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FAMILY SUPPORT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1604

April 13, 2020

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for your steadfast commitment to our Kansas communities during this unprecedented public health emergency. Responding to COVID-19 has placed an unprecedented strain on employers and employees as well as local economies. We all want to ensure that we minimize the length and extent of the impact of this emergency and Congress is doing everything in our power to respond to this pandemic.

As you know, Section 5001 of the CARES Act, signed into law in March, sets up a fund of \$150 billion for States, Territories, Tribal Governments, and qualifying local governments to receive. The Congressional intent in appropriating these funds is that they be distributed by the state government to various state agencies and to local governments. In addition, local governments having population of at least 500,000 may elect to receive assistance directly from Treasury. In Kansas, only Sedgwick County Government and Johnson County Government are eligible to apply for funds directly from the Treasury.

It is expected that Kansas will receive a total of \$1.25 billion from the larger fund. The funds are scheduled to be distributed to the state on April 24th. This is great news for Kansas. Once distributed to Kansas, the Governor's office will be responsible for further distribution of the funds to the cities and local governments.

The intent of Congress is to support state and local government as much as possible during this crisis. The state of Kansas is receiving a massive level of funding in the current structure. I want to encourage all levels of our state and local governments to work together in a manner and response equal to the situation we are facing. I encourage the Governor's office and all local governments to collaborate to ensure that all of Kansas' needs are met.

I have the upmost faith that Kansans and our state will be able to come together as a community and get through this hard time. As concerns arise during this emergency, please feel free to contact my office at (316) 262-8992.

Sincerely,



Ron Estes
Member of Congress