

Dear Members of the Legislative Finance Committee,

Thank you for contacting me about providing direct relief to state and local governments in any future coronavirus-related legislation. I appreciate the role that state and local governments are playing in responding to the coronavirus, and I am fighting to make sure they have the resources they need to continue keeping communities safe.

State and local governments have been on the front lines coordinating the public health response to COVID-19. It is critically important these entities continue to have the resources to assist their communities during these uncertain times. I am proud to have fought for \$1.25 billion in pandemic relief funding for the State of Montana as a part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (H.R. 748).

The impact this virus is having on the economy is being acutely felt by states and local governments through their revenue shortfalls. These shortfalls could have dire consequences for government employees and the services they provide on which Montanans rely. By addressing these shortfalls, we can ensure that states have the resources they need to continue fighting the virus and working to rebuild their economies.

Because states, counties, and municipalities understand the intricate needs of their communities, they are critical partners in the fight against the coronavirus. I will keep pushing for relief for state, Tribal, and municipal governments, and to hold the federal government accountable to make sure that we are making smart, targeted investments in response to this ongoing public health crisis.

I will continue to work with my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to provide support for state and local governments. Please don't hesitate to contact me again if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Jon Tester  
United States Senator