

\$1 Billion Approved

Before leaving the capitol, lawmakers approved up to \$1 billion in emergency spending to combat the coronavirus outbreak. The bills, SB 86, SB 89, and SB 117 were all designed to give Governor Newsom power, by the legislature, to act in the best interest of the state during this time of crisis. The legislation was overwhelmingly bipartisan, giving Governor Newsom \$500 million to spend for any purpose related to his declaration of a state of emergency. The Governor can increase that spending by increments of \$50 million, but he must give the legislature three day's notice of the spending. This spending is capped at \$1 billion. Lawmakers also passed legislation to keep schools funded despite their closures and allocated \$100 million for hygiene safety and cleaning efforts for schools. A final bill was passed allowing the state to lease and activate two hospitals and acquire the necessary equipment to prepare for care and prevention.