

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2020

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin
Secretary
United States Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

As you know, on Friday, March 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the “Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act” or “CARES ACT”. This \$2 Trillion package is intended to provide relief for Americans struggling during this coronavirus pandemic. We are writing to you today regarding the provision that will provide most Americans with a payment of \$1,200 for adults and \$500 for children. This is an important provision that will provide direct money to Americans that need it now.

In order for these checks to get to Americans in an expeditious and un-politicized manner, we request you:

1. Prioritize making the payments through direct deposit so Americans can get their payment sooner and safer, rather than mailing checks out to addresses.
2. Aggressively advertise how all Americans can set up direct deposit with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for this payment.
3. Require any paper checks that are mailed to follow usual procedure and be signed by a Department of the Treasury civil servant – the disbursing officer for the payment center. It would be highly inappropriate to use these direct relief payments as a campaign tool for any politician currently running for re-election.

It has been reported that President Trump told White House aides that he wants his signature to appear on the checks. This is inappropriate and should not be allowed. It is important that these payments get to Americans because it is the right policy and that they do not become politicized by the President of the United States, just months before an election.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Katie Porter
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Sean Casten
Member of Congress

Mark Takano
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress

José E. Serrano
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Note: Signatures were not collected due to offices teleworking during the COVID-19 pandemic. Individual offices can confirm their support for this letter.