

Title-By-Title Summary of the American Rescue Plan The following title-by-title summary outlines the American Rescue Plan Act as passed by the Senate on March 6th, 2021. The bill will provide urgent and targeted funding to defeat the virus and provide workers and families the resources they need to survive the pandemic while the vaccine is distributed to every American.

State and Local Fiscal Aid: The bill includes needed direct aid to state and local governments. Many states have sustained massive revenue shortfalls and face a host of increased spending needs. Nationwide, state and local employment is down 1.4 million since the pandemic began and job losses increased by 50,000 in December. **The need is particularly pronounced at the local level: a National League of Cities survey showed a 21-percent revenue decline among cities with losses and the National Association of Counties projected a 20-percent revenue decline. These figures may grow worse over time as property tax revenue decreases have lagged recessions by two years or more. These budget impacts for localities do not account for increased expenses, which were not recognized for most cities and counties in CARES (where money went to only those with 500,000 persons or more). We provide \$350 billion to States, territories, Tribes, and local governments to be used for responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency, to offset revenue losses, bolster economic recovery and to provide premium pay for essential workers. We also provide a new \$10 billion Critical Infrastructure Projects program to help States, territories, and Tribal governments carry out critical capital projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options, in response to COVID-19.** State and local fiscal relief funds can be used for local economic recovery purposes, including assistance to households, small businesses and nonprofits, assistance to hard-hit industries like tourism, travel, and hospitality, and infrastructure investment.

Paid Sick Leave Credit: The bill provides an **extension and expansion of the paid sick and FMLA leave tax credits** created in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020. It provides payroll tax credits for employers who voluntarily provide paid leave through the end of September 2021. It also expands eligibility to state and local governments that provide this benefit.

Title VI - Committee on Environment and Public Works • Economic Development Administration funding provides flexible investment for **rebuilding local economies and hard-hit industries, including tourism and travel.** The American Rescue Plan provides the Economic Development Administration with \$3 billion to aid communities in rebuilding local economies, which includes \$750 million for the travel, tourism, and outdoor recreation sectors. Previously, the CARES Act provided \$1.5 billion for economic adjustment assistance to help revitalize local communities after the pandemic. The CARES funding is oversubscribed, with the amount of funding requested far outstripping the available amount, as communities face growing needs in responding to the significant job losses caused by COVID-19. This funding will also help EDA fulfill its role as the lead agency under the National Disaster Response Framework to assist communities with economic recovery following a disaster, including the current health pandemic.

Mortgage and Utility Assistance: An estimated 3.3 million homeowners are behind on their payments or in foreclosure, and more homeowners are likely behind on utilities and property taxes. Homeowners of color are disproportionately likely to have fallen behind during the pandemic. There has been no funding dedicated to assist homeowners since the pandemic began, and with millions of forbearance plans set to expire in the months ahead, funding will be critical to help homeowners get back on track. The American Rescue Plan provides \$9.961 billion in funding through the Department of Treasury to states, territories, tribes, and tribally designated housing entities to provide direct assistance to homeowners.

Title III - Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs • Emergency Rental Assistance: The \$25 billion in emergency rental assistance provided in the December package was a good start, but falls short of the estimated \$57 billion in back rent that renters already owed as of January. The American Rescue Plan includes \$21.55 billion in **Emergency Rental Assistance to augment funds provided to states, localities, and territories in December to help families pay the rent and utilities and stay in their homes.**

• Housing Counseling: Millions of homeowners and renters are behind on monthly payments and will need help navigating assistance and modification and workout options. Housing counselors are on the front lines of providing this advice, yet they have not received funding since the pandemic began. The American Rescue Plan provides \$100 million for housing counseling, which will be distributed to housing counseling organizations through NeighborWorks. This funding will allow counselors to help both homeowners and renters remain in their homes and avoid being faced with overwhelming debt burdens. • Assistance for People Experiencing Homelessness: Before the pandemic, there were already an estimated 568,000 individuals and families experiencing homelessness, many of whom have underlying health challenges. The American Rescue Plan includes \$5 billion to help communities provide supportive services and safe, socially distant housing solutions, including purchase of properties like motels for use as non-congregate shelter, to protect the health of these families and individuals and help control transmission of coronavirus. • Emergency Housing Vouchers: Emergency housing vouchers will transition high-need homeless and at-risk families, youth, and individuals, including survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, to stable housing. The \$5 billion included in the American Rescue Plan will provide a more stable platform to access health care, education, and jobs. Emergency housing vouchers will expire after these assisted families no longer need them. • Rural Rental Assistance: The bill provides \$100 million to support households residing in USDA-subsidized rural properties and who are struggling to pay rent during the coronavirus.

Full text at: [ARP - Title-by-Title Summary.pdf \(senate.gov\)](#)