



Stimulus Package #4

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, Congress must take steps to ensure that cancer patients and survivors experience continuity of care. In addition to the real risks associated with COVID-19 for all people, those impacted by cancer may be at heightened risk due to their compromised immune systems as well as the potential delays in treatment and care. Many of these patients rely on a strong safety net to ensure access to affordable and comprehensive cancer care. The need to reinforce and even build upon that safety net has never been more urgent. Additionally, Congress must act to bolster the nonprofit and charitable giving sectors while ensuring the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Cancer Institute (NCI) can continue their lifesaving research.

EXPAND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE DURING THE PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for adequate, affordable, and accessible health insurance coverage for all people, including cancer patients. As research shows, access to comprehensive health insurance means access to timely, medically necessary health care. We are requesting that Congress:

- 1) **increase federal funding to help state Medicaid programs address the COVID crisis;**
- 2) **create a special enrollment period so people can enroll in coverage via [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov); and**
- 3) **implement federal subsidies for premiums if people who lose their jobs need to access COBRA coverage.**

MAKE NONPROFITS WITH MORE THAN 500 EMPLOYEES ELIGIBLE FOR FORGIVABLE LOANS

Nonprofits with 500 or more employees are nearly completely shut out of the two most important sources of COVID-19 financial support: the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and the Federal Reserve Main Street Lending Program (MSLP). The recently proposed “nonprofit” MSLP contains numerous financial restrictions and, unlike the PPP, does not make loans to nonprofits forgivable.

We are requesting that Congress remove the 500 employee cap for nonprofit participation in the PPP and expand the limited eligibility parameters of the MSLP adopted by the Federal Reserve and make those loans for nonprofits forgivable.

EXPAND CHARITABLE GIVING TAX PROVISIONS

It is critical to the nonprofit community that Congress adopt policies to encourage all Americans to help their communities during these challenging times through charitable donations. Donations are especially needed today as nonprofits respond to the current health and economic crisis and will be critical in the future as nonprofits play an essential role in recovery efforts when the pandemic ends.

We are requesting that Congress expand the above-the-line or universal charitable deduction in the CARES Act by increasing the amount to one-third of the standard deduction.

SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH AND CLINICAL TRIALS

COVID-19 has upended our entire society, including research funded by the NIH and the NCI. The impact of this pandemic on the entire biomedical research ecosystem, including cancer, is severe and relief is needed to ensure that labs and researchers can restart their operations. Specifically, when cancer patients lose access to clinical trials that are halted or delayed because of COVID-19, they are losing a vital part of their cancer care and treatment. NIH Director Francis Collins has testified that his agency needs at least \$10 billion to help get research and clinical trials back on track.

We are requesting that Congress appropriate at least \$10 billion to restart stalled clinical trials and continue vital cancer research.