The HEROES Act Would Provide $375 Billion to Local Governments
May 13, 2020

On May 12th, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, announced a new $3 trillion proposed package of stimulus funding. Entitled the “Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions Act” (HEROES Act), H.R. 6800 includes $375 billion in federal aid for local governments, without any population minimum, to offset lost revenue and increased expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It would also eliminate, for 2020 and 2021, the $10,000 limitation on deduction of state and local taxes. A summary of the state and local funding provisions is attached.

This proposal is consistent with the joint request the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Counties made to the leadership of the House and Senate, and is fully supported by NYCOM. If enacted, it would provide meaningful fiscal relief to every city and village in the State of New York, and would also -- out of a separate pot of $500 billion -- provide financial assistance to state governments.

I urge you to contact your federal representatives and the White House (via Douglas.L.Hoelscher@who.eop.gov and William.F.Crozer@who.eop.gov in the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs) and ask them to approve this approach to helping local governments as the frontline fighters against COVID-19 and for economic renewal.

The "HEROES Act" State and Local Funding Summary
The first four sets of Federal stimulus money appropriated by Congress have amounted to nearly $3 trillion but are most notable for their one omission: they have failed to provide assistance to fiscally beleaguered local and state governments who, by definition, are on the front lines in the battle against COVID and will be the key to supporting a successful economic recovery. NYCOM and our members are waging a battle to make sure direct and flexible funding is provided to all local governments, no matter their size, when the next round of stimulus is approved by Congress. In doing so, we are working closely with the National League of Cities, which represents 19,000 cities, villages and towns from across the United States.

This webinar will provide you with an insider's update on the local funding levels and formula we are supporting, the critically important role you can play in this campaign, and the prospects for securing this essential federal funding in the very near future.

Speakers: Irma Esparza Diggs, Senior Executive and Director of Federal Advocacy, National League of Cities; Peter A. Baynes, NYCOM Executive Director

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