



# STRATEGIES FOR COVID-19



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# Agenda

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- ▶ Legislative Update - Eric
- ▶ DOE Memo 060 - Bruce
- ▶ Best Practices and Strategies - Andrea
- ▶ Open Discussion

# Legislative Updates

## Three Coronavirus related packages have become law:

### 1. H.R.6074 Coronavirus Preparedness & Response Supplemental Appropriations (March 6<sup>th</sup>)

- ▶ Supplemental appropriations to HHS, the State Department, and the Small Business Administration (SBA) to respond to the coronavirus outbreak.

### 2. H.R. 6201-Families First Coronavirus Response Act (March 18<sup>th</sup>)

- ▶ Free coronavirus testing shores up unemployment insurance, and strengthens food security initiatives.
  - ▶ \$500 million to WIC, \$400 million to TEFAP, and \$250 million to the Senior Nutrition Program.
- ▶ New emergency sick leave, as well as an expansion of the existing Paid Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

# Legislative Updates

## 3. H.R. 748 - CARES Act (March 27<sup>th</sup>)

- ▶ \$1200 direct cash assistance to many Americans
- ▶ Enhanced unemployment insurance
- ▶ Supplemental appropriations:
  - ▶ \$900 million LIHEAP
  - ▶ \$1 Billion CSBG
  - ▶ \$750 million Head Start
  - ▶ \$5 billion community development block grants

# Legislative Updates

**NASCSP asked Congressional champions for the provisions below. Did not make it into Package #3, but hopefully future bill.**

## *Primary*

- ▶ Increase the average cost per unit (ACPU) for the current grant cycle (including 2020). Provide authority for the Secretary to adjust or waive the ACPU in times of emergency, disaster, pandemic, economic crisis or other event impacting weatherization.

## *Secondary*

- ▶ Increase allowable administrative costs percentage from 10% to 15%
- ▶ Change reweatherization date to 15 year rolling to allow WAP staff to begin reviewing previously weatherized lists, doing intake with potential clients, and building wait lists while production is stopped.
- ▶ Double the cost cap for solar to incentivize solar training and building organizational capacity for future solar installs while production is shut down.

# Legislative Updates

## **FY 2021 Regular Appropriations**

- ▶ NASCSP and other partners asking for \$310 million for WAP in FY2021
  - ▶ 2 year budget agreement, not a lot of new funding available
  - ▶ Increase of \$1.5 million over FY2020, increase to DOE HQ Training and technical assistance
  - ▶ House letter signed by 135 members, Senate letter awaiting final signature count
  - ▶ NASCSP submitting written testimony

## **WAP Reauthorization Bill Status**

- ▶ No updates or movement at this time
- ▶ Senate energy bill hit a wall, then Coronavirus

# DOE Memo 60

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- ▶ Flexibility provided to follow state and local rules and pay WAP workers with program funds
- ▶ Steps DOE will take to address concerns about exceeding ACPU and meeting production and monitoring goals:
  - ▶ Extend grant periods
  - ▶ Roll PY 2019 and 2020 into one budget period (including extensions) and use of \$7,669 for the ACPU for entire budget period
  - ▶ Work with Grantees on an individual basis to adjust performance periods, as needed
  - ▶ Extend flexibility in meeting on-site monitoring requirements
  - ▶ Continue to review and approve 2020 plan submissions and awards as scheduled
  - ▶ Extend HEP certification timeframes
  - ▶ Work with network to develop and promote online training resources

# Best Practices and Strategies - COVID-19

- ▶ Braiding of LIHEAP WAP and DOE WAP funds
  - $\$7,669 + \$7,669 = \$15,338$  total
- ▶ Utilize Admin funds, they are not federally required to be tied to production
- ▶ Utilize all of the T&TA allocation (17.5%)
  - PY2020 = \$52,867,500 T&TA

	% Total Funds Allocated to T&TA	Amount of total T&TA allocated to Subgrantees
Low	3%	33%
<b>Average</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>64%</b>
High	17%	100%

