

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Territory to Receive \$7.8 Million in Funding From Recently Passed Stimulus Package for Coronavirus Response

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The U.S. Department of the Interior announced today that the governors of the territories and the presidents of the freely associated states (FAS) have been invited to submit requests for funding made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

According to D.O.I. Assistant Secretary Douglas Domenech, the \$55 million in emergency relief funding is available to the territories and the FAS to prepare, prevent, and respond to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The island

jurisdictions eligible for this funding are: the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and the Republic of Palau.

“President Trump continues to fight every day for the American people, mobilizing all public and private sector resources to combat the coronavirus,” said D.O.I. Secretary David Bernhardt. “These funds will provide critical support for families in the territories and the freely associated states. As the President continues to say, together we will overcome this crisis and emerge stronger than before.”

“We are pleased that the CARES Act includes this important support for the territories and the freely associated states,” said Mr. Domenech. “I have invited the insular area Governors and the Presidents to submit grant applications for this expedited funding immediately.”

“As President Trump said during his historic meeting with the Presidents of the Freely Associated States, the United States has a unique, historic, and special relationship with each of these countries,” said Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Sandra Oudkirk. “We are committed and proud to support these close partners in meeting the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.”

The CARES Act funds available for the territories and the freely associated states will be managed through the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) Technical Assistance Program (TAP). Funding is allocated based upon population by insular area. A reserve of \$13,750,000 has been set aside as a contingency in case of any unforeseen emergencies.

U.S. Territories

Guam	\$12,039,565
USVI	\$ 7,863,776
American Samoa	\$ 4,079,020
CNMI	\$ 4,042,585

Freely Associated States

FSM	\$ 7,737,390
RMI	\$ 3,894,720
Palau	\$ 1,592,945

