

OPRA MEMBER UPDATE

MARCH 28, 2020

Week of 3/22 Passed Legislation

Late during the week of 3/22/2020, Governor Mike DeWine and President Trump signed important legislation meant to combat COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and stabilize the economy.

Federal: The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) Late in the afternoon of 3/27/2020, President Trump signed the CARES Act into law. The two trillion-dollar stimulus bill is meant to help stabilize the economy and provide additional funding to individuals, public health services, hospitals and other health care providers, and businesses of all sizes. This is the third piece of massive legislation meant to combat COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We anticipate seeing more bills in the coming weeks.

The Columbus Dispatch published a helpful, very high-level summary of the CARES Act

["Here's what's in the historic stimulus package for coronavirus"](#)

Of note for HCBS waiver providers- the CARES Act changed federal Medicaid statute to allow for certain time DSPs spend providing supports to a waiver enrollee in an acute care hospital. Specific regulations will need to be developed for allowing this. States will need to apply to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to begin offering this as a billable service. This change was pushed heavily by our national partners at ANCOR and got strong support from Senator Rob Portman.

State: House Bill 197- Also in the afternoon of 3/27/2020, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine signed House Bill 197 into law. The law makes certain necessary temporary statute changes to fully implement the various Executive Orders and Director of Health Director's Orders made over the past few weeks meant to slow the spread of COVID-19. The bill includes many provisions. You can read about them [here](#).

Please contact Christine at Ctouvelle@opra.org with any questions or comments.

COVID19 (Coronavirus) SBA Small Business Disaster Loans

From the federal Small Business Administration (SBA): "SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to businesses of all sizes, private non-profit organizations, homeowners, and renters. SBA disaster loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and inventory and business assets."

[Read more Coronavirus information from the SBA here.](#)

Please visit [OPRA's SBA Disaster Relief resource page](#) for more information on small business relief through the SBA.



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Covid Questions

We would like to thank everyone who has submitted questions to our dedicated 'Covid Questions' email address at covidqs@opra.org. Here is the roundup of questions and answers from the last few days.

Question: Is there an online training resource for CPR and First Aid to be updated or completed?

Answer: Since the training relaxations around CPR and First Aid are still so new, we are working to find and develop online resources for such trainings. The American Red Cross provides online CPR/FA and their training catalogue can be accessed at the link below.

[American Red Cross Online Training Classes](#)

Question: Not clear about our (new?) FMLA responsibilities we have now. Now Paid? Longer? What do we need to know?

Answer: Below is the most up-to-date guidance regarding the FMLA and Unemployment under the several pieces of legislation passed to provide relief to those affected by Covid-19. Important aspects about the implementation of these rules, especially as it applies to whether DSPs are included as essential health care workers, the link below has many great resources to understanding the new FMLA provisions.

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/pandemic>

We have also compiled several employment law questions answered by our partners at Vorys [here on OPRA's website.](#)

Question: What are other Providers choosing to do when an employee presents with a fever but no other symptoms prior to the FFA, how long are you making employees stay out?

Answer: [Here is the CDC guidance](#) on allowing employees come back to work- You will notice there are two methods- one that includes a multiple COVID 19 tests and one that doesn't. The one with tests is obviously not feasible at this point.

[Click here](#) to read the rest of the questions posed and answered to Covidqs@opra.org



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DODD Updates:

With so many changes and memos coming from DODD this week, we have attempted to compile all of the week's updates here below. Contained are information about relaxed processes, billing concessions and other steps taken by DODD to support the system.

[3/27: Latest DODD Guidance and Resources: Including EI, HIPAA, and ICF Cost Reporting](#)
[3/26:DODD Guidance and Resources: Including guidance on service authorizations, Behavior support, emergency tele-health, expediting background checks and non-medical transportation](#)
[Guidance: Certification Span Extensions for Upcoming Renewals](#)
[MUI Registry Unit: Updated Guidance](#)
[Service Authorization Requirements Frozen](#)
[What Ohio's Stay-at-Home Order Means for Ohio's Developmental Disabilities System](#)
[Guidance: Certification Span Extensions for Upcoming Renewals](#)
[OSSAS Suspends Scheduled Compliance Reviews, Regulatory Work](#)
[Guidance: Home Waiver Settings](#)
[Guidance: Day Support Service Options](#)
[DODD's Statewide Support Teams Available for COVID-19 Response](#)
[Guidance: Providers of Waiver-Funded Services](#)
[Guidance for ICFs Regarding COVID-19](#)
[COVID-19: Updates for ICFs](#)
[Guidance: Rule Relief for Medication Administration Certification Renewals](#)

Covid-19 Resources

We understand that during this time it can feel like the proverbially firehouse of information. We wanted to take the moment to provide several links and resources we hope are helpful in sorting through the most pertinent information out there.

[The Ohio Department of Health dedicated Covid-19 Homepage](#)

[OPRA's Covid-19 Resource Center:](#) Our new website including shared member resources, vendor partner resources, information on small business loan assistance, HR resources, and much more!

[The Center for Disease Control's Covid 19 Home Page](#)

[Ohio EMA's Tabletop Exercise Toolkit](#)

[DOL Covid Resource Page:](#) This page contains many useful resources for navigating the many labor/HR issues changes happening in response to Covid-19

[Red Cross Online CPR/First Aid Training Courses](#)

[DODD Statewide Support Teams](#)

[DODD Resources and Support](#)

