



April 10, 2020



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Day by Day

As much of the country (and the NEMA staff) finishes their fourth week of working from home, the general consensus appears to be that it's best to take things day by day. Many of you are now also working with partially virtual EOCs and increased social distancing measures that limit the number of staff you have working with you in person. While we have no pearls of wisdom to offer you on that front, we can share that the Senate too is just taking things day by day.

Last night, the Senate blocked two plans (each along party lines) to provide hundreds of billions of dollars to help small businesses contend with the coronavirus-fueled economic meltdown amid a stalemate over the scope of the package. The Republican bill would have provided \$250 billion for the Paycheck Protection Program. Democrats' position was that \$250 billion in additional money should go toward hospitals and local governments.

With neither of these plans moving forward, Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) is working with Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin (who has run point for the White House on negotiations for the previous COVID-19 relief packages as well as annual appropriations) to come to a bipartisan agreement early next week. The Senate will be in session on Monday and Thursday, allowing for up to two opportunities to pass any agreement that can be developed in that time frame.

Meanwhile, the Treasury Department is expected to begin issuing payments to Americans with direct deposit bank account approval from previous tax returns next week. Those who do not have direct deposit may begin receiving that funding as early as next month, although it may take much longer.

NEMA staff wish you and yours a happy, healthy holiday weekend.

More News from the Nation's Capital...

DHS Releases COVID-19 Exposure and Risk Mitigation Guide for Law Enforcement

The guide covers exposure levels and risk assessment, PPE for law enforcement, altered tactics and procedures for risk mitigation, and exposure guidance and decision-making tools.

[*Read More*](#)

FEMA is Collecting COVID-19 Emergency Management Best Practices

The site compiles links to FEMA fact sheets and short best practices documents on COVID-19 response and recovery issues. Communities can also submit their own best practices and lessons learned.

[Read More](#)

Usage of the DPA in Response to COVID-19

GAO wrote a short overview on the Defense Production Act's previous implementation in both military and domestic emergency operations.

[Read More](#)

Extremism in the Time of Coronavirus

National security agencies this week have noted the potential for ideological extremists to exploit the COVID-19 epidemic for their operations. The GW Program on Extremism also published a report on modernizing our collective approach to white supremacist organizations.

[Read More](#)

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

Axios: [We Can't Just Flip the Switch on Coronavirus](#)

GovTech: [Oregon Deploys Coronavirus Triage Tool to Glean, Dispense Data](#)

CHDS Homeland Security Digital Library: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Pandemic Whole-of-America Response](#)

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