



April 7, 2020

Speaker of the House Brad Wilson  
Utah State Legislature  
350 North State Street, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Dear Mr. Speaker,

On behalf of our approximately 1,700 mayors, commissioners, council members, and other local elected officials, the Utah League of Cities and Towns (ULCT) and the Utah Association of Counties (UAC) applaud your leadership as we strive to mitigate the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank you for the regular communication and coordination with local government.

The United States Congress enacted H.R. 748 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) which will inject \$2.2 trillion nationally into recovery efforts for individuals, businesses, and state and local governments. Of that amount, Congress will appropriate \$1.25 billion to the State of Utah by April 24, 2020.

We write this joint letter to express our support for Utah's cities, towns, metro townships, and counties receiving a justified and proportionate amount of the \$1.25 billion. We know that Congress intended for the State of Utah to retain at least \$688 million of that amount. We also know that Congress intended for the State of Utah to share the remaining \$562 million with local governments. ***As a result, ULCT and UAC request to be included in all CARES Act related deliberations about allocation formulas, criteria to qualify for the reimbursements, timing of distributions, and appropriations to local governments.***

The CARES Act contemplates assisting state and local governments to cover only those costs that:

1. Are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19,
2. Were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment of this section for the State or government; and
3. Were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

ULCT and UAC are currently collecting data from our members about necessary and unbudgeted expenditures and we will track them for the rest of the calendar year in order to qualify for the reimbursement. UAC and ULCT recognize that the CARES Act is vague on definitions about "necessary expenditures" and "local government" so we sent a letter seeking clarity on April 2 to the United States Department of the Treasury.

UAC and ULCT members will face drastic revenue shortfalls from the impact of COVID-19, including reductions in sales tax, property tax, utility bills, and motor fuel tax. Despite those shortfalls, local governments are still providing essential services at a heightened level for public health, infrastructure, and public safety. ULCT and UAC are collecting data about those potential revenue shortfalls for future consideration with Congress and the State of Utah. We also have a list of other policy issues for consideration this interim that we will share with you in another letter.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership in this unprecedented time. You can reach ULCT Executive Director Cameron Diehl at 801-910-3912 or [cdiehl@ulct.org](mailto:cdiehl@ulct.org) and UAC Chief Executive Officer Brandy Grace at 435-253-

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1623 or [brandy@uacnet.org](mailto:brandy@uacnet.org). We look forward to working with you on the next steps on the CARES Act implementation to benefit the State of Utah, local governments, and our collective constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Mendenhall'.

Mike Mendenhall  
President; Spanish Fork Council Member

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Caldwell'.

Mike Caldwell  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Ogden Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn Ramsey'.

Dawn Ramsey  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; South Jordan Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Gary Hill'.

Gary Hill  
Utah City Mgmt. Assoc.; Bountiful City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Pike'.

Jon Pike  
Immed. Past President; St. George Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cameron Diehl'.

Cameron Diehl  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ricky Hatch'.

Ricky Hatch  
UAC President  
Weber Co. Clerk/Auditor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shawn Milne'.

Shawn Milne  
UAC Secretary  
Tooele County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stan Summers'.

Stan Summers  
UAC 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Box Elder County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victor Iverson'.

Victor Iverson  
UAC Past President  
Washington County Commissioner

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shelley Brennan'.

Shelley Brennan  
UAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Duchesne County Recorder

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brandy Grace'.

Brandy Grace  
UAC Chief Executive Officer

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