies, employee workplace); essential sanitation items (Clorox, Clorox wipes, Lysol spray, toilet tissue, wipes, diapers, adult pull-ups, feminine hygiene, toothpaste, tooth brush, aloe-vera, lotion, shampoo, soap); essential fuel sources (wood, coal, pellets, propane, gas vouchers-fuel, hand warmers, blankets); essential food items (vitamin C-EmergenC, Vitamin C tablets, water, multi-vitamin for adults and children, Gatorade, V-8, Ensure drinks, Emergency Food Care package, blue corn mush); essential services (Solid Waste Removal, Solid-waste clean-up, porta-johns, support to water haulers, livestock windmills, electric bill assistant); infrastructure projects, infrastructure upgrades, (bathroom additions, plan, design & construction -ADA must be included as needed, bathroom equipment, septic services assistance, cistern tanks, water barrels, work place implementation to meet CDC requirements, utility and water infrastructure, water wells), infrastructure equipment such as backhoe for COVID related deceased matters and other deceased matters for burial/grave digging; emergency essential support (PEP employment-special duty pay, essential pay, bathroom additions construction employee, essential delivery workers, essential workers-heavy equipment operator for road maintenance and burial, Emergency coordinator); emergency hardship assistance for electric, propane, natural gas, and groceries, payment for chapter/senior center utility bills (electric, propane, natural gas), purchase of food, personal protective equipment for elders at senior centers, upgrade at Senior Centers to include safety upgrades per CDC guidelines following ADA guidelines.

The federal CARES Act, Title V, 5001, entitled "Coronavirus Relief Funds" requires these funds be used to 1.) cover costs that are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the COVID-19; 2.) were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved, as of March 27, 2020; and 3.) incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

II. AFFIRMATION OF FUND USE

The Division of Community Development - Administrative Service Department affirms it will use these funds in accordance with the purposes set forth in CMY-44-20 and Title V of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (the “federal CARES Act”) as enacted by the United States Congress and found in Public Law 116-136 (2020).

III. ALLOCATION ASSIGNMENT

The funds are allocated to the Navajo Nation Division of Community Development - Administrative Service Department to be used for projects dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency and interaction with the public.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

The Division of Community Development-Administrative Service Center is responsible for implementing the Expenditure Plan and monitoring the expenditure of these funds.

V. ADMINISTRATOR OF FUNDS

The Department Manager of the Administrative Services Center is responsible for administering the Expenditure Plan and overseeing the allocated funds.

VI. MEANS OF FUNDING

The Expenditure Plan funds shall be released directly to the Division of Community Development-Administrative Service Center once the Expenditure Plan is duly adopted and expedited budgets are implemented. At the request of an LGA Certified Chapter, the Chapter and Division of Community Development may enter a Memorandum of Agreement or sub-recipient agreement under which the funds can be released directly to the LGA Certified Chapter.

VII. ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Title V CARES Act Funds, as appropriated by Congress and received by the Nation, are considered federal financial assistance received by the Navajo Nation for specified uses; and are subject to the restrictions outlined in the Treasury Guidance and as set forth in section 601(d) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act. The CARES Act has a CFDA No. 21.019; therefore, the funding received by the Nation is subject to GASB, Uniform Guidance/Super Circular guidelines and the Single Audit Act and any other applicable rules, regulations and guidance.

VIII. OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The Resources and Development Committee (RDC) and Budget and Finance Committee (BFC) shall share oversight as RDC has oversight over chapters and BFC has oversight over externally restricted funding.

IX. AFFIRMATION OF ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Division of Community Development – Administrative Service Center and Chapters receiving funding affirms it will administer, manage, and implement the funds allocated to it in this expenditure plan consistent the federal CARES Act, the Treasury Guidance, as well as other applicable laws and regulations of the Navajo Nation.



