

## TODAY IN WASHINGTON - MAY 20, 2020: COVID-19 UPDATES

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20 UPDATE

Our Federal Advocacy Team is dedicated to providing frequent COVID-19 updates as they develop. Going forward, these updates will be distributed as developments warrant instead of nightly. These updates along with other resources can be found on the [COVID-19 Resource Center page of Hall Render's website](#).

*Note – we believe this is the most up-to-date information available at this time.*

### CONGRESSIONAL OUTLOOK

- House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced today that lawmakers in that chamber will vote on a bill next week to put more flexibility into the Paycheck Protection Program ("PPP"). While a copy of the legislation was not available at the time of this writing, it is anticipated to make the following changes:
  - Allow businesses receiving PPP loans to use the funds to cover payroll expenses for more than eight weeks;
  - Relax the provision that requires 75% of the loans be used for payroll expenses;
  - Provide businesses more than two years to pay back the loans; and
  - Allow businesses that receive PPP loans to receive a payroll tax deferment.
- Senator Marco Rubio, co-author of the PPP, indicated today the Senate could approve the measure by voice vote so that its members don't have to return to Washington during the Memorial Day recess.

### HRSA PROVIDES \$225 MILLION FOR COVID-19 TESTING IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

- The Health Resources and Services Administration **announced** the distribution of \$225 million to Rural Health Clinics to support COVID-19 testing efforts and expand access to testing in rural communities.

### CMS ISSUES GUIDANCE ON MAC COVID-19 TEST PRICING

- CMS **issued guidance** stating that Medicare Administrative Contractors have authority to set payment amounts in their respective jurisdictions for COVID-19-related test claims.

### CDC RELEASES NON-COVID-19 CARE FRAMEWORK

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention **issued framework** for providing non-COVID-19 clinical care during the pandemic.

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Hall Render's attorneys and professionals continue to maintain the most up-to-date information and resources at our [COVID-19 Resource page](#), through our 24/7 COVID-19 Hotline at (317) 429-3900 or by contacting your regular Hall Render attorney.

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