

February 12, 2021

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

To the Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate:

We write today to offer our enthusiastic endorsement of the budget reconciliation language providing \$350 billion in flexible aid for our states, cities, counties, tribes, and territories. We encourage the House and Senate to swiftly pass this urgently needed aid.

Many states and localities have seen their revenues plummet as a result of the pandemic even as costs have risen sharply to fight the virus and to help millions of struggling people and businesses. State revenues are down some 7 percent compared to before the pandemic even as the need for state services has skyrocketed with one in three adults struggling to meet household expenses. Meanwhile, many cities and counties have been hit even harder. The average city with falling revenues has seen collections drop by 21 percent, even as costs have soared, and counties face similar conditions.

This pandemic and the resulting economic crisis are not partisan issues. In communities across this country, local officials are desperate to get residents vaccinated, healthy, and back to work. In Nevada, leaders of the State Legislature from both parties joined calls for direct federal aid to preserve essential public services like education, health care and more. The bipartisan Ohio Mayors Alliance sent a coalition letter calling on the Ohio congressional delegation to support the current plan to provide \$350 billion in direct aid. These bipartisan calls for urgent support are pouring in from communities of all sizes, from counties of a few thousand residents to Orange County, California and its 3.3 million residents. And in Texas, where metropolitan areas account for 93.1% of the Texas economy, a bipartisan group of mayors from cities of all sizes have rallied behind robust federal aid.

More than 1.3 million front-line public service workers - nurses, teachers, emergency responders and corrections officers, to name just a few - have on one hand been thanked for their heroism and given a pink slip with the other because of the holes the pandemic blew open in state and local budgets. This staggering loss of jobs hurts our economy; we cannot add jobs by subtracting them. More importantly, the loss of these public service workers hurts our ability to quickly get shots in arms, prevent our children from falling behind, and help save businesses by delivering essential services like sanitation, clean water and good roads. All the while state and local costs to combat COVID-19 continue to increase and the negative economic impacts from the pandemic continue.

We appreciate the thoughtful work of the drafting committees to ensure that aid to our states, cities, counties, tribes, and territories will be distributed fairly, so communities of all sizes can receive the help they need. As the House and Senate consider this legislation we ask that you maintain the \$350 billion funding that will get aid quickly to all corners of the country.

Sincerely,

AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Accelerate Indiana Municipalities (Aim)
ACCESS
AFL-CIO
AFSCME
Ain Dah Yung Center
Alabama Alliance of YMCAs
Alabama Visual Arts Network
Albert Lea Family YMCA
Alexandria Area YMCA
Alliance for Retired Americans
Alliance for Strong Families and Communities
Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits
Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs
Alliance Of NYS YMCAS
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Federation of Teachers
American Indian Center of Indiana, Inc
American Indian Child Resource Center
American Indian Community House
American Indian OIC
American Indians in Texas
American Library Association
American Network of Community Options & Resources (ANCOR)
American Planning Association
American Public Human Services Association
American Public Power Association
American Public Works Association (APWA)
Americans for Democratic Action (ADA)
Americans for Indian Opportunity
Americans for Tax Fairness
Americans for the Arts
Americans for the Arts Action Fund
Arizona Association of Counties
Arts Alliance Illinois
Arts North Carolina
Arts Wisconsin
ArtsNYS
Association of Art Museum Directors
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)
Association of Community Tribal Schools (ACTS)
Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma
Association of County Commissions of Alabama

Association of Educational Service Agencies
Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
Association of Minnesota Counties
Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO)
Association of Washington Cities
Autistic Self Advocacy Network
Battle Born Progress
Bend the Arc Jewish Action
Bend the Arc: Champaign-Urbana
Big Cities Health Coalition
Black Belt Community Foundation, Inc.
Brainerd Family YMCA
Build America Mutual
California State Alliance of YMCAs
California State Association of Counties
Campaign for America's Future
Center for American Progress
Center for Common Ground
Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
Center for Nonprofit Advancement
Center for Nonprofit Excellence
Center for Non-Profits (NJ)
Child Welfare League of America
CNY Arts
Coalition of Labor Union Women
Colorado Municipal League
Colorado Nonprofit Association
Common Good Vermont
Communications Workers of America (CWA)
Connecticut Conference of Municipalities
Consumer Action
Council of Administrators of Special Education
Council of Michigan Foundations
Council on Foundations
County Commissioners Association of Ohio
County Commissioners' Association of WV
County Welfare Directors Association of California
CT Citizen Action Group
DC Vote
Delaware Alliance for Nonprofit Advancement
Democratic Municipal Officials (DMO)
Design-Build Institute of America
Destinations International
Economic Policy Institute
EDGE Consulting Partners
Esri
Evident Change
Families USA
Family Equality
Florida Association of Counties

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Florida League of Mayors
Florida Nonprofit Alliance
Florida State Alliance of YMCAs
Forefront (Illinois)
Forum for Youth Investment
Fulton Police Dept.
Georgia Alliance of YMCAs
Georgia Municipal Association
Girl Scouts of the USA
Globetrotter Travel Management Services, Inc.
Goodwill Industries International, Inc.
GoRail
Government Finance Officers Association
Hawai'i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations
Hawai'i Arts Alliance
Health Care for America Now (HCAN)
Health Care Voter
Hispanic Federation
Holmen Area Fire Department
Honest Arizona
Hot Springs YMCA
Illinois State Association of Counties
Independent Sector
Indivisible Hawaii
Indivisible IL9 Andersonville-Edgewater
Indivisible IL14
Indivisible Illinois
Indivisible Marin
Indivisible Media City Burbank
Indivisible Metro East
Indivisible Western Springs
Indivisible: Narberth and Beyond
International Association of Emergency Managers
International Association of Fire Fighters
International Municipal Lawyers Association, Inc.
International Public Management Association for Human Resources (IPMA-HR)
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW)
International WELL Building Institute
Iowa Alliance of YMCAs
Iowa State Association of Counties
Itasca County Family YMCA
Japanese American Citizens League
Jewish Federations of North America
KABOOM!
Kandiyohi County Area Family YMCA
Kansas Association of Counties
Kansas City Indian Center
Kansas State Alliance of YMCAs

