

February 17, 2021

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

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

Dear Members of Congress:

As elected leaders representing communities across our nation, we are writing to urge you to take immediate action on comprehensive coronavirus relief legislation, including desperately needed funding for states, counties, cities, and schools, and an increase in states' federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP). President Biden's ambitious \$1.9 trillion *American Rescue Plan* will go a long way towards alleviating the significant financial strain COVID-19 has placed on our states, counties, cities, and schools, and the pocketbooks of working families.

Working people have been on the frontlines of this pandemic for nearly a year and have continued to do their jobs during this difficult time. Dedicated public servants are still leaving their homes to ensure Americans continue to receive the essential services they rely upon: teachers and education workers are doing their best to provide quality education and keep their students safe, janitors are still keeping parks and public buildings clean, while healthcare providers are continuing to care for the sick. Meanwhile, it has been ten months since Congress passed the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund to support these frontline workers and the essential services they provide. Without significant economic assistance from the federal government, many of these currently-middle class working families are at risk of falling into poverty through no fault of their own. It is a painful irony that while many have rightly called these essential workers heroes, our country has failed to truly respect them with a promise to protect them and pay them throughout the crisis.

Our states, counties, cities, and schools are also in desperate need of additional funding. Due to the chaotic federal response of the previous administration, state and local governments have been left to shoulder the burden of responding to the pandemic using their finite resources to fight COVID-19 while helping their residents stay safe, healthy, and financially stable. Already 1.4 million frontline public service workers have been furloughed and laid off and more layoffs are expected. Black women, who account for the highest share of workers in the public sector, have been especially hard hit. In communities nationwide, this means reduced mental health and addiction services, lower emergency response times, higher patient loads for nurses, fewer answered cries for help from domestic violence victims, dirtier streets, overcrowded prisons, and decaying roads and bridges. There have also been cuts to schools, health care, and other core public functions needed to meet the logistical challenges of distributing the COVID-19 vaccine and crush this virus once and for all.

We need immediate action by the federal government to ensure the health, safety, and financial security of working people across our country and to breathe life back into an underperforming economy, which bled 140,000 jobs in December. The Economic Policy Institute (EPI) and others have argued persuasively that insufficient support for state and local services after the 2007 Great Recession slowed the recovery to full employment. We cannot repeat this same mistake. To beat this virus and ensure an inclusive recovery, we the undersigned call upon you to invest in our states, counties, cities, and schools without delay.

Sincerely,

Tony Evers, Governor, State of Wisconsin

Joshua F. Tenorio, Lieutenant Governor, Territory of Guam

Denny Heck, Lieutenant Governor, State of Washington

Bethany Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor, State of Delaware

Mandela Barnes, Lieutenant Governor, State of Wisconsin

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Kate Marshall, Lieutenant Governor, State of Nevada

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Joe Tate, Representative, Michigan House of Representatives
Shri Thanedar, Ph.D, Representative, Michigan House of Representatives
Regina Weiss , Representative, Michigan House of Representatives
Stephanie A. Young, Representative, Michigan House of Representatives

Melissa Hortman, Speaker of the House, Minnesota House of Representatives
April Fountain , Councilmember, City of Chisholm, MN
Thomas Proulx, Commissioner, City of Cloquet, MN
Michelle Toven, Councilmember, City of Grand Rapids, MN
Rick Blake, Councilmember, City of Grand Rapids, MN
Ben DeNucci , Commissioner, Itasca County, MN
Terry Snyder, Commissioner, Itasca County, MN
Andrea Jenkins, Councilmember, City of Minneapolis, MN
Trista MatasCastillo, Commissioner, Ramsey County, MN
Paula Cole, School Board Member, City of Richfield, MN
Michael Jugovich, Commissioner, St. Louis County, MN

Tishaura O. Jones, Treasurer, City of St. Louis, MO

Damon Seils, Councilmember, Town of Carrboro, NC

Lou D'Allesandro, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Kevin Cavanaugh, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Jay Kahn, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Rebecca Perkins Kwoka, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Cindy Rosenwald, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Donna Soucy, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

