Overview of Presentation

- Congressional Overview
- COVID-19 House Committee on Natural Resources Overview
  - Chairman Grijalva – Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples
  - Timeline of COVID-19
- Resources
  - Website
  - Factsheet
  - Infographic
  - Tribal Stories and form
- COVID-19 Oversight
  - Chair Grijalva – Tribal Leader
  - IHS Call & Letter
  - Chair Grijalva and Members – IHS Call
  - FEMA Letter
- Potential Package 4
- Questions and Comments
1st Package

• On March 6, 2020 the President signed **H.R. 6074 - the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020** into law

• This bill provided:

  • grants or cooperative agreements with tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations or health service to tribes, and

  • included **$40 million dollars** allocated to tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian health organizations, or health service providers to tribes.
2nd package

- H.R.6201 - Families First Coronavirus Response Act
  - TITLE IV--DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
    - This title provides $64 million in appropriations to the Indian Health Service for COVID-19 diagnostic testing and services.
    - (Sec. 6007)
      - This section requires the Department of Health and Human Services to cover, during the public health emergency and without cost-sharing, COVID-19 testing and related visits for Native Americans, including Alaska Natives, who receive health services through the Indian Health Service (IHS), regardless of whether the COVID-19 services are covered under IHS.
3rd package

- H.R.748 - CARES Act
  - Included a number of appropriations ranging from IHS funding, housing, tribal education, Bureau of Indian Affairs Bureau of Indian Education, Federal Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, and assistance for tribal fisherman for disaster assistance
  - Tribal businesses are eligible for:
    - Paycheck Protection Program and Emergency Economic Injury Disaster Loan Grants through Small Business Administration
COVID-19 Overview
Timeline

- **March 6, 2020** the President signed *H.R. 6074 - the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2020* into law.

- **March 13th** House Committees have a call with the Indian Health Services (IHS) administrators
  - Vice-Chair Haaland and Subcommittee Chair Gallego introduce the CDC Tribal Public Health Security and Preparedness Act

- **March 18th** Chair Grijalva Pushes for Clarity on Federal Coronavirus Response in Indian Country – Asks for Documentation of Testing Equipment at Tribal Centers

- **March 20h** – Subcommittee Chair Gallego leads letter to urge the CDC to immediately transfer funding to IHS for tribes to be prepared for COVID-19

- **March 20th** CDC released funds to tribes
Timeline

- **March 14th** House passes – **Families First Coronavirus Response Act** – signed March 18th

- **March 24th** Chair Grijalva, Vice Chair Haaland, Subcommittee Chair Gallego have a call with Indian Health Service (IHS)
  - Following Administration Briefing, Chair Grijalva and House Dems Call for Congressional Relief Bill to Address Desperate Health Needs in Indian Country

- **March 27th** IHS released funding
Coronavirus Resources

Committee Resources for Indian Country and Insular Areas
Coronavirus in Indian Country

Website for Congressional and Federal updates
Coronavirus Resource Center
Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and Democrats in Congress are working hard to ensure that Indian Country, Insular territories and other underserved populations can access medical resources to keep people safe and combat the coronavirus pandemic.

CORONAVIRUS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

HOW IS CORONAVIRUS IMPACTING INDIAN COUNTRY?
TELL CHAIR GRIJALVA BY CLICKING HERE

We encourage Members of Indian Country to send Chair Grijalva information about coronavirus impacts and preparations currently affecting communities across the nation HERE.

Resources and Information on Coronavirus in Indian Country
Indian Health Service Coronavirus Website - HERE
Fact Sheet on The Coronavirus In Indian Country - HERE
Coronavirus in Indian Country Infographic - HERE
Coronavirus Tribal Funding Information From The Center for Disease Control - HERE, HERE
House Democrats Secure Investments for Tribes In Cares Act - HERE

Congressional Action by Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and House Democrats
03.20.20 Chair Grijalva Calls Coronavirus Relief Package – Highlights Financial Assistance for Indian Country and U.S. Territories, Urges More Support in Future Bills - HERE
03.26.2020 Chair Grijalva Letter to FEMA on Coronavirus Response in Indian Country - HERE
03.24 2020 Following Administration Briefing, Chair Grijalva and House Dems Call for Congressional Relief Bill to Address Desperate Health Needs In Indian Country - HERE
03.20 2020 – Subcommittee Chair Gallego leads letter to urge the CDC to immediately transfer funding to IHS for tribes to be prepared for COVID-19 - HERE
03.18.20 Chair Grijalva Pushes for Clarity on Federal Coronavirus Response in Indian Country – Asks for Documentation of Testing Equipment at Tribal Centers - HERE
Congressional Action by Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and House Democrats
03.27.20 Chair Grijalva Hails Coronavirus Relief Package - Highlights Financial Assistance for Indian Country and U.S. Territories, Urges More Support in Future Bills - HERE
03.26.2020 Chair Grijalva Letter to FEMA on Coronavirus Response in Indian Country - HERE
03.24.2020 Following Administration Briefing, Chair Grijalva and House Dems Call for Congressional Relief Bill to Address Desperate Health Needs in Indian Country - HERE
03.20.2020 – Subcommittee Chair Gallego leads letter to urge the CDC to immediately transfer funding to IHS for tribes to be prepared for COVID-19 - HERE
03.18.2020 Chair Grijalva Pushes for Clarity on Federal Coronavirus Response in Indian Country – Asks for Documentation of Testing Equipment at Tribal Centers - HERE
03.13.2020 Vice-Chair Haaland and Subcommittee Chair Gallego Introduce the CDC Tribal Public Health Security and Preparedness Act - HERE