Kentucky Equal Justice Center
Kentucky Nonprofit Network
Kentucky/West Virginia Regional Alliance of YMCAs
Lacuna Technologies
League of Arizona Cities and Towns
League of California Cities
League of Minnesota Cities
League of Nebraska Municipalities
League of Oregon Cities
Louisiana Municipal Association
Main Street Alliance
Maine Association of Nonprofits
Mainers for Accountable Leadership
Marshall Area YMCA
Maryland Association of Counties
Maryland Nonprofits
Massachusetts Municipal Association
Medicare Rights Center
Mental Health America
Metropolitan YMCAs of Mississippi
Michigan Association of Counties
Michigan Nonprofit Association
Minnesota Alliance of YMCAs
Minnesota Budget Project
Minnesota Council of Nonprofits
Missouri Municipal League
Momentum Nonprofit Partners
MomsRising
Montana Nonprofit Association
Motorola Solutions, Inc.
NACBHDD and NARMH
National Adult Day Services Association
National Association for Music Education (NAfME)
National Association of Area Agencies on Aging
National Association of Black County Officials
National Association of Bond Lawyers
National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)
National Association of Counties (NACo)
National Association of County Human Services Administrators
National Association of Regional Councils
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Association of State Directors of Special Education (NASDSE)
National Association of Towns and Townships
National Community Development Association
National Council of Nonprofits
National Education Association
National Employment Law Project
National Indian Child Welfare Association
National League of Cities
National NeighborWorks Association
National Network of Public Health Institutes

National Organization of Black County Officials, Inc.
National Rural Education Advocacy Consortium
National Rural Education Association
National School Boards Association
National Urban Indian Family Coalition
National WIC Association
National Women's Law Center
Native American Finance Officers Association (NAFOA)
Native American Youth and Family Center (NAYA)
NC Alliance of YMCAs
Nebraska Association of County Officials
Netsmart
Network for Strong Communities
Network Lobby for Catholic Social Justice
New Hampshire Center for Nonprofits
New Jersey Association of Counties
New Jersey Association on Correction
New Jersey YMCA State Alliance
New Mexico Thrives
New York Council of Nonprofits
New York State Association of Counties
New York State Conference of Mayors
Nonprofit Association of Oregon
Nonprofit Association of the Midlands
Nonprofit New York
#NoRA
North American Indian Association of Detroit
North American Indian Center of Boston
North Carolina Center for Nonprofits
North Carolina League of Municipalities
North Carolina Metropolitan Mayors Coalition
North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations
Northridge Indivisible
Ohio Jewish Communities
Ohio Mayors Alliance
Ohio Municipal League
Oklahoma Alliance of YMCAs
Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits
Oregon Alliance of YMCAs
Organizations Concerned About Rural Education
PACENation
Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations
Pennsylvania Municipal League
Pennsylvania State Alliance of YMCAs
People's Action
Personal PAC
Pine Hill Indian Community Development Initiative
Planned Parenthood Federation of America
Police Jury Association of Louisiana
Prevent Blindness
Prevention Institute

Progressive Democrats of America
Protect Our Care
Providers' Council
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)
Public Citizen
Public Health Accreditation Board
Rebuild America's Schools Coalition
Red Wing Family YMCA
Regional Alliance of North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska YMCAs
RentLab.org
Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns
SC Arts Alliance
Service Employees International Union
Service Year Alliance
Shriver Center on Poverty Law
Sierra Club
Sourcewell
South Carolina Alliance of YMCAs
South Dakota Municipal League
Southwest Alliance of Ys
State Alliance of Michigan YMCAs
SUEZ NA
Tax March
Teach Plus
Texas Association of Counties
The AIDS Institute
The Education Trust
The Gerontological Society of America
The Henry Ford
The Jewish Federations of North America
The LION Group
The Maryland Alliance of YMCAs
The Nevada Association of Counties
The United States Conference of Mayors
The Young Dems of San Joaquin County
Together SC
Tzicatl CDC
UJA-Federation of New York
United Brotherhood of Carpenters
United Counties Council of Illinois
UNITE HERE
Utah Cultural Alliance
Utah Nonprofits Association
Valley of The Sun YMCA
Vermont League of Cities and Towns
Veterans Outreach
Virginia Alliance of YMCAs
Voices for Progress
Voices of Reason
VolunteerMatch
Washington Nonprofits

Washington State Alliance of YMCAs
Washington State Association of Counties
West Virginia Association of Counties
Wisconsin Counties Association
Wisconsin/U.P. Michigan State Alliance of YMCAs
Women Employed
Woodstock Institute
Worthington Area YMCA
WV Nonprofit Association
Wyoming Nonprofit Network
YMCA at Austin Community Recreation Center
YMCA Camp Olson
YMCA of Central Massachusetts
YMCA of Delaware
YMCA of Northwest La
YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region
YMCA of the USA
YMCA-RI State Alliance
YWCA USA
Zencity
ZERO TO THREE
Zipcar