

March 18, 2020

## LEGAL ALERT

KTJ

KLEIN, THORPE & JENKINS, LTD.

Attorneys at Law

## **UPDATE: Families First Coronavirus Response Act**

Earlier this week, we released an e-note summarizing the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, available <u>here</u>. After passing through the House, on Monday, March 16th, the bill was sent to the Senate where it has become a topic of debate. Receiving a Tweet of support from President Trump, others have criticized the bill for including an exemption to big business (employers with more than 500 employees would not have to offer additional paid sick leave or family leave, under this Act).

First impressions of the bill once it reached the Senate, particularly from Republican Senators, were that the bill may do more harm than good. Senator Tom Cotton, R-Ark., said the bill may be "setting up a new and complicated system relying on businesses giving paid sick leave and then getting a refundable tax credit that won't move quickly enough and could put pressure on those businesses to lay workers off." Echoing Senator Cotton's sentiment, Sen. Ron Johnson R-Wis., stated that if a bill cannot be forged that does more good than harm, then no bill should be passed at all.

Senators from both sides have expressed the urgency with which the bill should be passed, if it is going to be passed at all, but the Senate has yet to vote as of Wednesday, March 18th.

Be on the lookout for future e-notes as further developments come out.

This newsletter is not to be construed as legal advice or a legal opinion under any circumstance. The contents are solely intended for general informative purposes, and the readers of this newsletter are strongly urged to contact their attorney with regard to any concepts discussed herein.

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Authored By: Name: Donald E. Renner III Email: derenner@ktjlaw.com Phone: 312-984-6469

For any questions or comments you might have regarding this newsletter,

please feel free to contact:



Name: Jason A. Guisinger Email: jaguisinger@ktjlaw.com Phone: 312-984-6462



Name: Derek A. Farrugia Email: dafarrugia@ktjlaw.com Phone: 312-984-6418

