



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0549

WASHINGTON D.C. OFFICE
1626 LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3906

OCEANSIDE DISTRICT OFFICE
2204 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 314
OCEANSIDE, CA 92054
(760) 599-5000

DANA POINT DISTRICT OFFICE
33282 GOLDEN LANTERN, SUITE 102
DANA POINT, CA 92629
(949) 281-2449

March 26, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
United States Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United State Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy,

I appreciate the strong bipartisan leadership you have provided as the House of Representatives works to support the American people in this time of crisis. I write to highlight an issue that has come to my attention in the third COVID-19 package, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, that I hope can be rectified in future legislation.

I strongly support the inclusion in the CARES Act of the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund for state and local governments. The State of California, San Diego County, and Orange County are under considerable strain as they work to protect the public from the health and economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, I am concerned that the bill does not allow municipalities with populations below 500,000 people to directly access the fund. The impact on small- and medium-sized cities from COVID-19 is immediate and stark, beyond the suspension of municipal activities due to social distancing. Key revenue sources such as sales tax and transit occupancy tax have been dramatically reduced as consumer and visitor-serving activity has come to a standstill. These are large sources of revenue for city budgets, which will inevitably lead to massive cuts to vital services that residents depend on, absent any external fiscal assistance.

Many of the cities in my district – like the cities of Oceanside, Vista, Carlsbad, San Clemente, and Encinitas – have significant experience pursuing federal funding and I believe that they should be eligible for direct assistance from the Coronavirus Relief Fund. As the House works to ensure Americans can pay their bills and governments can serve residents, I urge you to ensure that municipalities that do not meet the current parameters have prompt access to the fund.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Levin".

MIKE LEVIN
Member of Congress