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Below please find the Murphy office update on COVID-19. Beginning next week, we'll transition to sending these COVID-19 updates every Friday.

As always, if you need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our Hartford or Washington, D.C. offices.

Here's what you need to know today, June 30<sup>th</sup>:

- Yesterday, Senator Murphy joined his Democratic colleagues on the floor of the U.S. Senate to urge that the Senate take up and pass the U.S. House of Representatives COVID-19 relief bill that includes urgently-needed money for states and local governments to deal with the health and economic fallout of the pandemic. Republicans objected to the request. You can watch Senator Murphy's remarks [here](#).
- Today, Senator Murphy, along with Senator Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire and Senator Chris Van Hollen of Maryland introduced legislation that would increase funding for children with disabilities. The *Supporting Children with Disabilities During COVID-19 Act* would provide \$11 billion for state grants under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), \$1.2 billion for early childhood education programs, \$55 million under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, and require recipients of funds to report to Congress how this money is spent.
- Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal [joined](#) Senator Baldwin of Wisconsin and several of their colleagues in introducing an amendment to the *National Defense Authorization Act of 2021 (NDAA)* that would require President Trump to unlock the full authority and power of the *Defense Production Act* to scale up nation-wide production of the testing supplies, personal protective equipment, and medical equipment needed at the local level to address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.
- Today, Senator Murphy questioned White House Coronavirus Task Force members NIH's Dr. Anthony Fauci, FDA Administrator Stephen Hahn, CDC Director Robert Redfield and Assistant Secretary for Health Adm. Brett Giroir at a U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee hearing updating the Senate on the progress toward safely getting back to work and back to school. You can watch Senator Murphy's questions [here](#).
- Governor Ned Lamont today [announced](#) that in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, he is authorizing the state to release \$2 million from the Coronavirus Relief Funds to expand the Connecticut Youth Employment

Program, an ongoing initiative that provides year-round employment opportunities with community-based agencies throughout the state. The expanded program will help community health agencies respond to the pandemic by providing critical support and education to marginalized populations that have been disproportionately impacted by the virus.

- Governor Lamont announced a comprehensive plan to put more than \$33 million in state and federal resources to work providing emergency assistance to renters, homeowners, and residential landlords impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency. You can read more about it [here](#).
- Yesterday, Governor Lamont and Education Commissioner Miguel Cardona released the [comprehensive plan](#) that will serve as a roadmap for districts as they plan to reopen schools at the beginning of the 2020-21 academic year. You can read the plan [here](#).
- It is important and free to get tested for COVID-19. Check out [CT's 211 Testing Locator](#) and enter your town, zip code, street address, or county to find locations closest to you.

For information on federal coronavirus relief, including help for small businesses, direct cash payments and more, visit [murphy.senate.gov/coronavirus](http://murphy.senate.gov/coronavirus). This page provides answers to frequently asked questions and gives a summary of available programs and funding.

For the latest information about keeping you or your family safe go to [cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://cdc.gov/coronavirus). For resources and information about Connecticut's response visit [ct.gov/coronavirus](http://ct.gov/coronavirus).

I hope you found this letter helpful. You can get the latest updates on Senator Murphy's work in the Senate by following him on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#). If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our offices in Hartford or in Washington, DC.



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[If you would like to opt-out of future coronavirus updates, please click here.](#)