NACo Talking Points – COVID-19 "3.5 relief proposal"

- **We call on Congress and the administration to work together ASAP to pass additional aid for state and local governments NOW** – *we cannot miss this opportunity and wait months and hope for another aid package.*

- **[New NACo estimates](#) peg county budget losses to COVID-19 at $144 billion through fiscal year 2021.**

- **[DISCUSS YOUR LOCAL ECONOMIC SITUATION]**

- **The COVID-19 3.5 plan offered by the congressional Democratic leadership is the best *and only* offer on the table for state and local governments right now.** We thank Senator Schumer and Speaker Pelosi for their strong support and leadership efforts. They made substantial changes to make sure that ***all county governments*** are treated fairly and equitably with our state and local counterparts – and they are making ***lost revenue*** as an eligible use under the CARES Act and this new package.

- **Additional federal aid for state and local governments should be an area of bipartisan agreement** – we are literally on the frontlines working to protect and serve our local communities. By investing in counties, Congress and the administration would be investing in our local economies and workforces.

- **Investing in counties is a "win-win" investment** because counties are often one of the largest employers locally and we provide essential public health, public safety and economic recovery support for unemployed individuals, local businesses and nonprofits**.**

- **The COVID 3.5 plan would provide $150 billion for state and local governments,** including $29.5 billion for America's counties to help cover expenditures and lost revenue.

- **Counties are losing revenue,** combined with skyrocketing costs, at record rates now. With 22 million new unemployed people, the demand for county safety net services is climbing exponentially. It is unrealistic to demand and expect our counties to double down on their local public services without the revenue support to make it happen – again, our costs are skyrocketing while our revenues are plummeting.