A	B	C
BUS. UNITS	AGENCY/CHAPTERS	CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN
50/50		
	EASTERN AGENCY (31)	
108028	Alamo Chapter	815,233
108029	Baca-Prewitt Chapter	892,829
108030	Becenti Chapter	674,899
108031	Baahaali Chapter	743,415
108033	Casamero Lake Chapter	626,608
108034	Chichiltah Chapter	967,536
108035	Churchrock Chapter	1,126,855
108036	Counselor Chapter	619,178
108037	Crownpoint Chapter	830,504
108038	Huerfano Chapter	992,713
108039	Iyanbito Chapter	697,600
108040	Lake Valley Chapter	565,109
108041	Littlewater Chapter	667,057
108042	Manuelito Chapter	690,996
108043	Mariano Lake Chapter	707,919
108044	Nageezi Chapter	791,293
108045	Nahodishgish Chapter	591,112
108046	Ojo Encino Chapter	633,625
108047	Pinedale Chapter	833,806
108048	Pueblo Pintado Chapter	585,748
108049	Ramah Chapter	879,208
108050	Red Rock Chapter	1,022,844
108051	Rock Springs Chapter	907,688
108052	Smith Lake Chapter	641,054
108053	Standing Rock Chapter	656,326
108032	To'hajiilee Chapter	784,689
108054	Thoreau Chapter	894,067
108055	Torreon Chapter	794,595
108056	Tsayatoh Chapter	746,304
108057	Whitehorse Lake Chapter	621,655
108058	Whiterock Chapter	534,154
SUBTOTAL		23,536,619

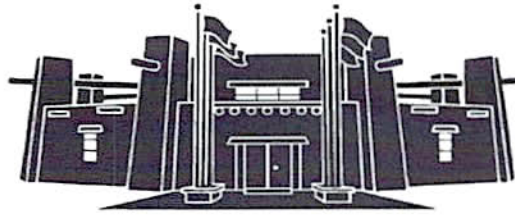
NAVAJO NATION 110
CHAPTERS - COVID 19

A	B	C
BUS. UNITS	AGENCY/CHAPTERS	CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN
50/50		
	FT DEFIANCE AGENCY (27)	
108059	Cornfields Chapter	740,526
108060	Coyote Canyon Chapter	812,343
108061	Crystal Chapter	703,791
108062	Dilkon Chapter	843,299
108063	Ft. Defiance Chapter	1,484,706
108064	Ganado Chapter	896,131
108065	Houck Chapter	845,363
108066	Indian Wells Chapter	757,448
108067	Jeddito Chapter	712,046
108068	Kinlichee Chapter	908,926
108069	Klagetoh Chapter	739,700
108070	Low Mountain Chapter	700,902
108071	Greasewood Springs Chapter	759,512
108072	Lupton Chapter	672,423
108073	Mexican Spring Chapter	733,096
108074	Naschitti Chapter	848,665
108085	Nahata Dzil Chapter	776,847
108075	Oak Springs Chapter	657,564
108076	Red Lake Chapter	655,087
108077	Sawmill Chapter	768,592
108078	St. Michaels Chapter	1,276,269
108079	Steamboat Chapter	811,105
108080	Teesto Chapter	726,905
108081	Tohatchi Chapter	866,000
108082	Twin Lakes Chapter	953,502
108083	Whitecone Chapter	695,536
108084	Wide Ruins Chapter	719,476
	SUBTOTAL	22,065,760

A	B	C
BUS. UNITS	AGENCY/CHAPTERS	CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN
50/50		
	SHIPROCK AGENCY (20)	
108086	Aneth Chapter	989,824
108087	Beclabito Chapter	631,561
108088	Burnham Chapter	609,685
108089	Cove Chapter	609,273
108090	Gadii'ahi Chapter	624,957
108092	Hogback Chapter	892,829
108093	Mexican Water Chapter	643,118
108094	Nenahnezad Chapter	915,117
108095	Newcomb Chapter	640,641
108096	Red Mesa Chapter	873,017
108097	Red Valley Chapter	780,149
108098	Rock Point Chapter	883,336
108100	Sanostee Chapter	971,250
108099	San Juan Chapter	643,530
108101	Sheepsprings Chapter	650,134
108102	Shiprock Chapter	2,342,801
108103	Sweetwater Chapter	743,415
108104	Tecnospos Chapter	812,343
108105	Two Grey Hills Chapter	721,539
108091	Upper Fruitland Chapter	1,154,509
	SUBTOTAL	17,133,028

