

HEROES ACT - SUMMARY

Tax & Finance The HEROES Act contains over a trillion dollars in taxpayer assistance that builds on the work of the CARES Act.

- New restrictions to the Five-year carryback of **net operating losses (NOLs)** provisions under the CARES Act.
 - Businesses will no longer be eligible for the deduction if they had a stock buyback that totaled more than the NOL.
- Businesses participating in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) will be allowed to defer payment of payroll taxes and no longer be subject to a 75% requirement that loans go to payroll instead of rent.
- Excludes **loan forgiveness** by the Small Business Administration under the CARES Act from being treated as taxable income.
- Full funding for **private employer health insurance** premiums for laid-off and furloughed workers from March 2020 until January 2021.

Transportation

- **Federal Highway Administration** - \$15 billion for state departments of transportation to cover the revenue shortfalls that will be apportioned to states by the FAST Act formula. The legislation also waives the 20% local cost share.
- **Federal Transit Administration** - \$15.75 billion in aid to transit systems that are facing significant revenue shortfalls due to sharp ridership declines. The 20 percent local cost share is waived.
- **Airports and Airways Trust Fund** – Ensure the AATF can meet its obligations using General Fund revenues.

Miscellaneous

- The legislation includes a requirement for the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration** to create standards to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection, it also includes \$100 million for the Department of Labor (DOL) to enforce this new and existing regulations. It did not provide additional funding to the Mine Safety and Health Administration. It also includes \$2 billion for non-specified worker training at DOL.
- The HEROES Act also includes \$50 million for the **Environmental Protection Agency** to research the links between pollution and coronavirus. Some non-governmental organizations believe there is a connection between air pollutants and the increased deaths from COVID-19 among disadvantaged population.
- Aside from \$1.5 billion for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that provides aid for utility bills, the bill **excludes funding for energy and climate change**.
- Provides \$540 billion for a **Coronavirus State Relief Fund** and \$375 billion for a **Coronavirus Local Relief Fund**. The funding can be used to cover costs states and local governments face related both to COVID-19 and from revenue losses since the National Public Health Emergency was declared related to COVID-19.