



## ACTION ALERT: Urgent Action Needed on COVID Relief Legislation

Constructively channel our energy and emotions related to COVID by calling Senators Collins and King to pass COVID Relief Legislation by the end of this week. Before they break for the holidays, urge them to include Paid Family Leave, which is under threat according to a recent [Portland Press Herald article](#) about current COVID Relief negotiations. Use any of the following points to support your call and consider furthering your knowledge and training about advocacy by participating in trainings or signing up for newsletters by our organizational colleagues.

- 1 in 6 households of adults with children lacked sufficient food in the last 7 days ([Household Pulse Survey](#), November 11-23)
- 20,000-40,000 household in Maine are behind in their rent and at-risk of eviction ([National Council of State Housing Agencies](#), September, 2020)
- Access to Paid Family Leave can significantly lower general flu rates and overall worker absenteeism ([Maine Paid Family Leave Coalition](#) talking points)

Call Senator King's office: [\(202\) 224-5344](tel:(202)224-5344)

Call Senator Collins office: [\(202\) 224-2523](tel:(202)224-2523)

- **Maine Equal Justice:** Sign up for their newsletter. Priorities include consumer rights and protections; early care and learning; help for immigrants; hunger and food assistance; income supports; poverty; racial equity; housing and utilities; health care and education; and training for adults. <https://maineequaljustice.org/>
- **Maine Women's Lobby:** sign up for their newsletter. Their priorities include freedom from violence; civil rights and freedom from discrimination; access to health care; and economic security <https://mainewomen.org/mwl/>
- **ACLU Maine:** Priorities include racial justice, criminal justice reform, freedom of expression, privacy, immigrants rights, LGBTQ rights <https://www.aclumaine.org/>
- **Maine Children's Alliance:** Priorities include early care and education; health, safety and well-being; family economic & food insecurity, KIDS COUNT <https://www.mekids.org/>

Working together,

NASW Maine Policy Committee

**By the way you, your business, or your employer may still be able to benefit from COVID-19-Related Tax Credits. More than 150,000 employers have benefited so far, and you can find out more [here](#).**

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*We are committed to providing information and resources to help all social workers in their professional lives. We are able to do this because of NASW Members - membership dues are a major part of our Chapter's budget. If you are not a member, please consider **becoming one today**. When you become a member of NASW, you automatically become a member of your*

*Chapter and help support our work.*

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