

5-Signature Letter to Support Federal Pandemic Relief Proposal

Our nation's small businesses are facing an unprecedented economic disruption due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. On Friday, March 27, 2020, the President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, which contains emergency relief resources for American workers and small businesses. The CARES Act established the \$150.0 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to provide Federal funding to states and local governments to cover expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. The County received \$1.057 billion directly from the U.S. Department of Treasury. However, this funding is one-time, and more relief funding will be needed to mitigate the direct and indirect economic effects of COVID-19, help counties achieve economic recovery, and provide support to individuals, families, and employers.

On December 2, 2020 House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer announced they are backing a new \$908 billion pandemic relief bill introduced by a bipartisan group of Senate and House lawmakers. This bipartisan

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proposal of approximately \$908 billion includes \$288 billion in small business aid, \$160 billion in state and local government relief, and \$180 billion to fund a \$300 per week supplemental unemployment benefit through March 2021. This proposal also provides \$16 billion for vaccine distribution, testing and contact tracing. While providing \$82 billion into education and allocating \$45 billion for transportation. It will additionally allocate funding for rental assistance and childcare.

Los Angeles County has recently seen a substantial rise in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations and deaths. The decisions to close down businesses to protect public health are painful and have real consequences for families and our economy. In what we hope is the final stretch of the pandemic with a vaccine on the way, we need a new federal stimulus package so that we can continue to prioritize public health, send a lifeline to the businesses impacted by health orders, and get relief to the workers who are losing paychecks.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter in support of the recent bipartisan Federal Pandemic Relief Proposal and any other Federal proposals that will help provide critical relief to the County and its residents.

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