

Members of the African American Mayors Association are calling on Congress to approve President Joe Biden's multi-trillion dollar social spending and infrastructure packages as soon as possible. The association, which includes Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott, held a virtual press conference today (Thurs) urging Congress to pass both packages by this weekend. Scott praised an extension of the Child Tax Credit included in Biden's one-and-three-quarter-trillion dollar social spending plan known as the Build Back Better framework.

News03

0:23

"...this global pandemic."

According to the White House, the extended tax credit would benefit more than 35 million households who could see up to \$300-dollars in tax cuts each month for every child. Mayor Scott credited previous federal spending packages in helping Little Rock crack down on violent crime.

News04

0:19

"...a community approach."

The mayor says Little Rock's violent crime rate has fallen to 13% from a high of 22% seen last May. Progressives in Congress have said they will not vote on Biden's \$1-trillion-dollar infrastructure package until his Build Back Better framework gets closer to officially becoming law.

As Congress is deadlocked over President Biden's social spending and infrastructure packages, members of the African American Mayors Association are calling for action. Members of the group from several cities, including Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr., met virtually today (Thurs) to urge Congress to pass both packages by this weekend. Scott said Biden's \$1-trillion-dollar infrastructure package would be invaluable to the city.

News05

0:28

"...of economic development."

Scott also praised investments in early childhood education, mental health services and public safety included in Biden's \$1-and-three-quarter trillion dollar Build Back Better framework. Both spending packages are awaiting votes in Congress as negotiations continue between different factions of the Democratic Party.