



OREGON'S SENATOR JEFF MERKLEY

Coronavirus Resources: State Department

Sen. Merkley, using his leadership position on the Senate Appropriations Committee, fought hard to make sure the \$2.2 trillion coronavirus relief funding stabilizes families, workers, small businesses, housing, education, agriculture, and health care. As these resources are distributed, Sen. Merkley's office will keep Oregonians up to date on what in the bill helps individuals and communities, and how to access the resources. He will continue to fight to make sure much-needed aid gets to the people who need it most.

Coronavirus relief to help Oregonians overseas:

As the coronavirus outbreak unfolded, hundreds of Oregonians were stranded overseas—first in China, then in other countries as the virus spread and countries took measures to contain it, such as closing airports and shutting down borders. Sen. Merkley and his team have worked diligently to get Oregonians safely home. The bill includes funding to support the State Department and repatriation of Americans across the world, as well as refugees and displaced peoples affected by the crisis:

- \$324 million for diplomatic programs, including maintaining consular operations and providing for evacuation expenses to repatriate Americans.
- \$350 million for Migration and Refugee Assistance to allow for U.S. contributions to pending appeals for assistance from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, and the Red Cross.
- \$258 million for International Disaster Assistance to assist displaced peoples and other vulnerable groups.
- \$95 million for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID).
- \$88 million for the Peace Corps.

Additionally, the bill grants passport and immigration visa surcharge flexibility in order to provide consular services, prioritizing U.S. citizen services. It also authorizes the Department and USAID to give additional paid leave to employees for coronavirus hardship domestically and overseas.

For Oregonians who are stranded outside of the country or know someone who is stranded, [please contact Sen. Merkley's office here](#).

For updates: Visit merkley.senate.gov/coronavirus for updates on these and other resources as the relief bills are implemented.