

## AOC: 'Shame!' 'Greed!' \$2.2 Trillion Relief Bill Provides 'Crumbs for Our Families'

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In her floor speech in the House today, before the chamber votes on the \$2.2 trillion relief bill, Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.), a self-described democratic socialist, said the legislation was "shameful" and laced with "greed."

She added that it is "one of the largest corporate bailouts" in U.S. history and will provide only "crumbs for our families."

"What did the Senate majority fight for?" she said. "One of the largest corporate bailouts, with as few strings as possible in American history! Shameful! The greed of that fight is wrong! For crumbs for our families!"

"And the action that we have is to either let them suffer with nothing or to allow this greed and billions of dollars, which will be leveraged into trillions of dollars, to contribute to the largest income inequality gap in our future," said the representative.

"There should be shame about what was fought for in this bill and the choices that we have to make," she said.

The \$2.2 trillion bill does provide financial aid to individuals and to small businesses. However, it also has a fair amount of federal pork barrel spending thrown in.

"Members of Congress stuffed a vast array of subsidies in the 880-page legislation, ranging from \$454 billion for big businesses to \$25 million for the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.," reported the <u>libertarian Cato Institute</u>.

The main spending buckets, according to Cato, include,

- \$454 billion to finance loans to businesses and the states.
- \$46 billion in loans and grants to airlines and other specified businesses.
- \$377 billion in loans and grants to small businesses.
- \$290 billion in stimulus checks for all individuals below an income cutoff.
- \$260 billion in expanded unemployment benefits.
- \$175 billion in grants to state and local governments.
- \$180 billion in health-related spending.
- \$154 billion for education, agriculture, food stamps, housing, and other programs.
- \$290 billion in business and individual tax cuts.