



THE UNITED STATES
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



February 24, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
(Sent Via Email)

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives
(Sent Via Email)

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
(Sent Via Email)

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
(Sent Via Email)

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

RE: Support for Inclusion of State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act in the FY 2022 Omnibus Appropriations Package

On behalf of the nation’s state, territory, and local governments, we urge inclusion of the bipartisan *State, Local Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act* (S. 3011/H.R. 5735) in the Fiscal Year 2022 omnibus appropriations package. This legislation, approved by unanimous consent in the Senate on October 19, 2021 would provide additional flexibility under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) that was included in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

Since enactment of ARPA, we have been working collaboratively with our respective memberships, the White House and the U.S. Department of the Treasury to implement the \$350 billion provided under the law. We believe that this new legislation would both streamline and strengthen this historic program in a number of key ways, including:

- Allowing the greater of \$10 million or 30 percent of the total ARPA allocation provided to a state or local government to be used under a new, separate provision that further allows infrastructure-related activities authorized under federal surface transportation laws or Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.
- Allowing CSLFRF funding to be used to provide, “emergency relief from natural disasters or the negative economic impacts of natural disasters, including temporary emergency housing, food assistance, financial assistance for lost wages, or other immediate needs.”

America's state, territory, and local governments have been engaged in our nation's response to COVID-19 since the earliest days; and providing these governments with flexible, essential financial resources is the surest way to see that our nation's preparedness and responsivity continues. As intergovernmental partners, we thank you for the support provided through ARPA and respectfully ask you to include S. 3011/H.R. 5735 in the FY 2022 omnibus appropriations package to help achieve our shared goals of mitigating, responding to and fostering a transformational recovery from this unprecedented national pandemic.

Sincerely,



Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The United States Conference
of Mayors



Clarence Anthony
CEO and Executive Director
National League of Cities



Matthew D. Chase
CEO/Executive Director
National Association
of Counties



Marc Ott
Executive Director
International City/County
Management Association



David Adkins
Executive Director/CEO
The Council of State Governments



Bill McBride
Executive Director
National Governors Association



Tim Storey
Chief Executive Officer
National Conference of
State Legislatures

Cc: The United States House of Representatives
The United States Senate