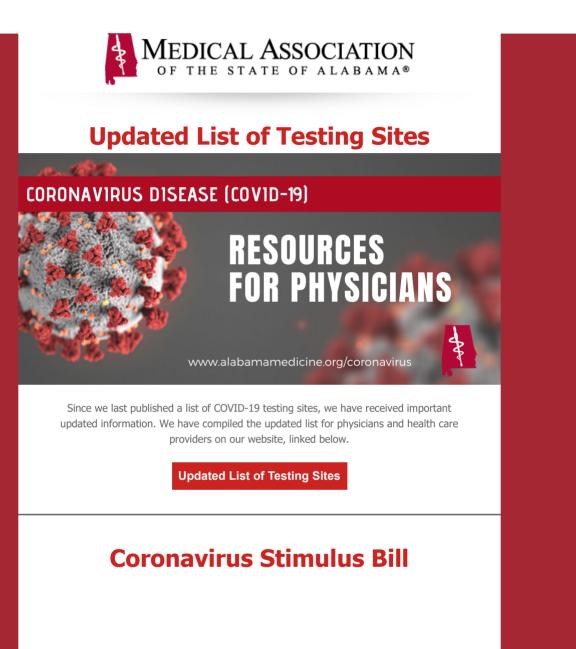


#### COVID-19 Update | March 25, 2020

Wed, Mar 25, 2020 at 4:57 PM





As of press time, official details of the Stimulus Bill have not yet been released. What we do know is that this legislative agreement will have an immediate — and lasting — impact on ordinary citizens around the country.

Here is part of what is expected to be in the bill:

**Small businesses** will get \$367 billion in loan guarantees to keep making payroll while workers have to stay home. Companies with 500 employees or less that keep paychecks steady could get up to \$10 million each in forgivable small business loans.

**Hospitals and health care workers:** The deal injects \$100 billion into the nation's health system, and billions more into providing personal and protective equipment for health care workers, testing supplies, and increased workforce and training.

<u>Coronavirus testing</u>: All testing and potential vaccines for COVID-19 will be covered at no cost to patients.

We will inform you as soon as more updates become available.

Read the story from Axios

MEDICAL ASSOC OF THE STATE OF AL Mail - COVID-19 Update | March 25, 2020



### Tuscaloosa Under Curfew because of COVID-19

Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox signed an executive order Wednesday establishing a city-wide curfew starting Friday night that will last at least a week.

"Its goal is to reduce social gatherings, especially among young people, in our community," the mayor said at a press conference announcing the order.

Read the full story on AL.com.

# Huntsville Hospital Awaiting Test Results for 41 Patients



Huntsville Hospital CEO David Spillers says there are 41 hospitalized patients awaiting test results. He says more than 1,000 people have been tested in Madison County.

Spillers says there are two positive cases at Huntsville Hospital Main Campus and two at Huntsville Hospital Madison Campus. He says he believes those patients are on ventilators.

Watch the Press Conference Here

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## Coronavirus Telephone Town Hall with Bradley Byrne



#### From Bradley Byrne:

As our country responds to challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic it's important to support our local communities. Whether it is by staying home and following CDC recommendations, supporting medical professionals serving on the frontlines, ordering food from local restaurants, donating blood, or getting groceries for an elderly neighbor, your actions make a difference.

As we all continue to adjust our daily lives, I hope you can join me for another coronavirus telephone town hall on **Thursday, March 26 at 5:50**. I will provide an update on the federal government's response, and you'll be able to ask me questions as well.

Sign Up for the Call

## **CMS Telehealth Fact Sheet**

Today Southeastern Telehealth Resource Center sent out the attached document from CMS. It is a wonderful resource for Medicare Fee-For-Service Providers.

#### Download the booklet here.

### Ask CMS to Cover Telephone-Only Visits for Seniors

The increased use of telehealth during the COVID-19 pandemic is critical to maintain as much access to care as possible for patients while appropriately practicing social distancing. At present, CMS's current telehealth policy for Medicare patients falls far short of achieving these goals by not allowing telephone-only visits for Alabama seniors. **American Senior Alliance** joins the Medical Association in calling on CMS to fix the Alabama telehealth policy.

Do your part and contact CMS, the President and Vice President, and Congress today.



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