



What's in the House's \$1.9 trillion coronavirus plan

The House is voting on Friday Feb 26, 2021 on the American Rescue Plan, marking a crucial step towards the White House's first major piece of legislation.

The House on Friday plans to vote on a \$1.9 trillion stimulus package, marking a crucial step toward passage of the White House's first major piece of legislation.

President Biden [unveiled](#) his proposal, the American Rescue Plan, last month, with hundreds of billions of dollars going to vaccination programs, expanded unemployment insurance, \$1,400 stimulus checks, state and local governments, school re-openings and more.

The bill, modeled after President Biden's American Rescue Plan, includes nearly all IATSE's priorities for subsequent COVID-19 relief legislation:

- Increases the federal weekly unemployment supplement to \$400 and extends the COVID-19 unemployment programs (Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation, and Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation) through the end of August
- Provides an 85% subsidy of COBRA premiums through the end of September, so that members who have not yet returned to work can remain on multiemployer health plans (we continue to advocate that the Senate increase the subsidy level to 100%)
- Makes 501(c)(5) labor unions eligible for Paycheck Protection Program forgivable loans so that local unions can continue to provide important support and assistance to their members, despite significant COVID-19-related declines in revenues
- Allows multiemployer pension plans to freeze zone status and smooth losses, protecting our healthy plans; delivers long-needed support to troubled pension plans and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, without jeopardizing healthy plans
- Provides direct payments of \$1,400; payments phase out for individuals making more than \$75,000 and couples \$150,000, with a complete phase out at \$100,000 for individuals and \$200,000 for couples; eligibility based on 2019 or 2020 tax returns
- Appropriates \$135 million in emergency supplemental funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and an additional \$1.25 billion for the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program (Save Our Stages)

If approved in the House, the bill will head to the Senate. Democratic leaders have said they hope to get a final version to Biden's desk by mid-March, when expanded unemployment benefits expire for millions of Americans.

Once approved in the House- reach out to your Senators to make sure that they vote to Support this "Rescue Plan". Or email Senator Feinstein at senator@feinstein.senate.gov or Senator Padilla at his contact us link on his website... <https://www.padilla.senate.gov/>

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