

Monday, July 27, 2020

To: New York Community Banks

FROM ICBA

Details of Senate stimulus expected this week

Senate committee leaders are slated to begin introducing components of forthcoming stimulus legislation this week. A rough outline released last week included ICBA-advocated provisions to provide an intermediate forgiveness process for PPP loans under \$1 million and streamlined forgiveness for loans under \$150,000.

ICBA has led the effort to simplify PPP loan forgiveness, advocating a presumption of compliance for all loans of \$1 million or less since May. ICBA is also advocating an online PPP loan-forgiveness calculator, liability protections from COVID-19-related lawsuits, and additional relief. With a new [Main Street Matters post](#) showing how community banks have led the way on PPP lending, ICBA continues calling on community bankers to use its [Be Heard grassroots action center](#) to urge Congress to advance needed reforms in the next stimulus package.

U.S. Mint urges consumers to get coin moving

The U.S. Mint encouraged consumers to help improve coin circulation to offset disruptions caused by COVID-19. In a [statement](#), the Mint said consumers can help by paying with exact change and returning spare change to circulation.

The Mint said that retailers and small businesses will have difficulty accepting cash payments until coin circulation patterns return to normal. It noted that cash is the only form of payment for millions of Americans.

ICBA is part of the U.S. Coin Task Force, a Federal Reserve initiative to mitigate the effects of low coin circulation. ICBA community banker and task force member Sherri Reagin, of North Salem State Bank in North Salem, Ind., discussed the issue last week on [Marketplace](#).

Senate Advances Garnishment Protections For Stimulus Payments

The Senate passed [ICBA-supported](#) legislation that would exempt Economic Impact Payments from court-ordered garnishments to pay creditors. The legislation would provide the federal stimulus payments with garnishment protections like those available to Social Security benefits. The bill must still pass the House and be signed into law.

FROM OTHER SOURCES

- White House chief of staff Meadows and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin said they are considering pushing for the passage of a narrower bill that would extend the supplemental federal unemployment benefits, scheduled to expire this week. Democratic lawmakers have already rejected anything less than a comprehensive relief plan. As for the larger economic stimulus bill that is currently expected to be released this afternoon, Senate Majority Leader McConnell has said that negotiations with Democrats could take weeks. ([The New York Times](#))
- Federal Reserve officials meet Tuesday and Wednesday facing growing doubts about the prospect for a sustained economic rebound due to the nation's uneven public-health response to the coronavirus. Officials have warned in speeches and interviews that the economy faces a deeper downturn and more difficult recovery if the country doesn't take more effective action to slow the spread of infection. [Fed Outlook Turns Gloomier as Coronavirus Spreads](#)

- For Realtor James Dietsche, there is only one way to describe the real estate market right now: "It's insane." A 1950s style three-bedroom home he listed in late June for \$200,000 in a small town outside Harrisburg, Pa., received 26 offers the initial weekend it was for sale. [2020 is the summer of booming home sales - and evictions](#)
- Record-low interest rates are helping home buyers lock in years of savings on future mortgage payments. But those searching for larger homes or in expensive markets aren't reaping the same rewards. [Jumbo Mortgages Are No Longer the Cheapest Mortgages Around](#)

FROM NEW YORK

- Governor Cuomo warned that the expiration of \$600 in weekly pandemic aid for people who have lost their jobs because of the coronavirus pandemic would create “havoc” for people across the country, [State of Politics reports](#).
- One of the stranger aspects about the pandemic-induced recession has been the effect on the housing market. Interest rates are low, yes, but there's also a desire to flee densely populated areas for places like upstate New York. Take Western New York, where the housing market is [on the rise](#). Our colleagues in Buffalo report realtors are finding business to be steady, if not booming, amid the worst public health crisis in a century.
- Nonbanks face new disclosure rules on small business loans in New York. Similar to a law passed two years ago in California, legislation is headed to Governor Cuomo's desk to require fintech and other nonbank lenders to uniformly disclose total cost of capital, APR and other metrics to potential borrowers.

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IBANYS will continue to provide updates as additional information becomes available. Thank you all for your continued participation and support.

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