



THE CORONAVIRUS ASSISTANCE FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES ACT

SENATORS CASSIDY, DAINES, ROMNEY AND RUBIO



The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act included Economic Impact Payments (EIP) to U.S. citizens with Social Security Numbers (SSNs) in amounts equal to: \$1,200 per individual for single filers with adjusted gross income up to \$75,000; \$2,400 for married couples who file a joint return with an income of up to \$150,000; and an additional increase by \$500 per child. These payments offered liquidity as businesses shut down. Over the last four months, many Americans have used these funds to make essential purchases as they continue to navigate uncertainty during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Congress considers another round of payments, we should ensure that funds are going where they are needed most. We believe the focus should be on families. Parents have already confronted unexpected challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, but other federal provisions, such as enhanced unemployment benefits, are not adjusted for family size. We propose that Congress acts to provide a \$1,000 Economic Impact Payment to all American citizens equally, regardless of age or dependent status.

The Coronavirus Assistance for American Families (CAAF) Act:

- Disburses Economic Impact Payments of \$1,000 for both adults and children with social security numbers (SSNs) equally, \$2,000 if filing jointly. A family of four would receive \$4,000.
- Includes eligibility for adult dependents, including those with disabilities or college students, among others.
- Includes eligibility for U.S. citizens married to foreign nationals to receive EIPs but does not include eligibilty foreign nationals or ITIN filers.

This policy prioritizes families by expanding assistance through an increased child benefit, so that a family of four would receive \$600 more than under the CARES Act, and also provides greater assistance to single parents with multiple children, who face additional economic hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our economic policies have left young, working families behind at a time when our marriage and childbirth rates are falling, and it is time to realign our economic policies in support of American families.

