

Federal pandemic legislation summary – January 2021

Stimulus funds

- \$600 per person, including children: family of four would be \$2,400
- Household is eligible even if a person resides there who is not a legal resident of the United States (sometimes called an undocumented person).
- Possible retroactive payment of denied amounts from the first round for undocumented persons.

Unemployment assistance

- Pandemic assistance program reinstated.
- Basic benefits, including for gig workers and independent contractors, will continue until mid-March 2021.
- Likewise the special supplement of \$300 per week will continue until mid-March 2021.

Eviction moratorium

- Federal moratorium, issued through the CDC (Centers for Disease Prevention and Control), is extended through January 31, 2021.
- **After January there may be no legal barrier preventing eviction, so it is likely that some landlords will begin the eviction process for those with outstanding balances.**
- If tenants make even a partial good faith payments toward any outstanding balance, this will indicate desire to remain in the home and willingness to work with the landlord to pay down the balance.

Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP)

- New law increases benefit level by 15% through June 2021.

Employment opportunities for those dealing with job loss

- Employment opportunities and training are available through MassHire career center: www.masshirebristol.org
- Also MassHire in Brockton offers employment and training services: www.masshiregbcc.org