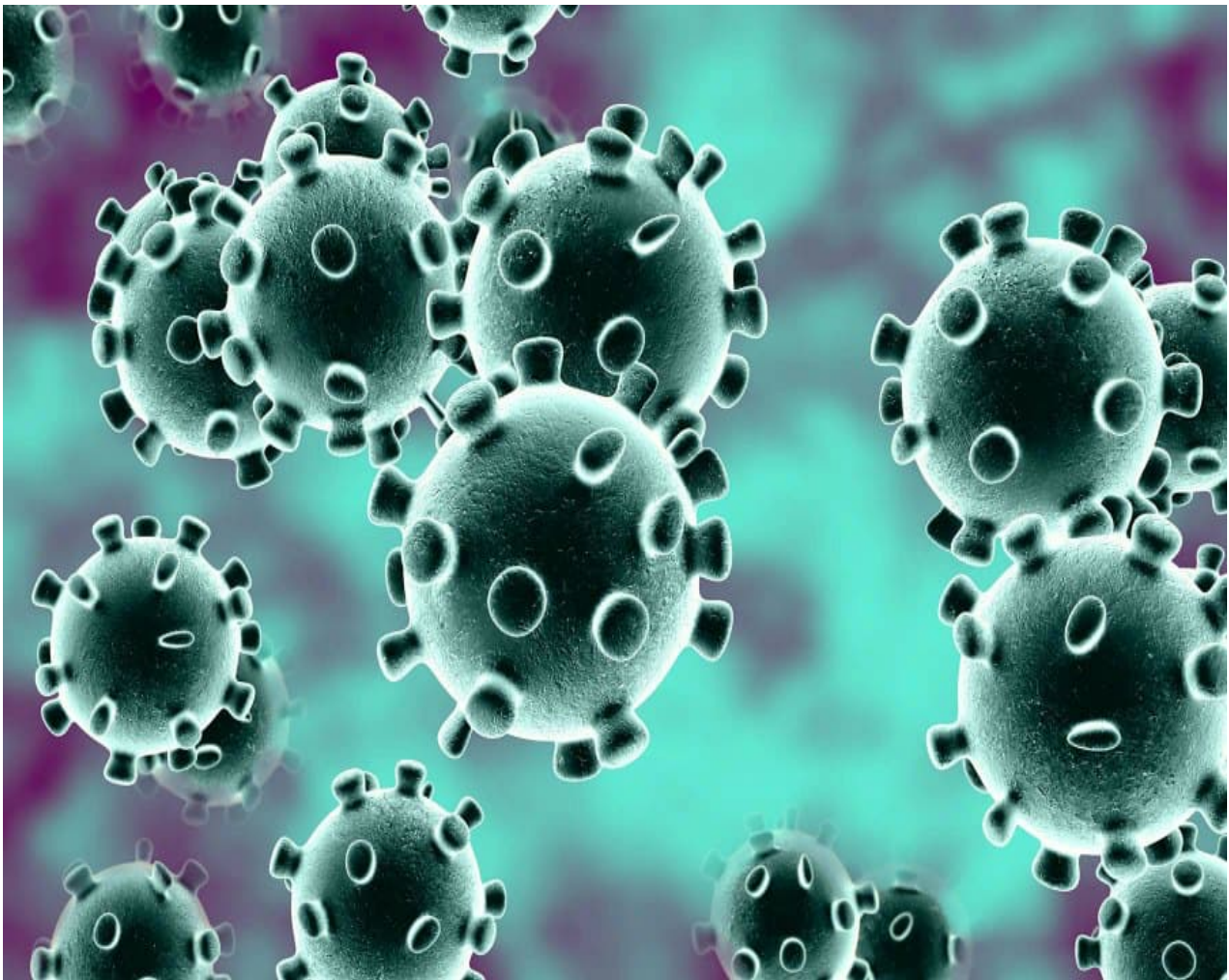


The Virgin Islands Consortium

Waiver Allows USVI Beneficiaries to Automatically Load Food Stamp Benefits onto Cards, as Feds Take Action Amid Coronavirus Crisis

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Robert Moore **March 24, 2020**



The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will continue uninterrupted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Among provisions of the federal coronavirus response law is a waiver allowing the Virgin Islands to automatically load monthly benefits onto WIC cards, said Congresswoman Stacey Plaskett in a news release Tuesday.

The “Family First Coronavirus Response Act” provides \$1 billion in grant funding to help states and territories manage programs such as SNAP, school lunch, senior nutrition and food banks, and federal funding for Medicaid.

“Lives are at stake, and we must act not to put families first,” Ms. Plaskett said.

The remote issuance of SNAP benefits keeps healthy foods and formula for enrolled children, women, mothers and babies available during disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The federal waiver expires May 31, 2020.

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