



November 17, 2020

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senator

The Honorable Cory Gardner
United States Senator

The Honorable Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

The Honorable Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

The Honorable Scott Tipton
Member of Congress

The Honorable Ken Buck
Member of Congress

The Honorable Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

The Honorable Jason Crow
Member of Congress

The Honorable Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

Dear Members of the Colorado Congressional Delegation:

Thank you for your commitment and dedication to providing critical economic relief to Coloradans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. As you work diligently to develop the next federal stimulus package, state and local leaders across Colorado urge you to include robust state and local aid, as well as to extend the December 30 deadline for allowable use of CARES Act funds. Without such assistance, the communities state and local governments serve will endure relentless economic hardship.

As state and local governments continue to face consequential losses in both property and sales tax revenue during the pandemic, additional time to prepare and forecast related spending needs to preserve vital local government services during the upcoming winter season is critical.

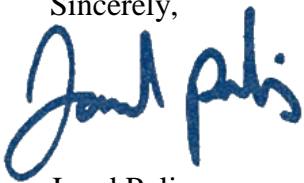
We appreciate the \$150 billion in direct aid to state, tribal and local governments that was included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, H.R. 748, to help provide relief to the state and local governments and alleviate some of the impacts of this public health crisis. However, these funds are not sufficient to help states, local governments, fire districts and other special districts on the front lines of helping Coloradans respond and recover from this pandemic. Further, moving into the winter, additional support is crucial to mitigate deeper cuts to services and support eligible localities.

Although the allocation of CARES Act funds helped ease some of the economic burden caused by COVID-19, it is sadly not substantial enough to meet the forecasted deficits for the State of Colorado, local governments and service providers who continue to suffer the financial and public health impacts of the pandemic. The state and local governments continue to face consequential losses in both property and sales tax revenue, leading to serious reductions to funding to vital government services.

As state and local governments continue to lead the fight against COVID-19, it is critical that the federal government supports our request to both slow the spread of the virus and bolster economic recovery.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this urgent request as you develop the next federal stimulus package.

Sincerely,



Jared Polis
Governor



John Swartout
CCI, Executive Director



Kevin Bommer
CML, Executive Director



Guyleen Castriotta
CCAT, Co-Chair

Randy Wheelock
CCAT, Co-Chair



Ann Terry
SDAC, Executive Director