What to Expect in Washington
September 2020
COVID-19 dashboard

~$2.8t spent across three congressional bills on:

| Health care and social Services $450b | Small businesses $750b | Tax provisions $540b | UI benefits, state funding, supplemental appropriations $600b | Specific industries $525b |

Outlook for a next bill (CARES 2/COVID 4)

Timing
- House approved Democratic bill May 15
- Senate GOP bills released July 27
- President Trump signed exec. actions Aug. 8
- September 30 expiration of government funding could be action-forcing event

Major sticking points
- Unemployment add-on extended at $600 or lesser amount
- Funding for state and local governments

Size
- House-passed HEROES Act is $3t
- Republicans aiming for roughly $1t, won’t split difference and provide $2t

President Trump’s executive action August 8
- Memorandum to defer payroll taxes
- Memorandum providing for $400 unemployment add-on
- Executive Order on assistance to renters, homeowners
- Memorandum on student loan payment relief

Other issues

Economy: real GDP decreased at an annual rate of 32.9% in 2nd quarter of 2020

Budget (CBO)
- FY20 deficit: $3.7t

Election
- Trump/Pence vs. Biden/Harris
- Close Senate races
# Major differences between House HEROES Act, Senate HEALS Act coronavirus bills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Senate Republican HEALS Act: ~$1 trillion; House Democratic HEROES Act: ~$3 trillion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State &amp; local government funding</td>
<td>HEALS Act: no new funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HEROES Act: $875b ($500b states, $375b local governments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liability protection</td>
<td>HEALS Act: protects people, schools, businesses from coronavirus exposure claims; health care providers against claims for treatment, diagnosis, care; and employers from liability under OSHA, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>House Democratic HEROES Act: moves in the other direction, requiring an OSHA standard to protect health care, other workers at occupational risk for COVID-19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Money for testing</td>
<td>HEALS Act: $16b in grants to states for testing, contact tracing, and surveillance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HEROES Act: $75b for testing, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid</td>
<td>HEALS Act: doesn’t address Medicaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HEROES Act: Increases FMAP state Medicaid payments by 14 percentage points for 1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food, rental assistance</td>
<td>Senate Republican HEALS Act: does not address food or rental assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>House Democratic HEROES Act: $100b to help low-income renters avoid eviction; $10b for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Level-setting: key dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Washington dates</th>
<th>Select presidential race dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| March | March 18 — Families First Coronavirus Response Act (bill No. 2) enacted  
March 27 — Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (bill No. 3) enacted |  |
| April | April 24 — Paycheck Protection & Health Care Enhancement Act (bill No. 3.5) enacted |  |
| May | May 15 — House approved the HEROES Act |  |
| June |  |  |
| July | July 31 — Expanded unemployment benefits expired |  |
| August |  | August 24—27 — Republican National Convention |
| September | September 7 – Labor Day  
September 8 – Senate scheduled to return to session  
September 14 – House scheduled to return to session  
September 30 - Expiration of:  
• Government funding  
• Highway authorization | September 29 – First presidential debate |
| October |  | October 7 -- Vice presidential debate  
October 15 – Second presidential debate  
October 22 – Third presidential debate |
| November |  | November 3 — Election Day |
| December | December 31 — Expiration of tax extender provisions |  |
Election
Congress and the presidency
Now and election outlook

232 Democrats
198 Republicans
1 Libertarian
4 vacancies: CA (Hunter), NC (Meadows), TX (Ratcliffe), GA (Lewis)

If vacant seats remain same-party, 17-seat gain needed by Republicans to regain control of House
31 Democrats are from districts President Trump won in 2016
21 are freshmen
3 Republicans are from districts won by Clinton
27 Republicans, 9 Democrats are not seeking re-election
No party has gone from the minority to the majority in the House in a presidential election year since 1952

Up for re-election in 2020:
23 Republican seats, 12 Democratic seats
Most vulnerable GOP senators include:
• Martha McSally (R-AZ)
• Thom Tillis (R-NC)
• Susan Collins (R-ME)
• Cory Gardner (R-CO)
• Steve Daines (R-MT)
• Joni Ernst (R-IA)
• David Perdue (R-GA)
• Democrat Doug Jones (D-AL) in tough race

*If same-party President; VP becomes 51st vote

Five states were/are key: MI (16 votes), WI (10), PA (20), FL (29) = 75 total
(AZ, NC also now considered battlegrounds)

