

Update on CARES Act

Negotiations have been going on around the clock in the Senate and an updated version of the CARES Act was released earlier today. There continues to be a tremendous amount of political posturing and speculation, demonstrating a bipartisan deal is not yet within reach.

Just this evening, the Senate failed to secure the votes needed to overcome the 60-vote threshold required to advance legislation for debate. The path forward for the bill is uncertain at this time, but negotiations in the Senate are likely to continue behind the scenes until enough support is secured to meet the 60-vote threshold. While we wait for signals from the Senate, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi earlier today announced that the House will introduce its own legislative package which would further complicate negotiations.

Despite the complications, there are common themes coming from both parties that we can expect to be included in a final package. This includes: providing direct payments to individuals, expanding access to capital for small businesses to support their ability to continue to meet payroll, expanded unemployment insurance, application of relief to the self-employed, and the suspension of federal student loan repayment and interest accrual.

The pressure for Congress to act will continue to build exponentially as we move through next week. We will keep you informed and provide summaries of the bill language as we move to a final text.