

THE SOUTH CAROLINA BLUES FEDERAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



April 2021

What's included in the latest \$1.9 Trillion COVID-19 Relief Package?

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 was signed into effect by President Biden on March 11. In addition to bolstering the nation's response to COVID-19, the legislation also includes new funding for rural hospitals and health care providers, increased federal subsidies for COBRA coverage, changes to the Medicare wage index, and financial support for families and small businesses. Here's a short summary of what was included.

- \$8.5 billion to reimburse rural health care providers for health care-related expenses and lost revenues.
- Vaccines and Testing
 - \$10 billion for carrying out activities under the Defense Production Act.
 - \$70 billion for vaccines, testing, and workforce effects.
 - \$47.8 billion to continue implementation of an evidence-based national testing strategy.
 - \$1.75 billion to support genomic sequencing and surveillance initiatives.
- Health Care Coverage
 - Medicaid
 - Gives states an option to extend CHIP eligibility for 12 months postpartum.
 - Gives states an incentive to expand Medicaid by temporarily increasing the FMAP base program by 5% points for 2 years.
 - Expansion of Health Insurance Marketplace Subsidies
 - Employer-sponsored Coverage through COBRA
- Maintaining Medicaid DSH During PHE.
- Coverage of vaccines for Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries.
- One-year FMAP increase to improve home and community-based services, increase for services through the Urban Indian Organizations and Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems, and funding to states for creation of nursing home strike teams to manage outbreaks.
- \$3.5 billion for block grants addressing behavioral health disorders and several million more for behavioral health programs and workforce issues.
- Elimination of Medicaid drug rebate cap and inclusion of COVID-19 related drugs in Medicaid rebate.
- \$9.1 billion in public health workforce-related support.
- \$450 million to support skilled nursing facilities, \$200 million for development and dissemination of COVID-19 prevention protocols, and \$250 million to deploy strike teams with outbreak experience.
- \$100 million for OSHA.
- \$50 billion to carry out purposes of the Disaster Relief Fund for costs associated with major disasters.
- Establishes a minimum wage index for hospitals in all-urban states.
- \$500 million to Department of Agriculture.
- \$15 billion through September for Child Care and Development Block Grant.
- Reinstates tax credits for employers who voluntarily cover the paid family and medical leave provisions through September.
- \$350 billion to mitigate fiscal effects stemming from PHE.
- \$7.25 billion to PPP and modifies rules to certain applicants.



Redistricting

Redistricting is where each state draws new legislative district boundaries. This happens in the USA every ten years. Here's a snapshot of the redistricting for 2021.

Important Dates

April 16 – 30 Reapportionment (population data)

September 30 – Census data to states

States Losing Districts (10)

- California - 1
- Illinois -1
- Michigan -1
- Minnesota -1
- Ohio -1
- Pennsylvania -1
- Rhode Island -1
- Alabama no change or -1
- New York -1 or -2

States Gaining Districts (7)

- Texas +3
- Florida +2
- Arizona +1
- Colorado +1
- Montana +1
- North Carolina +1
- Oregon +1

Looking ahead to 2022 Elections

2022 Senate Races

Democratic Seats: 14

Republican Seats: 20

SOLID DEM	BATTLEGROUND	BATTLEGROUND	SOLID GOP
CO – Bennet CT – Blumenthal IL – Duckworth VT – Leahy WA – Murray CA – Padilla HI – Schatz NY – Schumer MD – Van Hollen OR – Wyden	NV – Cortez Masto NH – Hassan AZ – Kelly GA – Warnock	NC – Open (Burr) PA – Open (Toomey) WI – Johnson FL – Rubio	MO – Blunt AR – Boozman ID – Crapo IA – Grassley ND – Hoeven LA – Kennedy OK – Lankford UT – Lee KS – Moran AK – Murkowski KY – Paul OH – Open (Portman) SC – Scott AL – Open (Shelby) SD – Thune IN – Young

2021-22 Governors Races

Democratic Seats: 18

Republican Seats: 20

SOLID DEM	BATTLEGROUND	BATTLEGROUND	SOLID GOP
CA – Newsom CO – Polis CT – Lamont HI – Open (Ige) IL – Pritzker MN – Watz NJ – Murphy NM – Lujan Grisham NY – Cuomo OR – Open (Brown) RI – Open (Raimondo)	KS – Kelly ME – Mills MI – Whitmer NV – Sisolak PA – Open (Wolf) VA – Open (Northam) WI – Evers	AZ – Open (Ducey) FL – DeSantis GA – Kemp MD – Open (Hogan) NH – Sununu	AL – Ivey AK – Dunleavy AR – Open (Hutchinson) ID – Little IA – Reynolds MA – Baker NE – Open (Ricketts) OH – DeWine OK – Stitt SC – McMaster SD – Noem TN – Lee TX – Abbott VT – Scott WY – Gordon