David Watters, Senator, New Hampshire State Senate

Richard M. Abel, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Josh Adjutant, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Susan Almy, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Richard Ames, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Donald J. Bouchard, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Gerri Cannon, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Tony Caplan, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

John R. Cloutier, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

David E. Cote, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Renny Cushing, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Sherry Dutzy, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Karen Ebel, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Art Ellison, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Sallie Fellows, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Sherry Frost, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Eric Gallager, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Joan Hamblet, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Mary Heath, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Stephanie Hyland, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Patricia S Klee, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Cassandra Levesque, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Jim MacKay, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

David Meuse, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Russell Muirhead, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Laura Pantelakkos, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Beth Richards, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Tom Schamberg, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Dianne Schuett, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Kris Schultz, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Joe Schapiro , Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Deb Stevens, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Amanda Elizabeth Toll, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Edith Tucker, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Frances Nutter-Upham, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Suzanne Vail, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Ivy Vann, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives

Daniel Veilleux, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives
Mary Jane Wallner, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives
Mary Beth Walz, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives
Matt Wilhelm, Representative, New Hampshire House of Representatives
John A. Shannon, Administrator, Town of Milford, NH
Christopher Dillon, Town Manager, City of Salem, NH

Rolando R. Lavarro, Councilmember, City of Jersey City, NJ

Rebecca Wolff, Councilmember, City of Hudson, NY

Jason Frierson, Speaker, Nevada State Assembly
Justin Jones, Commissioner, Clark County, NV
Michael Naft, Commissioner, Clark County, NV
Brian Knudsen, Councilmember, City of Las Vegas, NV
Devon Reese, Councilmember, City of Reno, NV

Tavia Galonski, Representative, Ohio House of Representatives
Jessica E Miranda, Representative, Ohio House of Representatives
Aryeh Alex, Township Trustee, Franklin Township, OH
Davida Russell, Councilmember, City of Cleveland Heights, OH
Davida Russell, Councilmember, City of Cleveland Heights, OH
Mary E. Rice, School Board Member, City of East Cleveland, OH
Tom Bullock, Councilmember, City of Lakewood, OH
Sarah Kepple, Councilmember, City of Lakewood, OH
Tristan Rader, Councilmember, City of Lakewood, OH
Brandon C. McClain, Recorder, Montgomery County, OH
Gigi Traore, Councilmember, Village of Newburgh Heights, OH
Cassandra Nelson, Councilmember, City of Richmond Heights, OH
Kim Thomas, Councilmember, City of Richmond Heights, OH

JoBeth Hamon, Councilmember, City of Oklahoma City, OK

Sara Gelser, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Chris Gorsek, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Tina Kotek, Speaker, Oregon State Senate
Kate Lieber, Senator, Oregon State Senate
James I Manning Jr, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Deb Patterson, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Floyd Prozanski, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Rob Wagner, Senator, Oregon State Senate
Wlinsvey E. Campos, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Julie Fahey, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Dacia Grayber, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Zach Hudson, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Pam Marsh, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives

Nancy Nathanson, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Rob Nosse, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Jeff Reardon, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Ricki Ruiz, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Sheri Schouten, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Marty Wilde, Representative, Oregon House of Representatives
Jo Ann Hardesty, Commissioner, City of Portland, OR

John P. Blake, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Amanda M Cappelletti, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Jay Costa, Jr., Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Wayne Fontana, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Vincent Hughes, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
John Kane, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Tim Kearney, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
John P. Sabatina Jr., Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Judith L. Schwank, Senator, Pennsylvania State Senate
Jessica Benham, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Matt Bradford, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Tim Briggs, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Donna Bullock, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Danilo Burgos , Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Joe Ciresi, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Maria Collett, Senator, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Dan Deasy, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Dave Delloso, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Elizabeth Fiedler, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Dan Frankel, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Ed Gainey, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives, PA
Nancy Guent, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Dianne Herrin, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Joe Hohenstein, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Kristine C. Howard, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Malcolm Kenyatta, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Emily Kinkead, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Stephen Kinsey, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Rick Krajewski, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Leanne Krueger, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Mark Longietti, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Steve Malagari, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Jeanne McNeill, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Bob Merski, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Ed Neilson, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Napoleon Nelson, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Jennifer O'Mara, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Danielle Friel Otten, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives

Nick Pisciotano, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Chris Rabb, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Christina Sappey, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Peter Schweyer, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Mike Schlossberg, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Perry Warren, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Joe Webster, Representative, Pennsylvania House of Representatives
Alan Vandersloot, Councilmember, Borough of West York, PA
Helen Gym, Councilmember, City of Philadelphia
Erika Strassburger, Councilmember, City of Pittsburgh, PA

Rachel Miller, Councilmember, City of Providence, RI

John Ray Clemmons, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
Vincent Dixie, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
Bob Freeman, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
Jason Hodges, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
Gloria Johnson, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
London Lamar, Representative, Tennessee House of Representatives
Emily Benedict, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Russ Bradford, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Tom Cash, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Erin Evans, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Gloria Hausser, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Robert Nash, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Delishia D. Porterfield, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Freddie O'Connell, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Joy Styles, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Ginny Welsch, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
Zach Young, Councilmember, City of Nashville, TN
John Little, School Board Member, City of Nashville, TN
Freda Player-Peters, School Board Member, City of Nashville, TN
Abigail Tylor, School Board Member, City of Nashville, TN

Lauren Doherty, Councilmember, City of Allen, TX
Tartisha Hill, Councilmember, City of Batch Springs, TX

Kat Martinez, Councilmember, City of Murray, UT
Jim Bradley, Councilmember, Salt Lake County, UT
Arlyn Bradshaw, Councilmember, Salt Lake County, UT
Ann Granato, Council Representative, Salt Lake County, UT

Ghazala F. Hashmi, Senator, Virginia State Senate
David Marsden, Senator, Virginia State Senate, VA
Hala Ayala, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Elizabeth Guzman, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates

Dan Helmer, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Sally Hudson, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Candi Mundon King, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Kaye Kory, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Mark H. Levine, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Sam Rasoul, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Shelly Simonds, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Suhaz Subramanyam, Delegate, Virginia House of Delegates
Andria McClellan, Councilmember, City of Norfolk, VA

Joe Fitzgibbon, Representative, Washington House of Representatives
Dow Constantine, County Executive, King County, WA
Lindsey Schromen-Wawrin, Councilmember, City of Port Angeles, WA
Lisa Herbold, Councilmember, City of Seattle, WA
Teresa Mosqueda, Councilmember, City of Seattle, WA
Chris Roberts, Councilmember, City of Shoreline, WA

Jon Erpenbach, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
LaTonya Johnson, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Chris Larson, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Brad Pfaff, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Janis Ringhand, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Kelda Roys, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate,
Jeff Smith, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Lena C. Taylor, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Robert Wirch, Senator, Wisconsin State Senate
Jimmy Anderson, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Samba Baldeh, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Jill Billings, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
David Bowen, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Jonathan Brostoff, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Marisabel Cabrera, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Sue Conley, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Dave Considine, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Steve Doyle, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Dora Drake, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Jodi Emerson, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Evan Goyke, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Gary Hebl, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Dianne Hesselbein, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Francesca Hong, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Gordon Hintz, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Beth Meyers, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Nick Milroy, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Greta Neubauer, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Tod Ohnstad, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives

Sondy Pope, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Daniel Riemer, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Sara Rodriguez, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Katrina Shankland, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Kristina Shelton, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Christine Sinicki, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Lee Snodgrass, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Mark Spreitzer, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Lisa Subeck, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Sylvia Ortiz-Velez, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Robyn Vining, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Don Vruwink, Representative, Wisconsin House of Representatives
Felesia A. Martin, County Supervisor, Milwaukee County, WI
Megan O'Halloran, School Board Member, City of Milwaukee, WI
Leah Schreiber Johnson, School Board Member, City of Oak Creek, WI

Rosemary Ketchum, Councilmember, City of Wheeling, WV