News About Coronavirus In Indian Country
- Arizona Republic, Indian communities should see better flow of coronavirus aid, Democrats say - HERE
- Politico, Where coronavirus could find a refuge: Native American reservations - HERE
- Santa Fe Reporter, 'A Very Limited Budget' - HERE
- TIME, Alaska's Remote Villages Are Cutting Themselves Off to Avoid Even 'One Single Case' of Coronavirus, HERE
- Indianz, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention faulted for delay in Indian Country coronavirus funds - HERE
- The New Republic, Protecting Native Elders During A Pandemic - HERE
- ABC News, New Mexico's governor warns tribal nations could be 'wiped out' by coronavirus - HERE
- Indian Country Today, It is also our tradition to protect our people; the canoes will wait - HERE
- The Oklahoman, Coronavirus In Oklahoma: Tribes battle coronavirus, much like state and federal government - HERE
- KNAU, COVID-19 Relief Package includes $8 Billion for Tribal Assistance - HERE
- VICE, The US Has Neglected Indian Country For Years. Now Comes a Pandemic - HERE
- Vox, The coronavirus is exacerbating vulnerabilities Native communities already face - HERE
- The Conversation, Tribal leaders face great need and don’t have enough resources to respond to the coronavirus pandemic - HERE
- The Wall Street Journal, Coronavirus Hits Native American Groups Already Struggling With Poor Health Care - HERE
- ABC News, Tribes take measures to slow spread of new coronavirus - HERE
- Politico, Emergency coronavirus funds for American Indian health stalled - HERE
- The Guardian, 'Timing is critical': Native Americans warn virus may overwhelm underfunded health services - HERE
- NBC News, Native American tribes brace for coronavirus: 'It's going to be a test' - HERE
- The Hill, How the coronavirus threatens Native American communities - HERE
- Indianz, 'Lives are at risk': Coronavirus cases continue to grow in Indian Country as tribes push for action in Washington - HERE
- Indian Country Today, Homeless, Vulnerable. And no option for 'self isolation' - HERE
- Indian Country Today, Spike reported in Navajo Nation cases - HERE
THE CORONAVIRUS IN INDIAN COUNTRY

HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE CHAIR RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

March 2020

Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and Democrats in Congress are working hard to ensure that Indian Country can access medical resources to keep people safe and combat the coronavirus pandemic. Members of Indian Country can share information [HERE] about coronavirus impacts and preparations currently affecting communities across the nation.

WHY ARE NATIVE AMERICANS AT RISK?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) identify several health risk factors for severe symptoms and mortality related to a coronavirus diagnosis, including increased prevalence of heart disease, diabetes, and renal disease. These conditions are highly prevalent in Indian Country, making Native American communities more vulnerable to epidemic and pandemic outbreaks of respiratory illnesses. During the 2009 HINI influenza pandemic, Native American communities suffered mortality rates four times higher than that of all other racial and ethnic groups combined.
Infographic

- The Indian health service has limited resources and medical supplies available for sick patients.
- 55% of tribal leaders and health care providers indicated that they do not have the capacity to isolate presumptive coronavirus patients.
- 87% of tribal leaders and health care providers have not received personal protective equipment from the federal government.
- 83% of tribal leaders and health care providers have not received durable medical equipment from the federal government.
Coronavirus in Indian Country

Tell us your story, give us your input for future legislative packages.

Coronavirus In Indian Country

Chair Raúl M. Grijalva and Democrats in Congress are working hard to ensure that Indian Country can access medical resources to keep people safe and combat the Coronavirus pandemic. Please complete this form and share how your community is being impacted by Coronavirus.

Thank you for sharing valuable information about your community's needs as we work to increase public support during this crisis.

* Required

1. First Name *

Enter your answer

2. Last Name *

Enter your answer
The Moapa Band of Paiutes depends on our Travel Plaza truck stop, Casinos, Fireworks Stand, Solar Projects, and Government Grants and Leases for Tribal income. There is no flexibility for us to generate additional revenue to replace that which has been lost due to closures (Casinos and Fireworks Stand) and reduced sales.

– Moapa Band of Paiutes, NV
On the Ground
Tribal Concerns

SEC. 1102 – PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM

- Tribal Business Loan Defaults

“Our tribally owned businesses casino, hotel, cafe and bowling alley closed, impacting salary and benefits of employees. Loss of revenue to support tribal government operations, potential for default of our financial covenants to lending institutions and vendors.”

– Santa Clara Pueblo, NM
Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Welfare Assistance Program

- Food/personal supplies scarcity:

  “We have little funding to purchase personal supplies and food and necessities for our most vulnerable tribal members who may not have resources to stock up and stay home.”

  – Pueblo of San Felipe, NM
Title XII – Departments of Transportation and Housing

• Lack of Housing

“We have homeless people with nowhere to go, and virtually no resources available.”

– Sovereign Bodies Institute, CA
Oversight

Working remotely for Indian Country
Oversight

- March 26\textsuperscript{th} 2020 - Chair Grijalva Letter to FEMA on Coronavirus Response in Indian Country
- March 27\textsuperscript{th} CARES Act passed with funding for tribes
  - Implementation oversight

- Cares 2.0
  - Indian Country more direct funding
  - Unemployment and Small Businesses
  - Economic relief on and off tribal lands
    - Tribal organizations

- Website
Coronavirus in Indian Country

Tell us your story, give us your input for future legislative packages.

Coronavirus In Indian Country

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* Required

1. First Name *
   
   Enter your answer

2. Last Name *
   
   Enter your answer
Committee Newsletter

Sign-up for Committee Updates - https://naturalresources.house.gov/contact/newsletter
Sapè
Thank you!

Naomi Miguel, MPA/MPP
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House Committee on Natural Resources
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Questions or Comments