



May 21, 2020



## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Happy Memorial Day!

While this Memorial Day weekend promises to be unlike any other (5 bonus points to anyone who can name the vocabulary word starting with the letter "U" that could also be used here), its purpose as a way to remember the military fallen and what they sacrificed for others remains. Although large-scale parades and ceremonies won't take place this year, maybe the circumstances will engender a longer and more individual meditation on the meaning of personal sacrifice for something larger than oneself.

In this week before a holiday, discussions in Washington between Secretary Mnuchin and House Speaker Pelosi focused on implementing legislation, particularly on the Treasury Department's needs for changes to the Paycheck Protection Program, such as extending the amount of time that small businesses have to use funds intended to help them survive. At present Treasury can't extend the time period for spending money administratively. The period is now limited to eight weeks. Furthermore, FEMA Administrator Gaynor confirmed for state directors last night that Coronavirus Relief Funds can be used to meet match requirements of FEMA programs. He also stated FEMA was working with Treasury to develop further guidelines.

As you may remember from recent bulletins the HEROES Act was recently passed by the House and remains trapped in the pipeline at the Senate level. We released a brief overview related to emergency management specifically, but the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) has now also released a brief overview of the highlights for the funding's implications or state governments overall which you can [view here](#).

Enjoy the long weekend, if you can, and recognize that more than any other year, this year's response to COVID-19 and other hazards is a marathon, not a sprint.

*More News from the Nation's Capital...*

### Selection of Recently Released Federal COVID-19 Resources

Understanding that it is a challenge to quickly review all the available grant programs for COVID-19, we are creating and updating a list of links for information on programs from FEMA, HHS, CDC, HUD, and others. While it is not comprehensive, it can be quickly consulted for resources on topics that have recently been of interest across the federal interagency (e.g. childcare for essential personnel).

This is updated weekly.

[Read More](#)

#### **RFI Released on Strategies for the Strategic National Stockpile**

Make sure to submit comments for HHS' proposed strategies and structure for the Strategic National Stockpile to ensure the nation has the right items at hand as we move towards SNS 2.0.

[Read More](#)

#### **Draft NIMS Implementation Objectives Comment Period Open**

The goal of this iteration is to bring the implementation objectives in line with the updates made to NIMS in 2017. Indicators are now included for federal agencies to consider for achieving the objectives.

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#### **FEMA Releases Rehabilitation of High Hazard Potential Dams Grant Program NOFO**

What timing! The competitive grant provides technical, planning, design, and construction assistance in the form of grants for rehabilitation of eligible high hazard potential dams.

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#### **NOAA Issues 2020 Central Pacific Hurricane Outlook**

In what feels like a rare bit of good news, NOAA's projections call for a 75 percent chance of near- or below-normal tropical cyclone activity in the Central Pacific this year.

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*Other News from DC and Around the Country:*

Wall Street Journal: [Trump Can Choose Which States Get Coronavirus Payback from FEMA](#)

Nextgov: [State and Federal Data on COVID-19 Testing Don't Match Up](#)

CNN: [Thousands Evacuate Area in Michigan After Two Dams Fail and Governor Warns One City Could See Nine Feet of Water](#)

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