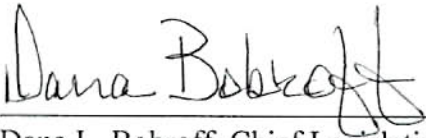
NAVAJO NATION 110
CHAPTERS - COVID 19

A	B	C
BUS. UNITS	AGENCY/CHAPTERS	CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION EXPENDITURE PLAN
50/50		
	WESTERN AGENCY (18)	
108106	Birdsprings Chapter	647,658
108107	Bodaway-Gap Chapter	821,011
108108	Cameron Chapter	735,160
108109	Chilchinbeto Chapter	718,237
108110	Coalmine Mesa Chapter	685,218
108111	Coppermine Chapter	710,395
108112	Dennehotso Chapter	854,031
108113	Inscription House Chapter	688,520
108114	Kaibeto Chapter	843,299
108115	Kayenta Chapter	1,310,940
108116	LeChee Chapter	770,656
108117	Leupp Chapter	868,477
108118	Navajo Mountain Chapter	649,722
108119	Oljato Chapter	968,774
108121	Shonto Chapter	892,829
108122	Tolani Lake Chapter	605,971
108120	Tonalea/Red Lake Chapter	938,643
108123	To'nanees'dizi Chapter	1,672,918
	SUBTOTAL	15,382,459
	CHINLE AGENCY (14)	
108014	Black Mesa Chapter	603,081
108015	Chinle Chapter	1,814,490
108016	Forest Lake Chapter	601,018
108017	Hardrock Chapter	688,932
108018	Lukachukai Chapter	835,457
108019	Many Farms Chapter	915,942
108020	Nazlini Chapter	740,526
108021	Pinon Chapter	1,020,780
108023	Rough Rock Chapter	694,298
108022	Round Rock Chapter	725,667
108024	Tachee/Blue Gap Chapter	737,636
108025	Tsaile/Wheatfields Chapter	908,926
108026	Tselani/Cottonwood Chapter	872,191
108027	Whippoorwill Chapter	723,190
	SUBTOTAL	11,882,134
	GRAND TOTAL	90,000,000



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Delegate Mark Freeland
24th Navajo Nation Council

FROM: 
Dana L. Bobroff, Chief Legislative Counsel
Office of Legislative Counsel

DATE: August 19, 2020

SUBJECT: **AN ACTION RELATING TO RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT,
BUDGET AND FINANCE, AND NAABIK'ÍYÁTI' COMMITTEES, AND
THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL; APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE
NAVAJO NATION CARES FUND CHAPTER DISTRIBUTION
EXPENDITURE PLAN**

I have prepared the above-referenced proposed resolution and associated legislative summary sheet pursuant to your request for legislative drafting. Based on existing law and review of documents submitted, the resolution as drafted is legally sufficient. As with any action of government however, it can be subject to review by the courts in the event of proper challenge.

The Office of Legislative Counsel confirms the appropriate standing committee(s) based on the standing committees powers outlined in 2 N.N.C. §§301, 401, 501, 601 and 701. Nevertheless, "the Speaker of the Navajo Nation Council shall introduce [the proposed resolution] into the legislative process by assigning it to the respective oversight committee(s) of the Navajo Nation Council having authority over the matters for proper consideration." 2 N.N.C. §164(A)(5).

Please ensure that his particular resolution request is precisely what you want. You are encouraged to review the proposed resolution to ensure that it is drafted to your satisfaction.

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW PUBLICATION



LEGISLATION NO: _0197-20_

SPONSOR: Mark Freeland

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and Navajo Nation Council; Approving and Adopting the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan

Date posted: August 19, 2020 at 8:36PM

Digital comments may be e-mailed to comments@navajo-nsn.gov

Written comments may be mailed to:

Executive Director
Office of Legislative Services
P.O. Box 3390
Window Rock, AZ 86515
(928) 871-7586

Comments may be made in the form of chapter resolutions, letters, position papers, etc. Please include your name, position title, address for written comments; a valid e-mail address is required. Anonymous comments will not be included in the Legislation packet.

Please note: This digital copy is being provided for the benefit of the Navajo Nation chapters and public use. Any political use is prohibited. All written comments received become the property of the Navajo Nation and will be forwarded to the assigned Navajo Nation Council standing committee(s) and/or the Navajo Nation Council for review. Any tampering with public records are punishable by Navajo Nation law pursuant to 17 N.N.C. §374 *et. seq.*

THE NAVAJO NATION
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
INTERNET PUBLIC REVIEW SUMMARY

LEGISLATION NO.: 0197-20

SPONSOR: Honorable Mark A. Freeland

TITLE: An Action Relating to Resources and Development, Budget and Finance, and Naabik'iyáti' Committees, and Navajo Nation Council; Approving and Adopting the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan

Posted: August 19, 2020 at 8:36 PM

5 DAY Comment Period Ended: August 24, 2020

Digital Comments received:

Comments Supporting	1) Rita Capitan, Crownpoint Chapter 2) Low Mountain Chapter 3) Yvonne Murphy, Tse Si Ani Chapter 4) Martha Saggboy, Mexican Water Chapter 5) White Rock Local Government 6) Charles Long, Becenti Chapter 7) Iyanbito Chapter
Comments Opposing	<i>None</i>
Inconclusive Comments	<i>None</i>



Legislative Tracking Secretary
Office of Legislative Services

08/25/20 8:27 AM

Date/Time

Legislation - 0197-20

Rita Capitan <rmcapitan@hotmail.com>

Thu 8/20/2020 1:02 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

I am absolutely in favor of this Legislation. This legislation covers just about everything, every item that is essential for our chapter and community needs. In this pandemic time, this \$90 Million will help our grassroots people who are always left to take the "crumbs" of everything.

This plan is for all 110 Chapters. It will be shared according to membership. It is FAIR and reasonable. The plan to expend the Care Act Money will most likely be spent before December 30, 2020. At least this way, NN could say, "The CA Funds was distributed at the Hogan level".

Rita Capitan, Crownpoint Chapter President

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Legislation 0197-20 Care Act Fund

Low Mountain Chapter <lowmountain@navajochapters.org>

Thu 8/20/2020 1:57 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

Low Mountain Chapter strongly supports Legislation 0197-20 Cares Act Fund. Some chapters have depleted their Emergency Funds; where some of us are in dire need of these funds to help us get through the second wave of the virus. So, please help us support this legislation 0197-20 for approval.

--

Low Mountain Chapter
The Navajo Nation
P.O. Box #4416
Blue Gap, Arizona 86520
Phone: 928-725-3700
Fax: 928-725-3703
Email: lowmountain@navajochapters.org
Websites: <http://lowmountain.nndes.org>

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Legislation 0197-20

Y Murphy <pintosprings96@gmail.com>

Thu 8/20/2020 6:25 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This legislation is very important for all NN Chapters. The people are the grassroots and chapters represent them. It is critical for chapters to receive CARES Act funds to address the needs at the local level. CARES Act funds will enable chapters to prepare for the upcoming winter and to provide essential and critical services for its community members during this pandemic. I respectfully request all delegates and the OPVP to support this legislation. Thank you, Tse Si Ani Chapter President Yvonne Murphy

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Legislation 0197-20

Mexican Water Chapter <mexicanwater@navajochapters.org>

Mon 8/24/2020 12:06 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This is Martha Saggboy, Chapter Manager for Mexican Water Chapter. The Mexican Water Chapter elected official and its membership opposed that 50/50 formula distribution because the amount is not enough to meet the needs of our community. We respectfully request the 24th Navajo Nation Council, Resources Development Committee, Budget & Finance Committee and the Naabik'iyati' Committee to appropriate \$2.7M per chapter directly disbursed to them so that they will be able to expend the funds. The 23rd NNC appropriated Sihasin funding for the projects four (4) years ago and is still unspent. We need these funds to benefit the community people.

Mexican Water Chapter deems the proposed \$90 million allocation to chapters is an arbitrary amount insufficient to cover costs necessary for expenditures due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19 at the chapter community level

Mexican Water Chapter seeks COVID-19 relief and response funds to help address the needs of the Navajo People and the local Chapter community who have suffered from unimaginable loss as a result of this pandemic

Mexican Water Chapter seeks COVID-19 relief and response to address occupational needs, building materials, payroll expense, emergency response teams, outreach/education/ messaging, community relief, and community infrastructure, within the guidelines and recommendations of OSHA and CDC, as well as in accordance with the Mexican Water Chapter fiscal accounting system

Our community has over eighty (80) homes without water, all homes are plumbed and ready for water line construction, We have homes that are already house wired, just needing poles for meter loop installation and construction to connect the homes, We have been working on Broadband Project to serve seven (7) Utah chapters for \$2.0M that was engineered about six (6) years ago. We need sanitizing equipment (\$25,000) readily available to our community people homes, We need to renovate homes for our elderly population, most vulnerable members, we need to build homes for those that do not have a home.

Your understanding and support to amend the \$90M and to equally distribute & appropriate \$2.7M per chapter will be greatly appreciated.