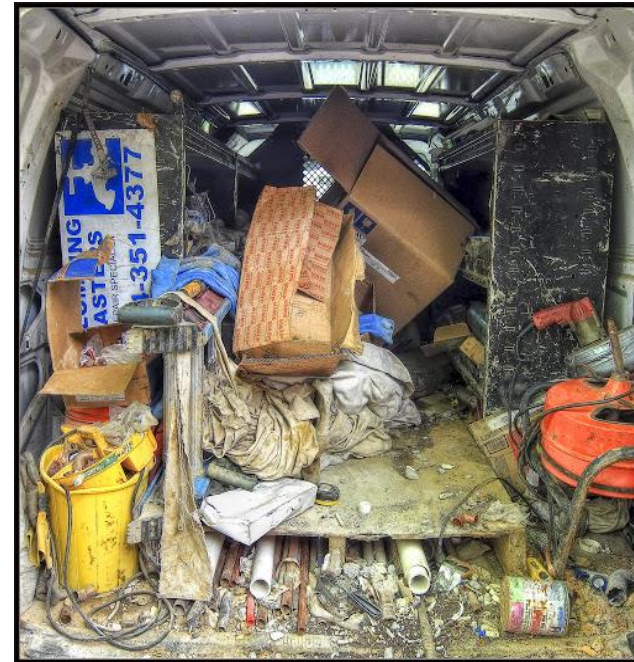


# Best Practices and Strategies - COVID-19

- ▶ Grantee specific webinars with Subgrantees
  - Policy and Procedures Manual review and discussion
  - Health and Safety Plan
  - Energy Audit Policies and Procedures
  - State Plan review
  - Address ACSI improvement strategies
  - Communicate success stories

# Best Practices and Strategies - COVID-19

- ▶ Deferral data gathering and tracking
  - Work with Subgrantees
  - Work with system providers
- ▶ Energy Audit Approval Submissions
  - Annual update to audit libraries
- ▶ Equipment and Inventory
  - Vehicle Maintenance
  - Vehicle Purchase
- ▶ Client Education



# Online Training Resources

- ▶ [Weatherization Online Training Opportunities](#) - Compiled by DOE and the WAP Trainers Consortium
- ▶ BPA [HPC Online Conference](#) - April 27, 2020
  - ▶ [WAP Memo 61](#) - Allowable use of DOE T&TA
- ▶ [Weatherization Grantee Manager Training Toolkit](#)



# Program Updates & Training Resources

[Home](#) » [Weatherization Assistance Program](#) » [Technical and Management Resources](#) » Program Updates & Training Resources

Based on feedback received via a Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Grantee survey, WAP is holding Weatherization trainings for Grantees to review new program initiatives, review important program procedures, and new tools. Access videos of the training and download files.

If you have additional questions after viewing one of these trainings, please contact your DOE Project Officer, or email WAP Technical Assistance at [wapta@hq.doe.gov](mailto:wapta@hq.doe.gov).

⌵ **Energy Audit Tools**

⌵ **Health & Safety**

⌵ **Field Guides/Variance  
Requests/Standards Approval**

⌵ **Monitoring**

⌵ **Guidelines for Home Energy  
Professionals**

⌵ **WAP Management**

<https://www.energy.gov/eere/wipo/downloads/program-updates-training-resources>

# CAPLAW Webinar: Families First Act

## If Employee Unable to Work (or Telework) Because:

1. Subject to a federal, state or local **quarantine or isolation order** related to COVID-19;
2. Has been advised by a **health care provider** to **self-quarantine** due to concerns related to COVID-19;
3. Is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and **seeking a medical diagnosis**;
4. Is **caring for an individual** who is subject to a quarantine order or is self-quarantining;
5. Is **caring for a child** whose school or childcare provider has been closed or is unavailable due to COVID-19 precautions; or
6. Is experiencing any other **substantially similar condition** specified by the Secretary of HHS in consultation with the Secretaries of Treasury and Labor.

CAPLAW

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Families First ACT: CAPLAW Webinar Recording

[View Recording](#) | [Download Slides](#)

# Open Discussion



# Upcoming Regional Calls

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- ▶ May 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ July 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ September 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ November 10<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>

# Thanks for attending!

Bruce Hagen, WAP Program Chair

[bahagen@nd.gov](mailto:bahagen@nd.gov)

Eric Behna, Policy and Communications Manager

[ebehna@nascsp.org](mailto:ebehna@nascsp.org) | 202-370-3662



Amy Klusmeier, WAP Director

[aklusmeier@nascsp.org](mailto:aklusmeier@nascsp.org) | 202-370-3661

Andrea Schroer, WAP Program Manager

[aschroer@nascsp.org](mailto:aschroer@nascsp.org) | 202-370-3666