

April 20, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer,

Thank you for your leadership as we push to build on and improve the provisions of the first three coronavirus response bills. As the House of Representatives and Senate works on a CARES 2 package, we urge you to incorporate the principles and priorities laid out by the Executive Board of the Congressional Progressive Caucus in its April 10, 2020 letter.<sup>1</sup>

On behalf of millions of members across the country, our organizations are working individually and collectively to advance solutions that meet the scale of this crisis. We agree with the Congressional Progressive Caucus that federal and state assistance in its many forms should be available to all, regardless of tax status, immigration status, age, sex, disability, or location. Assistance must be sustained until the public health and economic crisis is over. Furthermore, our response must advance economic and racial equity as the latest data demonstrate that the most dire impacts of this pandemic and economic downturn is hurting low-income people and especially low-income people of color.

With more than 26,000 U.S. deaths from coronavirus, 17 million Americans losing their jobs in the past month, and voters forced to choose between their health and democratic duty, Congress must act without delay to pass a CARES 2 package that includes the following:

- Prevention of further layoffs through a payroll guarantee and work-sharing, with stronger oversight and conditions on industry bailout funds that emphasize ensuring workers get paid;
- Financial relief through sustained direct cash assistance, expansion of the social safety net to include everyone, debt relief, housing protections and assistance, and small business aid that supports employees as well as employers.

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<sup>1</sup> Reps. Jayapal, Pocan, et al. Letter to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. 9 April 2020.  
[https://cpc-grijalva.house.gov/uploads/2020.04.09\\_CARES2%20CPC%20Priorities.pdf](https://cpc-grijalva.house.gov/uploads/2020.04.09_CARES2%20CPC%20Priorities.pdf)

- Promotion of public health by ensuring protections for essential workers, providing coronavirus treatment at no out-of-pocket cost, addressing critical supply shortages, expanding paid leave to all workers, increasing support to state and local governments, protecting those who are incarcerated or detained, and fulfilling other health and safety needs; and
- Strengthening of our democracy by requiring vote-by-mail nationwide while maintaining access to in-person voting.

We stand with our congressional allies in fighting for a CARES 2 package in line with these principles and priorities. We appreciate your leadership thus far, and we are counting on you to insist on legislation that meets our country's urgent needs, especially for communities vulnerable because of structural inequities.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Youth  
America's Voice  
American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)  
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO  
Athlete Ally  
Bayard Rustin Liberation Initiative  
Can't Stop! Won't Stop! Consulting  
Connecticut Citizenship Action Group (CCAG)  
CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers  
Coalition of Labor Union Women  
Coalition on Human Needs  
Common Defense  
Community Change Action  
Center for Popular Democracy  
Demand Progress  
DemCast USA  
Demos  
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF)  
Family Equality  
FORGE, Inc.  
Health Care for America Now  
Hispanic Federation  
Indivisible  
interACT: Advocates for Intersex Youth  
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)  
League of Women Voters of the United States  
Modern Military Association of America  
Muslim Caucus  
Muslim Caucus of America

Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)  
National Center for Transgender Equality  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
National Coalition for the Homeless  
National Human Services Assembly  
National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund  
National Low Income Housing Coalition  
National Network of Abortion Funds  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Women's Law Center  
National Women's Health Network  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
New Mexicans for Money Out of Politics  
OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates  
Our Revolution  
Oxfam America  
Patriotic Millionaires  
Peace Action  
PFLAG National  
Positive Women's Network-USA  
Presente.org  
Progressive Democrats of America/Reno Chapter  
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)  
Public Citizen  
SIECUS: Sex Ed for Social Change  
Social Security Works  
Stand Up America  
Sunrise Movement  
Swipe Out Hunger  
Tax March  
The Forum for Youth Investment  
Union for Reform Judaism  
United We Dream  
URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity  
Whitman-Walker Health and Whitman-Walker Institute