

American Rescue Plan Act

Finance and Personnel Committee

May 26, 2021

Uses of Funding

- ▶ **Support public health expenditures**, by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff;
- ▶ **Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency**, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector;
- ▶ **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
- ▶ **Provide premium pay for essential workers**, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and,
- ▶ **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure**, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet.

Services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including

- ▶ Vaccination programs
- ▶ Medical expenses
- ▶ Testing
- ▶ Contact tracing
- ▶ Isolation or quarantine
- ▶ PPE purchases
- ▶ Support for vulnerable populations to access medical or public health services
- ▶ Public health surveillance (e.g., monitoring for variants)
- ▶ Enforcement of public health orders
- ▶ Public communication efforts

Services and programs to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19, including (Cont.)

- ▶ Enhancement of healthcare capacity, including alternative care facilities
- ▶ Support for prevention, mitigation, or other services in congregate living facilities and schools
- ▶ Enhancement of public health data systems
- ▶ Capital investments in public facilities to meet pandemic operational needs
- ▶ Ventilation improvements in key settings like healthcare facilities

Services to address behavioral healthcare needs exacerbated by the pandemic, including:

- ▶ Mental health treatment
- ▶ Substance misuse treatment
- ▶ Other behavioral health services
- ▶ Hotlines or warmlines
- ▶ Crisis intervention
- ▶ Services or outreach to promote access to health and social services

Addressing the negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency

- ▶ **Delivering assistance to workers and families**, aid to unemployed workers and job training, including aid to households facing food, housing, or other financial insecurity.
- ▶ **Supporting small businesses**, helping them to address financial challenges caused by the pandemic and to make investments in COVID-19 prevention and mitigation tactics, and to provide technical assistance.
- ▶ **Speeding the recovery of the tourism, travel, and hospitality sectors**, supporting industries that were particularly hard-hit by the COVID-19 emergency and are just now beginning to mend.
- ▶ **Rebuilding public sector capacity**, by rehiring public sector staff and replenishing unemployment insurance (UI) trust funds, in each case up to pre-pandemic levels. Recipients may also use this funding to build their internal capacity to successfully implement economic relief programs, with investments in data analysis, targeted outreach, technology infrastructure, and impact evaluations.

Serving the hardest-hit communities and families

- ▶ **Addressing health disparities and the social determinants of health**, through funding for community health workers, public benefits navigators, remediation of lead hazards, and community violence intervention programs;
- ▶ **Investments in housing and neighborhoods**, such as services to address individuals experiencing homelessness, affordable housing development, housing vouchers, and residential counseling and housing navigation assistance to facilitate moves to neighborhoods with high economic opportunity;
- ▶ **Addressing educational disparities** through new or expanded early learning services, providing additional resources to high-poverty school districts, and offering educational services like tutoring or afterschool programs as well as services to address social, emotional, and mental health needs; and,
- ▶ **Promoting healthy childhood environments**, including new or expanded high quality childcare, home visiting programs for families with young children, and enhanced services for child welfare-involved families and foster youth.

Replacing lost public sector revenue

- ▶ Avoid cuts to government services
- ▶ Recipients will have broad latitude to use this funding to support government services
- ▶ Ineligible - Debt service and placing in a rainy day fund or reserve fund

Providing premium pay for essential workers

- ▶ Staff at nursing homes, hospitals, and home-care settings
- ▶ Workers at **farms**, food production facilities, grocery stores, and restaurants
- ▶ Janitors and sanitation workers
- ▶ Public health and safety staff
- ▶ Truck drivers, transit staff, and warehouse workers
- ▶ Childcare workers, educators, and school staff
- ▶ Social service and human services staff

Infrastructure Investment

- ▶ Investing in water and sewer infrastructure
- ▶ Investing in broadband infrastructure