

Report on recent US international tax developments - 24 April 2020

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The United States (US) Senate (on 21 April) and House (on 23 April) passed the *Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act* (H.R. 266), a US\$484 billion¹ interim coronavirus relief measure. The President signed the bill into law on 24 April. The legislation will provide \$310 billion for the Small Business Administration's now-exhausted Paycheck Protection Program (PPP), \$60 billion for disaster loans through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program, and an additional \$100 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, which includes \$75 billion for health care provider relief and \$25 billion for coronavirus testing.

Legislative attention will now turn to a fourth COVID-19 bill, which may rival the CARES Act (\$2 trillion) in scope. That legislation may take shape in the coming weeks, but the timing for when the next coronavirus bill will be passed by Congress is unclear. Democrats and Republicans are laying the groundwork for their divergent positions. In a [joint statement](#) this week, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer said: "As soon as [the interim package] has passed in the House, we will advance CARES 2, which must be transformative and far-reaching." Pushing back, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell was quoted as saying it is "time to begin to think about the amount of debt we're adding to our country and the future impact of that."

In the meantime, the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation on 22 April released a [description \(JCX-12-20\) of certain provisions](#) of the CARES Act.

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