



OREGON'S SENATOR JEFF MERKLEY

Coronavirus Resources: Governments

American Rescue Plan

Oregon's U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley pushed for passage of President Biden's *American Rescue Plan* to get stimulus checks in Americans' bank accounts, help Main Street businesses stay afloat, and save the unemployment insurance program that 20 million Americans are relying on to make ends meet.

With this bill, urgently needed resources will be delivered to state, local, and tribal governments so they support the health of communities, and also pay firefighters, first responders, and other critical employees. Resources will go to schools and educators so they can safely get students back in the classroom. Resources will go to struggling families who are balancing work, school, and childcare from home. Resources will get personal protective equipment in the hands of frontline health heroes. And resources will mobilize a massive, national vaccine distribution plan to get shots into arms, and get past this pandemic.

Tribal Government Resources in the Bill

- \$20 billion to support tribal governments' efforts to combat coronavirus.
- \$6 billion for the Indian Health Service.
- \$900 million to assist tribes through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- \$850 million for grants to Bureau of Indian Education-operated and funded elementary and secondary schools and Tribal Colleges or Universities.
- \$1.2 billion for HUD Tribal & Native Hawaiian housing programs
- \$20 million to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on Native languages

State and Local Government Resources in the Bill

- \$350 billion in support for state and local governments (\$220 billion to states and \$130 billion to localities)
- Requires small states receive at least the amount received under the *CARES Act*; prohibits states and territories from using relief fund to cut taxes.
- Creates \$10 billion Critical Infrastructure Projects program to support capital projects.
- \$300 million to support firefighters through FEMA grant programs
- \$100 million for state and local emergency management agencies
- Funding set aside for Economic Development Administration of \$750 million for states and localities impacted downturn in tourism, travel, and outdoor recreation.
- Additional broadband investments for communities:
 - Over \$7 billion to support E-rate and remote learning
 - \$3.2 billion for Emergency Broadband Benefit

For updates: Visit merkley.senate.gov/coronavirus for updates on these and other resources.