Biden’s campaign thinks winning path = Wisconsin, Michigan & Pennsylvania; optimistic on Arizona, Texas and Georgia (Washington Post, 6/22/20)

Michigan has had unemployment consistently >20%, with the other 2 states in that category the more tourism-dependent Nevada & Hawaii

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4 vacancies: CA (Hunter), NC (Meadows), TX (Ratcliffe), GA (Lewis)**

218 needed for control

270 electoral votes to win presidency

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Michigan has had unemployment consistently >20%, with the other 2 states in that category the more tourism-dependent Nevada & Hawaii

Wolf is in tough race
Presidential battleground states

2016 ELECTION RESULT MAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2012 result</th>
<th>2016 result</th>
<th>Currently*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Obama +9.5%</td>
<td>Trump +.2%</td>
<td>Biden +6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Obama +5.2%</td>
<td>Trump +.7%</td>
<td>Biden +5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Obama +6.7%</td>
<td>Trump +.8%</td>
<td>Biden +6.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Obama +.9%</td>
<td>Trump +1.2%</td>
<td>Biden +5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Romney +10.1</td>
<td>Trump +3.5%</td>
<td>Biden +2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Romney +1.8</td>
<td>Trump +3.7%</td>
<td>Trump +.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Obama +1.9%</td>
<td>Trump +7.9%</td>
<td>Biden +2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Romney +8%</td>
<td>Trump +5.1%</td>
<td>Trump +1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Romney +15.8</td>
<td>Trump +9%</td>
<td>Trump +3.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source: Real Clear Politics

Election notes

- 232 electoral votes were pledged to Clinton in 2016. 270 electoral votes needed to win presidency. Battleground states # of electoral votes:
  - FL - 29
  - PA - 20
  - WI - 10
  - MI - 16
  - AZ - 11
  - NC - 15
  - OH - 18
  - GA - 16
  - TX - 38

- If Trump wins FL, Biden must win MI, WI and PA (or other Trump states) + all states Clinton won
- If Biden wins FL and all states Clinton won, victory could be had with a win in any of MI, WI or PA (since only 9 more electoral votes could be needed)
- CNN: Biden’s easiest path to victory is MI, PA, AZ - “He can ... lose Wisconsin, Florida and North Carolina and still be elected president”
- Biden could also win (assuming he gets the 232 votes pledged to Clinton) with: just FL & AZ; just FL & PA; MI, PA, & AZ; MI, PA, & NC
- Trump won with 306 electoral votes. Could win again if he lost: PA & MI; PA & AZ; AZ & MI
Senate

### Election notes

- **SC:** Race tightening for Lindsey Graham; rated Lean R from Likely R
- **ME:** Collins consistently just above 40% support after being elected at >60% of vote in 2002, 2008, 2014. She is no longer perceived as a moderate after voting for 2017 tax bill, Kavanaugh SCOTUS nomination.
- **GA special:** All candidates on ballot on election day; if none get >50%, runoff between top 2. Trump-ally Collins could play spoiler. One Democratic candidate is son of former Senator Joe Lieberman (D-CT). (There is also the regular GA election for incumbent David Perdue, R-GA.)

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**Category** | **Senator** | **Rating** | **Opponent**
---|---|---|---
2 Republicans in states Trump won by <5 percentage points | Martha McSally (R-AZ) | Lean D | Mark Kelly
Thom Tillis (R-NC) | Toss-up | Cal Cunningham

2 Republicans running in states Clinton won | Susan Collins (R-ME) | Toss-up | Sara Gideon
Cory Gardner (R-CO) | Toss-up | John Hickenlooper

2 Democrats running in states Trump won | Doug Jones (D-AL) | Lean R | Tommy Tuberville
Gary Peters (D-MI) | Lean D | John James

Other competitive races | Steve Daines (R-MT) | Toss-up | Gov. Steve Bullock
David Perdue (R-GA) | Toss-up | Jon Ossoff
Joni Ernst (R-IA) | Toss-up | Theresa Greenfield
Kelly Loeffler (R-GA) special | Lean R | Rep. Doug Collins (R) Multiple Democrats
Kansas (open) | Lean R | Rep. Roger Marshall (R-KS) Barbara Bollier (D)

*Cook Political Report*
Advocacy tips for nonprofit engagement

• Focus on the actual, not the theoretical: what does your nonprofit do on a daily basis?
• What is your ask?
• What is your organization’s footprint?
• Who are your nonprofit’s “champions”?
• Keep it succinct
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