



DAILY COVID-19 UPDATE

October 30, 2020

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY

Today, Reps. Brady (R-TX), McCarthy (R-CA), Hudson (R-NC), Walden (R-OR), and Granger (R-TX) **unveiled** H.R. 14, the *Commitment to Defeat the Virus and Keep America Healthy Act*.

The **legislation** is comprised of numerous bipartisan proposals to address pandemic preparedness and response, domestic manufacturing and supply, strategic national stockpile improvements, public health infrastructure improvements, addressing COVID-19 health disparities, addressing the impact of COVID-19 on mental health and substance use disorder, tax incentives to improve healthcare, Medicare provisions, and appropriations.

Several lawmakers including Senate Republican Whip Thune (R-SD) and co-chair of the House Problem Solvers Caucus Rep. Gottheimer (D-NJ) have expressed optimism that a coronavirus relief package **could come together** during a lame-duck

LATEST STATISTICS

There are a total of **45,360,632** confirmed cases worldwide, 1,185,053 deaths and 30,389,814 people have recovered.

There are **9,007,298** confirmed cases of the coronavirus in the U.S., 229,293 deaths and 3,554,336 people have recovered.

The U.S. recorded at least 90,000 new coronavirus cases yesterday, a record-high daily total and equivalent to more than one case per second, as cases rise in 42 states.

session. However, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) stated today a targeted relief package aimed at small businesses, schools, and hospitals "will be something we'll need to do right at the beginning of the year." He added additional relief would be "certainly more modest" than a multi-trillion dollar package.

Additionally, Speaker Pelosi (D-CA) noted yesterday that she believes there is a realistic chance of a COVID-19 bill because "the president has said we would have an agreement after the election." However, some Democratic lawmakers have expressed concern that Leader McConnell will be unwilling to compromise if President Trump loses the election and/or Republicans lose the Senate.

Since our last update, the Federal Reserve published additional guidance related to the coronavirus pandemic. Please see below for more details.

LATEST PMJ RESOURCES

[Drug Shortage and Medical Supply Chain Tracker](#)

[Coronavirus State Reopening Tracker](#)

[President Trump EO Tracker](#)

[COVID-19 Legislative Outlook](#)

[State Responses to EO on Unemployment Insurance](#)

[Healthcare Chart on COVID Legislation](#)

[Liability Reform State of Play](#)

[CARES Act State Funding](#)

[State and Local Funding Bills](#)

[COVID Legislative Tracker](#)

[Global COVID-19 Export Controls](#)

[Memo - Federal Reserve COVID-19 Announcements](#)

[Federal Reserve Lending Facilities Deck](#)

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Rep. Ayanna Pressley (D-MA), member of the House Financial Services Committee, and Congressional Oversight Commissioner Bharat Ramamurti [sent a letter](#) to Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin calling on the agencies to ensure the CARES Act programs "equitably serve people of color and women."

Administration

FEDERAL RESERVE ("FED")

- The Federal Reserve Board [adjusted the terms](#) of the Main Street Lending Program (MSLP) to better target support to smaller businesses that employ millions of workers and are facing continued revenue shortfalls due to the pandemic.

Articles of Interest

- 10/30 Politico published an article titled, [“Pressley urges Fed, Treasury to ensure racial equity in emergency lending.”](#)
- 10/30 The Wall Street Journal published an article titled, [“Fed Again Eases Terms for Main Street Lending Program.”](#)
- 10/29 The Washington Post published an article titled, [“Pelosi and Mnuchin, once Washington’s Odd Couple, publicly disavow economic relief talks – and each other.”](#)
- 10/29 Politico published an article titled, [“Jobless Americans face debt crunch without more federal aid as bills come due.”](#)

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

Congressional

HOUSE

- Reps. Brady (R-TX), McCarthy (R-CA), Hudson (R-NC), Walden (R-OR), and Granger (R-TX) [introduced](#) H.R. 14, the *Commitment to Defeat the Virus and Keep America Healthy Act*.
- Speaker Pelosi's (D-CA) office released a [transcript](#) of her remarks on the coronavirus at her weekly press conference.

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

- Responding to public health threats posed by the coronavirus pandemic, HHS' Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT (ONC) [released](#) an interim final rule with comment period that extends the compliance dates and timeframes necessary to meet certain requirements related to information blocking and Conditions and Maintenance of Certification (CoC/MoC) requirements.

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION

- FDA Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn issued a [statement](#) noting that as required by a recent [executive order](#), the FDA has published a [list](#) of essential medicines, medical countermeasures and critical inputs that are medically necessary to have available at all times in an amount adequate to serve patient needs and in the appropriate dosage forms.

Articles of Interest

- 10/28 USA Today published an article titled, [“‘There's no way to sugarcoat it': COVID-19 cases are surging; one American dies every 107 seconds.”](#)
- 10/29 The Atlantic published an article titled, [“The Pandemic Is in Uncharted Territory.”](#)

- 10/29 The Hill published an article titled, [“Winter COVID-19 wave poses threat to nation's hospitals.”](#)
 - 10/29 The Washington Post published an article titled, [“States say they lack federal funds to distribute coronavirus vaccine as CDC tells them to be ready by Nov. 15.”](#)
 - 10/30 NPR published an article titled, [“Internal Documents Reveal COVID-19 Hospitalization Data The Government Keeps Hidden.”](#)
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LABOR UPDATE

Administration

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- Since the start of the coronavirus pandemic through Oct. 22, 2020, DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has [cited](#) 144 establishments for violations relating to coronavirus, resulting in proposed penalties totaling \$2,025,431.
- U.S. Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia issued a [statement](#) regarding the economic data released yesterday.