

Subject: REDC Policy Update 3.26.2020: SERVE Act, COVID-19 Telehealth, and Small Business/Nonprofit Loans and Safety Net

Good Afternoon REDC Members,

I hope you have all been hanging in there, as I know this has been quite a crazy few weeks for all of you! Given last night's package of the COVID-19 stimulus relief package in the Senate (and expected House vote tomorrow morning), I wanted to provide everyone with the weekly update a day early to help you all with your everyday work and strategic planning!

Really Quick:

- Attached you will first find a summary of the provisions I list below (doc labeled "COVID Relief Package Summary Key Provisions"), and the final passed legislation (doc labeled "CARES Act Final Text") for any of your wonky-Members who want to dig into 883 pages of fun!
- **SERVE Act**
 - The House and Senate is still working on the NDAA, and as of yesterday, we are told they are still working towards their late April/May timeline in the House and May timeline in the Senate.
 - With all NDAA committee submissions completed, we restarted our co-sponsorship meetings- having meetings this past two weeks with four House offices. [Staffers working on Military Issues are very available right now to say the least]
 - **SERVE Act Briefing:**
 - **We ask that all REDC Members share/tune-in to the Virtual Congressional Briefing next Thursday at 2PM EST**
 - The invite is attached, and you can RSVP by clicking here: <https://forms.gle/6sxsCcTymYVsnNtUA>
- **Telehealth**
 - Thank you to the REDC's feedback to alert us of the concerns of commercial telehealth coverage at all levels of care (including intermediate levels), and at parity with physical office visits! This allowed us to work quickly with Congress and partner mental health organizations to push pressure on state Governors and State Insurance Commissioners.
 - We were able to secure an official Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) letter with over 50 national organizations including American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, NAMI, MHA, etc. requesting Governors, State Insurance Commissioners, The National Association of Insurance Commissioners and Congressional leadership to make sure telebehavioral health is covered for all levels of care, and at a parity with physical visits.

- **Attached you will find:**
 - The letter to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners
 - Congressional Leadership
 - Zip file of all the individual state letters to each Governor and State Insurance Commissioner
 - On the individual state side, we have already received responses and had conversations with nine states, and are actively compiling all responses from states.
 - We will provide members with additional information next week in addition to a contact list if centers are interested in submitting their own letters
 - ***Senate (House negotiated) Passed Telehealth Provisions include in the final COVID-19 Package:***
 - Federally qualified and rural health clinics could also treat patients in their homes using telehealth during the coronavirus emergency.
 - Temporarily allows Medicare patients to virtually consult with doctors even if they don't have a pre-existing relationship. The bill also removes a clause from a previous supplemental bill that limited Medicare payments for telehealth just to doctors who had existing relationships with patients.
 - Allows a hospice physician or nurse practitioner may conduct a face-to-face encounter via telehealth during the emergency period.
 - Allows coverage for telehealth services for at-home dialysis.
 - \$200 million for the Administration to boost Skype-style health check-ups by investing in services and devices that help health care providers connect remotely with patients. This will benefit rural health care programs run by the federal government.
- **Small Business/Nonprofits Under 500 Employees Economic Assistance/Loans (See More Information in Attached Chart)**
 - Provides an authorization level of \$349 billion and increases the government guarantee of loans made for the Payment Protection Program under the Small Business Act to 100% through December 31, 2020.
 - Defines eligibility for loans as a small business, 501(c)(3) nonprofit, a 501(c)(19) veteran's organization, or Tribal business with not more than 500 employees.
 - Allowable uses of the loan include payroll support, employee salaries, paid sick/medical leave, insurance premiums, mortgage, rent and utility payments.

- Eligible borrowers are expected to make a good faith certification the loan is necessary due to the uncertainty of the current economic landscape caused by COVID-19 and will use the funds to retain workers.
- Allow businesses with more than one physical location that employs no more than 500 employees per physical location to be eligible and is below a gross annual receipts threshold in certain industries to be eligible.
- Defines the covered loan period as beginning on February 15, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2020.
- Establishes the maximum loan amount to \$10 million through December 31, 2020 and provides a formula by which the loan amount is tied to payroll costs incurred by the business to determine the size of the loan.
 - Sets a maximum interest rate of 4%.
 - Allows for complete deferment on loan payments for at least 6 months and not more than one year.
- Streamlines the eligibility determination allowing lender to make decisions of creditworthiness without going through all of SBA's channels.
 - Eligibility will not be determined by ability to repay, but whether a business was operational on February 15, 2020 and had employees for whom it paid salaries and payroll taxes or paid an independent contractor.
- Waives both borrower and lender fees for participation in the Paycheck Protection Program.

Please let us know if there is anything we can help with in the meantime!

Best,

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