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White Rock Local Government
P.O. Box 660
Crownpoint, New Mexico 87313
Phone: (505) 786-2444 Fax: (505) 786-2447
E-mail: whiterock@navajochapters.org

Jonathan Nez, President

Myron Lizer, Vice President
WRLGSM-020-041

RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE ROCK LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Supporting the 24th Navajo Nation Council to Approve and Adopt the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan (Legislation No. 0197-20)

WHEREAS:

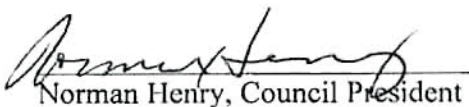
1. White Rock Local Government is a duly recognized and Governance Certified Chapter through Local Governance Certification and of the Five Management System Policies and Procedures, pursuant to the Local Governance, Title 26, N.N.C. Section 102 (B); and
2. White Rock Local Government is vested with the authority and responsibility to promote, to receive, act upon and protect the interest of the general welfare of it's constituents and interact with other entities of the Navajo Nation and other local agencies for appropriate actions; and
3. White Rock Local Government has closed its doors to the community as of March 2020, our Chapter has been providing limited services with limited staff causing financial and social hardship; and
4. White Rock Local Government can benefit from the CARES funds to replenish our chapter accounts and we have several unmet cost for our projects.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. White Rock Local Government respectfully supports the 24th Navajo Nation Council to Approve and Adopt the Navajo Nation CARES Funds Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan (Legislation No. 0197-20) to benefit communities at the chapter level.

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered at a duly called special meeting at White Rock Chapter, Navajo Nation, New Mexico at which a quorum was present, motion by Gilbert Rogers, second by Corraine Lee, and that same was passed by a vote of 2 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstained on this 24th day of August 2020.


Norman Henry, Council President

Norman Henry, Council President
Gilbert Rogers, Council Vice-President
Corraine Lee, Council Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Freeland, Council Delegate

Tabitha Harrison, Chapter Manager
Tina Pablo, Administrative Assistant
Irwin Jim, Land Board

Legislation 197-20

Charles Long <chase4long@yahoo.com>

Mon 8/24/2020 3:11 PM

To: comments <comments@navajo-nsn.gov>;

This is Charles Long from Becenti Navajo Chapter and I support this measure. The only concern I have is the 50/50 formula should not be used for distribution of the Cares Act funds. We are in a pandemic and each chapter should receive equal amounts.

Sent from my iPhone

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THE NAVAJO NATION • IYANBITO CHAPTER

Post Office Box 498 • Fort Wingate, New Mexico 87316
office 505-905-5650 • fax 505-905-6115

August 24, 2020

Legislation No. 0197-20:

Approving and adopting the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan

Allocating \$90m to Navajo Chapters for COVID-19 Relief, Response, and Mitigation Efforts

Submitted by:

Iyanbito Chapter

Steven Arviso, President

Ricky Smith, Vice President

Wanda Arviso, Secretary/Treasurer

P.O. Box 498 • Fort Wingate, NM 87316 • iyanbito@navajochapters.org

With an amendment, the Iyanbito Chapter wholeheartedly supports the approval and adoption to the Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Expenditure Plan allocating \$90 million among 110 Navajo Chapters via **Legislation 0197-20**.

We strongly voice and humbly submit the following amendment to the Legislation:

The Navajo Nation CARES Fund Chapter Distribution Fund be directly allocated and deposited into the bank accounts of Navajo Chapters who have demonstrated, in the previous 12 months, the financial/bookkeeping capacity to manage its MIP accounting system and financial obligations - the knowledge, and skills needed to make and exercise financial management decisions that best fit the circumstances of their Chapter community and providing necessary governmental services, while adhering to established fiscal policies and procedures.

Navajo Chapters who have demonstrated the capability to manage public funds, make prudent decision-making, and exhibit fiscal responsibility must be afforded the right to receive these funds directly based upon their respective expenditure plans.

A relief package for Navajo Chapters must include substantial, specific relief to meet the unique needs of each local Navajo Chapter Community and the People it serves. Navajo Chapters seek relief and response funds to help address the needs of our Navajo People and our local Chapter community who have suffered from unimaginable loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This Legislation provides much needed funds to our local Navajo communities.

We urge the Navajo Nation Council to vote affirmative for the approval of allocating \$90 million among the 110 Navajo Chapters. Subsequently, we urge the Navajo Nation President to approve the legislation without vetoing any part. The passage and approval of this legislation will undoubtedly provide certainty to our Navajo Chapters and our Navajo People during this unprecedented time.

Thank you for allowing to comment and heeding our voice. *Ahéhee Nitsaago.*