WHEN WE FIGHT WE WIN

The original COVID-19 stimulus bill was a bailout for bosses, not for workers. Our union and the labor movement, community organizations, and progressive politicians across the country stood up, fought for and won a stimulus that will put much needed money into our pockets. Here is our initial analysis:

SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN AMOUNT AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

- Funded a $600 per week increase to your regular unemployment pay starting 3/29/2020 through 7/30/2020
- This benefit will be paid weekly. We don’t know when the money will start but it will be retroactive to 3/29/2020. It is subject to 10% federal withholding tax which you can defer to your next tax filing.
- Initial waiting week & search for work requirements have been waived.
- The Federal Gov’t is funding an additional 13 weeks of benefits after you exhausted 26 weeks of unemployment
- Individuals who file partial claims will also get the $600/week until 7/30/2020.

CREATED A NEW PROGRAM - PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE - FOR PEOPLE NOT TYPICALLY COVERED BY UNEMPLOYMENT

- Extends benefits to people who are self-employed, contractors, gig workers & people without a work history.
- Provides benefits to someone who is caring for someone who has COVID-19, is experiencing symptoms, or is taking care of children whose school or daycare is closed.
- Available to anyone who is still unemployed and exhausted their other state unemployment benefits.
- Recipients will also receive the $600/week Pandemic Unemployment Compensation payment thru 7/30/2020.
- Benefits will be retroactive to Jan. 27th, 2020 thru Dec. 31st, 2020 but wait to apply until the state finalizes the program. We will notify individuals when this program is open for applications.

STIMULUS CHECKS TO PUT MONEY IN PEOPLE’S POCKETS

- Most adults will receive a stimulus payment of $1200.00 and an additional $500 per dependent child age 16 or under. These checks will not be taxed. Checks should start arriving after April 20th.
- If you are single and earn over $75,000/year or if you are married and your total household income is over $150,000 the amount is lower.
- The amount will be based on your 2019 tax return, or your 2018 tax return if you haven’t filed 2019 yet.

NATIONAL MORATORIUM ON EVICTIONS AND STUDENT LOAN RELIEF

- 120 day moratorium on evictions for renters if your landlord has a mortgage backed by the federal government.
- Anyone who took out a federal student loan in the last 10 years won’t be responsible for payments or interest until September 30th, 2020.

BAILOUTS WITH OVERSIGHT AND STRINGS ATTACHED FOR THE BOSSES

- Many of our employers will still receive bailouts but they come with more oversight than previous bailouts. We need to keep fighting to make sure bailed out employers hold up their end of the bargain and protect our jobs and benefits. We will get back to work with a strong union when the time comes.

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