

2019-2020

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Carolyn M. Coleman

May 15, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United State Congress
Washington, D.C., 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
United States Congress
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the League of California Cities and the 477 cities we represent, thank you for your tireless efforts to support local governments and the extraordinary measures that local leaders are enacting to protect our communities and residents from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The scale of this crisis is unprecedented, and so is the scope of the local, state, and federal response.

The League strongly supports the \$1 trillion in dedicated and flexible funding for states and local governments in the HEROES Act. We specifically support the \$375 billion included in the bill for local governments, who are fighting this pandemic on the front lines alongside states and counties to protect public health and economic stability.

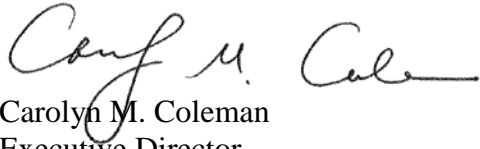
California cities of all sizes are coordinating across jurisdictional lines, enacting emergency measures to slow the spread of the coronavirus pandemic, taking action to protect individuals and small businesses on the economic margins, while spending such sums as necessary to protect public health and the economy in this extraordinary time.

As unanticipated emergency costs continue to grow, resources to fund core local services are plummeting. COVID-19 is having devastating impacts on city budgets and services statewide. Cities have been forced to cut police officers, firefighters, planners, public works engineers, other essential local government workers, and the core services they deliver. Without relief, these cuts will continue, residents will lose the core services they depend on, and cities, which are the economic engines of the country, will be hampered in their ability to lead in the recovery.

Recovery from this unprecedented crisis will only be realized at the local level with the strong support from the federal government. We will continue to work with our county, state, and federal partners to ensure that America emerges from this pandemic stronger than before, and urge your support for this federal assistance.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at ccoleman@cacities.org or the League's Washington advocate, Leslie Pollner at leslie.pollner@hklaw.com or 202.469.5149.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn M. Coleman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Carolyn M. Coleman
Executive Director

Cc: Members, California Congressional Delegation
The Honorable Gavin Newsom
The Honorable Toni Atkins
The Honorable Anthony Rendon
The Honorable Shannon Grove
The Honorable Marie Waldron