



Economic Stimulus Packages: Constitutional & Democratic Perspectives

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Article 104(1) of the Constitution

Subject to Clause (2), no moneys shall be withdrawn from the **Consolidated Fund** unless they are—

- (a) charged on the Consolidated Fund; or
- (b) authorized to be issued by a Supply Act; or
- (c) authorized to be issued under Article 102.

(A) Expenditure “Charged” On the Consolidated Fund

1. Remuneration of the YDPA & Timbalan YDPA (Art 35)
2. Remuneration of the President and Deputy President of Dewan Negara + Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Dewan Rakyat (Art 58)
3. Remuneration of Election Commission members (Art 114)
4. Remuneration of superior court Judges (Art 125)
5. All pensions, compensation for loss of office and gratuities which the Federation is liable (Art 98(1)(a))

(B) Expenditure Issued by a Supply Act



(C) Expenditure Authoritised Under Article 102

Parliament has the power in any financial year to:

- i. Authorise by law expenditure for that financial year before the passing of the Supply Bill;
- ii. Authorise by law expenditure for the whole or part of that financial year without going through, among others, the Supplementary Supply Bill under Article 101, if “owing to the magnitude or indefinite character of any service or to circumstances of unusual urgency it appears to Parliament to be desirable to do so”

US' \$2.2 Trillion Coronavirus Bill



US Senate Democrats successfully lobbied for:

- Expanded unemployment benefits by approximately \$250 billion
- The creation of an inspector general and a congressionally appointed board to monitor funds for distressed industries
- Forbidding President Trump and his family, as well as top government officials and members of Congress from getting loans or investments from the stimulus

Singapore's \$48 Billion Resilience Budget

Opposition Worker's Party holding the Finance Minister to account and requested to explain:

- Improving Wage Support Scheme (Eg: operators of MICE venues qualify for 75% enhanced wage support but contractors who provide MICE-specific products only get 25%).
- Ensure public resources not abused (Eg: For airlines getting 75% enhanced wage support, is there obligation to review already implemented No-Pay leave arrangements?)

