



Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO

COVID-19 Priorities

Flight Attendants depend on a healthy economy and good union jobs for all public, private, and federal workers in order to have security in our jobs and for our families. We need our government to coordinate a massive response to test, treat, and contain the coronavirus. Lead with the health of our nation – paid sick leave, robust healthcare, the ability to pay rent and be safe in our homes with continued pay checks. Promote good jobs with an infrastructure that helps us build a healthy economy for all and correct the failed policies that led to an insufficient response to this national crisis.

Testing/Treatment/Vaccines

- All testing and treatment for COVID-19 must be free. No deductibles, no copays.
- Once developed, any vaccination for COVID-19 must be free. No deductibles, no copays.
- The federal government should make federal buildings nationwide available for testing and treatment facilities, where possible, to alleviate our hospital bed shortage.

Keep People in Their Homes and Democracy Running

- National moratorium on evictions and foreclosures during the period of the national emergency.
- Cease all federal debt collection during the period of the national emergency.
- During the period of the national emergency, require that all states submit a plan to make vote by mail available to all Americans.

Economic Stimulus Targeted to Support American Families

- Respond to projected economic growth impacts of at least 2-3% of GDP on an annualized basis.
- Provide money directly to workers as quickly and as progressively as possible. That would include:
 - Social Security benefit increases
 - Direct cash payments
 - Student loan debt cancellation
 - Emergency federal UI extensions nationwide, checks to workers effective immediately upon unemployment, no waiting period
 - Payment of COBRA premiums
- No payroll tax cuts or deferments of tax payments.

Hold Corporations Accountable for Use of Publicly Funded Stimulus

- If any company receives government grants or cash infusions via a stimulus, they should have to meet the following conditions until they fully repay the loan with interest:
 1. Corporations must maintain their payrolls and use funds to keep people working or on payroll.
 2. Ban on use of funds for stock buy-backs; ban companies receiving stimulus funds from engaging in stock buy-backs until funds are repaid in full.
 3. No use of stimulus funds for executive bonuses until funds are repaid in full
 4. No use of stimulus funds for stock dividends.
 5. Depending on the size of the loan, they must set aside one or more seats on the board for a representative elected by workers.



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6. Require neutrality in labor organizing as a condition of grants. No taxpayer funds may be used for union avoidance.
7. Stimulus must supplement collective bargaining agreements.
8. Any company that files for Chapter 11 within five years of stimulus grant will be subject to all of the provisions of "Protecting Employees and Retirees in Bankruptcies Act, H.R. 138 (Conyers, 2017) and S. 2518 (Durbin, 2018).

Increase Public Health Capacity

Invest in Community Health Centers

- Permanently fund community health centers with the resources necessary to defend against future pandemics. Immediately make CHC funding permanent for 5 years. We can't afford to have the CHC funding expire in May during an ongoing pandemic. Although Congress gave the CHCs an additional \$100 million last week as part of the supplemental appropriations package, the crisis has deepened considerably during the last week. Send at minimum an additional \$1 billion to the CHCs to cover the expanded costs of treatment, personnel, and equipment they will need to adequately respond to this crisis. These are the frontline health centers in rural and underserved urban areas treating populations most likely to be uninsured and underinsured.

Additional funding for federal public health preparedness infrastructure in rural communities.

- Provide an increase in CHC funding for the National Health Services Corps to quickly send health personnel to rural and underserved areas in need of tests and treatment. Because of rampant hospital closures, rural areas will be hit hard by COVID-19.
- Provide a one-time payment of \$5 billion to be used by CHCs for capital projects, to build out the infrastructure we need to serve patients in rural areas during a pandemic. This will also serve as an important source of stimulus during a recession.
- Act aggressively to address potential ventilator shortages. Require relevant federal contractors to put manufacturing capacity towards producing additional ventilators.

Establish an American Medical Program to create publicly-owned and operated health facilities across the country

- Pass universal, single-payer healthcare for all people residing in the United States
- Establish a federally-funded and managed healthcare infrastructure to provide direct service similar to the VA nationwide.
- Wherever possible, retrofit and upgrade existing facilities (shuttered hospitals, unused military facilities, etc.).
- As necessary, build new facilities consistent with sustainable practices using union labor.
- Invest in training and employing healthcare professionals nationwide.

Rebuild America's Manufacturing Base, Especially for Critical Materials

- Make investments that help in both the short term and long term. Those would include:
 - Promoting American manufacturing of active pharmaceutical ingredients and their base components so we don't have to rely on China for critical drugs.
 - Green infrastructure investments to decarbonize our economy.
 - Medical research investments, including in developing vaccines for coronavirus and a universal flu vaccine.
 - Critical materials and equipment with a special focus on medical supplies like N95 masks and other equipment necessary to keep Americans safe during pandemics and other crises.