

From the Office of US Senator Jeanne Shaheen

2020 U.S. Census:

If you have constituents who have reached out with questions about participating in the 2020 U.S. Census, more information can be found [here](#). This link also provides answers to frequently asked questions.

Governor Sununu's Executive Orders:

Yesterday, Governor Sununu announced three additional Executive Orders. [Executive Order #23](#) outlined a temporary modification of municipal and local government statutory requirements. All of the Governor's Executive Orders related to COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

NH SBA Daily Webinars

The NH SBA continues to host daily webinars to provide an overview of the Emergency Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program and how to apply. Webinar details that can be shared with small businesses are outlined [here](#).

Senator Shaheen's Recent Advocacy Efforts:

- Yesterday, Senator Shaheen sent a letter with Senator Hassan and 39 of their colleagues expressing alarm over contradictory guidance released by the International Revenue Service (IRS) on whether or not eligible Social Security beneficiaries have to file a tax return to receive direct cash assistance as provisioned by the CARES Act and calling for the Treasury Department and Social Security Administration to ensure all Social Security beneficiaries will automatically receive the direct assistance without having to file returns. More information can be found [here](#) and the full letter can be read [here](#).
 - **UPDATE:** *The IRS has since issued a [press release](#) with additional guidance which clarifies that Social Security beneficiaries who are not typically required to file tax returns will not need to file an abbreviated tax return to receive an Economic Impact Payment. Instead, payments will be automatically deposited into their bank accounts. The IRS will use the information on the Form SSA-1099 and Form RRB-1099 to generate \$1,200 Economic Impact Payments to Social Security recipients who did not file tax returns in 2018 or 2019. Recipients will receive these payments as a direct deposit or by paper check, just as they would normally receive their benefits. For questions related to Economic Injury Payments, please see the IRS's answers to frequently asked questions [here](#).*
- Earlier this week, Senator Shaheen and the rest of the NH Congressional Delegation called on President Donald Trump to swiftly approve Governor Chris Sununu's request for a Major Disaster Declaration for New Hampshire in response to COVID-19. The CARES Act, which Congress passed and the president signed last week, includes an additional \$45 billion for the Disaster Relief Fund. If the President approves New Hampshire's request for a disaster declaration, the state will be eligible for reimbursements from the Disaster Relief Fund for expenses related to COVID-19. In addition, the Congressional Delegation is supporting the state's request for additional direct financial assistance to individuals and families as they face the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. More information can be found [here](#) and the full letter sent to President Trump can be read [here](#).

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- Earlier this week, Senator Shaheen and the rest of the NH Congressional Delegation announced \$147 million that New Hampshire can expect from this new law that was signed by the President last week. This funding is in addition to the [\\$1.25 billion](#) that the state will receive to compensate for COVID-19 emergency response efforts. More information on this funding can be found [here](#).
- Earlier this week, Senator Shaheen and Senator Hassan led their colleagues in urging the Office of Child Care at the Department of Health and Human Services to take additional steps to expand child care options for health care workers and others on the frontlines responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as provide critical guidance to child care providers to ensure that they are taking appropriate action to minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 at centers that remain open. More information can be found [here](#) and the full letter can be read [here](#).
- Earlier this week, following outreach from Senator Shaheen and Senator Hassan, two major insurance companies, Humana and Cigna, announced that they will waive in-network and out-of-network cost-sharing for COVID-19 medical expenses, which includes testing and treatment, for both presumptive and confirmed COVID-19 cases. Humana and Cigna's decision came after Senators Shaheen and Hassan urged insurance companies to cover all COVID-19-related treatment and services without cost-sharing requirements, which would allow Granite Staters and Americans to get tested, assessed, and treated without the fear of unexpected medical bills. More information can be found [here](#).
- Last week, Senator Shaheen sent a letter to Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Robert Redfield to reevaluate CDC guidelines to prioritize "source patients" who have symptoms of COVID-19 and come into contact with first responders. In the letter, Senator Shaheen emphasized that if these source patients could be tested sooner and have their lab results processed more quickly, first responders would not have to self-quarantine for as long. More information can be found [here](#) and the full letter can be read [here](#).

Lastly, our office has published a COVID-19 [resources](#) page to our website for Granite Staters. Please feel free to share this link with your communities.