

2020 CONGRESSIONAL REQUESTS

Note on Leave-Behind Folders for Congressional Meetings

All materials for your actions are linked below and can be found in the “Policy Info” section of the [RESULTS conference resources page](#).

Key U.S. Poverty Request

Prioritize Housing Measures in Recovery Legislation

The COVID-19 pandemic has made America’s housing crisis far worse. One in five renters, including one in three Black renters, had low confidence in their ability to pay July rent when surveyed by the Census Bureau in early June. When eviction moratoria and other relief measures end for unemployed workers, millions of low-income renters will face a “housing cliff” unless Congress acts soon. To prevent a dramatic increase in homelessness, **Congress should provide \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance and enact a national moratorium on evictions** until the crisis passes. **In the long-term, however, we must do more to support low-income renters in the form of a renters’ credit.** There have been bipartisan proposals to create a renters’ credit from Senators Booker (D-NJ) and Harris (D-CA) and former Senator Heller (R-NV), have introduced legislation that does this ([S. 2684/H.R. 4808](#) and [S. 1106/H.R. 2169](#); [S. 3580](#) in the last Congress).

HOUSE and SENATE Requests:

- Will you tell leadership to prioritize \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance and a national eviction moratorium in the next emergency response legislation?
- Will you speak out publicly in support of a refundable renters’ tax credit to help families access affordable housing longer-term?

Background Documents:

- [Congress Must Prioritize Housing Measures in Recovery Legislation](#)
- [U.S. Poverty Data by State](#)

Targeted U.S. Poverty Request

Boost Food Security by Increasing SNAP

Many households are struggling to put food on the table or have “cut back” on groceries – as Matthew Desmond says, “the rent eats first”. According to the latest Census Bureau survey from early June, approximately 22 percent of Americans including 29 percent of families with children identified as food insecure. Amidst the long lines of people waiting to get help from local food banks

across the nation, we see these statistics as well as the racial disparities. Roughly 4 in 10 Black and Hispanic families with children reported food insecure during the week of June 4th compared to 2 in 10 White families. **As the nation's leading anti-hunger program, a 15 percent increase in SNAP benefits could shorten these food bank lines and provide for families at risk of hunger.** Doing so would also provide a needed boost to our local economy, as SNAP generates \$1.50-\$1.80 in economic activity for every additional dollar spent.

HOUSE and SENATE Requests:

- Will you tell Congressional leadership to prioritize boosting the maximum SNAP benefits by 15 percent as part of the next emergency relief bill?

Background documents

- [Boost Food Security by Increasing SNAP](#)

Targeted U.S. Poverty Request

Expand Tax Credits for Low-Wage Workers and Families

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects that the unemployment rate will remain above 9 percent well into 2021, but temporary changes to the federal tax code could provide a much needed boost to workers and families early next year. **Congress should expand Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for workers who do not claim dependents and extend the full Child Tax Credit (CTC) to children in all low-income families,** just like middle- and higher-income families currently receive. Over 5 million low-wage workers who are not raising children at home are taxed into (or deeper into) poverty each year and expanding EITC can provide a crucial boost to younger workers and others who do not claim dependents. Moreover, one in four children in low-income families do not receive the full Child Tax Credit because the average credit received is higher among moderate- and middle-income families. These expansions would put more money back in the pockets of working people in early 2021, when the economy and many people's financial situations will still be recovering.

HOUSE and SENATE Requests

- Will you tell congressional leaders to prioritize low-income people by expanding the EITC and CTC for low-income workers and families in the next piece of emergency response legislation?

Background documents

- [Prioritize Tax Credits for Low-Wage Workers and Families](#)

Key Global Poverty Requests

Support a Global Response to the Global Pandemic

Since January, the coronavirus has threatened near universal disruption around the world. But, it's the communities facing poverty, already pushed to the margins, which face the greatest risks. **A new World Bank estimate suggests that without action COVID-19 will drive over 70 million people into extreme poverty in 2020.**

As a leader in global health and development, the United States must urgently respond to contain and mitigate the impact COVID-19 and protect hard-fought gains in global health in low-income countries. Providing resources to programs that successfully impact poverty and have demonstrable track-records for improving health outcomes will be critical in the fight against COVID-19 and its effect on those most at-risk. **As Congress considers emergency funding, we urge support for the priorities below as part of an emergency international relief package to stop coronavirus and mitigate the secondary impacts and economic shocks that deepen poverty.**

HOUSE Request:

- Will you urge House Leadership to address the global pandemic by including \$12-20 billion in foreign aid in any next emergency response legislation?
- As you reach out to leadership, will you support at least:
 - \$4 billion over 2 years for the Global Fund
 - Increase in our support for Gavi's immunization efforts
 - \$2 billion to address hunger/ famine-relief, with at least \$500 million to address the crisis of malnutrition and wasting.
- Will you join Reps. Lois Frankel (D-FL) and Francis Rooney's (R-FL) letter to urge House Leadership to address the global pandemic by including foreign aid in any next emergency response legislation? You can contact Katherine.Close@mail.house.gov in Rep. Frankel's office or William.Sitton@mail.house.gov in Rep. Rooney's office to sign on.

Background Documents:

- [Global Response Needed for Global Pandemic](#)
- [Frankel/Rooney Letter to Leadership on Global Emergency Response](#)

SENATE Request:

- Will you urge Senate Leadership to address the global pandemic by including \$12-20 billion in foreign aid in any next emergency response legislation?
- As you reach out to leadership, will you support at least:
 - \$4 billion over 2 years for the Global Fund
 - Increase in our support for Gavi's immunization efforts
 - \$2 billion to address hunger/ famine-relief, with at least \$500 million to address the crisis of malnutrition and wasting.

1101 15th St. NW, Suite 1200 | Washington, DC 20005

P: (202) 783-4800 | www.results.org | [@RESULTS_Tweets](https://twitter.com/RESULTS_Tweets)

Background Document:

- [Global Response Needed for Global Pandemic](#)

Additional REPUBLICAN ONLY SENATE Request:

- *Will you sign on to the Cardin/Rubio letter to Leadership urging a global response as any next legislation moves forward?*

Background Documents:

- *Sens. Rubio/Cardin Letter to Leadership on global emergency response efforts – if you need a copy, please email cnicovich@results.org.*