

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–2201

March 23, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

As Congress considers additional emergency supplementals to respond to the coronavirus pandemic, we ask that we prioritize direct support for those that need it most: working class Americans, particularly the millions of families living paycheck to paycheck.

Approximately 40 percent of Americans wouldn't be able to cover a \$400 emergency with cash, savings or a credit-card charge that they could quickly pay off. These families are in the most need of help in these times of need. We are hearing from constituents every day who are afraid that they cannot pay their bills, put food on the table or afford their prescriptions.

To help families get through this crisis, we believe that we must immediately act to provide direct cash assistance or unemployment insurance payments to Americans. Because of the urgency of this crisis, every day we wait to act could mean families are in a worse-off position.

In reviewing the most-recent emergency aid proposal unveiled by Republicans in the U.S. Senate, I am concerned that many workers, including low-income and non-tax filers, are treated differently than others. The legislation would provide checks of \$1,200 per adult for many families, as well as \$500 for every child in those families. But the poorest families, those with no federal income tax liability, would see smaller benefits.

Direct cash assistance and increased unemployment insurance payments for low-income workers living paycheck to paycheck would have an immediate impact on our economy. Any assistance we get into the hands of these workers now will be directly spent, creating much-needed stimulus for our economy. Our focus should be getting, at a minimum, the same aid to families in a time of need and not treating low-income families differently than other families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Daniel T. Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Ted Deutch
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Terri A. Sewell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Marcia L. Fudge
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mike Doyle
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Kathy Castor
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Adriano Espaillat
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Alan Lowenthal
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

John B. Larson
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Joe Neguse
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Tony Cardenas
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jan Schakowsky
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Andy Levin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Grace F. Napolitano
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Steve Cohen
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

John Yarmuth
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jason Crow
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

John Yarmuth
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Elanore Holmes Norton
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jesús G. “Chuy” García
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mark Takano
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Mark Pocan
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Darren Soto
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Danny K. Davis
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Juan Vargas
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jamie Raskin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Joe Neguse
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Steven Horsford
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Raul M. Grijalva
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Dwight Evans
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Brendan F. Boyle
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Elissa Slotkin
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Sharice L. Davids
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Jerry McNerney
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Judy Chu
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Brenda Lawrence
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Joseph P. Kennedy III
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Marc Veasey
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Debbie Dingell
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Andre Carson
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Nanette Diaz Barragan
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Nydai M. Velasquez
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Linda Sanchez
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Steven Lynch
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Earl Blumenauer
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Susan Wild
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Brian Higgins
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Gerald E. Connolly
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Diana DeGette
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Tusli Gabbard
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Suzanne Bonamici
MEMBER OF CONGRESS