

Recreational Boating Leadership Council

Advocacy Update

July 31, 2020

Federal Update

Stimulus negotiations

- The Senate GOP stimulus package, the HEALS Act, was released. This is a signaling bill and the start of negotiations.
 - The Senate GOP, House GOP, and White House are on different pages, making it more difficult to get consensus and compromise with House/Senate Dems.
- The Democratic controlled House passed the HEROES Act two months ago. This was a marker to stake out where the party stands on another stimulus package.
- This package is seen as a “must-win” for the Senate GOP and the White House heading into the election.

What we expect will be included

- Reauthorize PPP until December 31, 2020
- Expand eligible uses for non-payroll funds to up to 40% of total loan including PPE
- Second round of PPP for businesses that has 50% or more loss in revenue and 300 or less employees
- Simplify PPP application for loans sub \$150K
- Inclusion of 501c6 associations
 - House included this
- \$100B in long-term low-cost loans for small and seasonal businesses in low income (census data) areas w/ 50% revenue loss and <500 employees (<100 for dem proposal).
- Tax credit increased to 65% up from 50%
- PPE tax credit
- Second round of stimulus payments
- \$200 unemployment check, down from \$600.
- Business liability protections
- Incentives to reopen schools
- State and local gov't- provides extra flexibility on states for \$150B in CARES to bolster their budgets.

[Here is a document comparing HEROES and HEALS.](#)

Water Resources Development Act

- WRDA passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Wednesday by voice vote.
- The House and the Senate will need to work out any differences between the two versions, with most focus being on the specific appropriations amount.
- This is a package contained a number of our industry’s priorities including:
 - improving federal efforts to combat aquatic invasive species (AIS);
 - funding projects in small and emerging harbors;
 - comprehensive assessment of USACE recreational infrastructure and facilities operation and maintenance needs and the economic benefits of sustaining and improving public recreational access; and

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- helping restore the Everglades and Great Lakes, among others.
- Please reach out to Callie Hoyt choyt@nmma.org for more info.

Appropriations

- There was some positive movement in the House last week regarding appropriations funding bills.
- Our industry was active in this and were able to secure 12/13 asks in house measures.
- House passed DOI package, including \$335 million for Great Lakes restoration initiative,
- The House is poised to pass another appropriations bill on Friday that will include funding for an outdoor recreation satellite account, funding for marine sanctuaries, funding for the army corps of engineers, \$850 million for conservation and infrastructure process.
- Notably, this will include the first ever study on the vulnerabilites our industry faces due to climate change, and how to mitigate harm.