

**From:** [Derrick DeGroot](#)  
**To:** [Sandra Cox](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Call to Action - Federal COVID-19 Relief Package  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 10, 2021 9:17:37 AM  
**Attachments:** [2021 COVID-19 Relief Package.dotx](#)  
[2021 Oregon Federal Delegation Contact Information.xlsx](#)

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Admin next week please... Or worksession today if you want.

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**From:** Gina Nikkel <[gnikkel@oregoncounties.org](mailto:gnikkel@oregoncounties.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 9, 2021 4:30 PM  
**To:** Gina Nikkel <[gnikkel@oregoncounties.org](mailto:gnikkel@oregoncounties.org)>  
**Subject:** Call to Action - Federal COVID-19 Relief Package

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Judges, Commissioners, and Chairs:

This week, the real process for the next federal COVID-19 relief package begins. This \$1.9 trillion package, the American Rescue plan, includes a potential \$350 billion of relief funds for state and local governments - \$60-70 billion is estimated for county governments.

As the House begins to mark up legislative language, and move this next COVID-19 relief package through the process, we are asking you to reach out to members of Oregon's federal delegation and ask for support of dedicated funding for counties.

Please find a template support letter, and the federal delegation contact list attached to this email.

Thank you for your support.

Gina

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**Gina Firman Nikkel, Ph.D**  
Executive Director  
Association of Oregon Counties  
Local Government Center  
1201 Court Street NE, Ste. 300, Salem, OR 97301  
Mobile: (503) 930-0349  
[gnikkel@oregoncounties.org](mailto:gnikkel@oregoncounties.org)  
[www.oregoncounties.org](http://www.oregoncounties.org)

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February 9, 2021

[NAME OF OREGON FEDERAL DELEGATION MEMBER]

900 Court St., NE

Salem, OR 97301

*Submitted via electronic mail.*

[TITLE/NAME]:

Thank you for your leadership during these challenging times. [COUNTY NAME] is grateful for your support of Oregon's 36 counties, our state, and the people of Oregon. As you are considering the next COVID-19 relief package, [COUNTY NAME] asks you to support dedicated and robust funding for county governments provided for in the American Rescue Package.

The pandemic has had a significant impact on budgets; State, county, city, special district, tribe, business, or personal - everyone's revenue reality has dramatically changed.

As you know, counties are frontline responders in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. As the local public health authority, we provide critical services to Oregonians while working tirelessly to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our residents, every day of every year. During the pandemic, we are direct providers of contact tracing, testing, vaccinations, and critical services that support community hospitals.

Counties go above and beyond to meet the needs of their residents. Counties are working to bridge critical gaps for Oregonians and have, among other things have:

- Stood up support for business as local economies are feeling the crippling effects of the pandemic;
- Worked with childcare providers to set up resources for parents trying to navigate the pandemic and providing for their families;
- Addressed housing, homelessness, and quarantine/isolation needs; and
- Sought solutions to broadband infrastructure to help transition our communities during this rapid-paced shift in technology.

A direct allocation to counties in the next COVID-19 relief package means we can continue to deliver more efficient, effective services to Oregonians. The American Rescue Plan contains \$350 billion in critical aid to state, local, and territorial governments and recognizes the vital role counties play as frontline responders in mitigating and slowing the spread of virus and providing everyday services to Oregonians.

Please support the direct assistance to counties in the American Rescue Plan.

[County Commissioner Signature Block]



## Board of Commissioners

Donnie Boyd, Commissioner  
Position One

Kelley Minty Morris, Commissioner  
Position Two

Derrick DeGroot, Commissioner  
Position Three

February 16, 2021

Honorable Cliff Bentz  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Submitted electronically: [nick.strader@mail.house.gov](mailto:nick.strader@mail.house.gov)

Dear Congressman Bentz:

Thank you for your leadership during these challenging times. Klamath County is grateful for your support of Oregon's 36 counties, our state, and the people of Oregon. As you are considering the next COVID-19 relief package, Klamath County asks you to support dedicated and robust funding for county governments provided for in the American Rescue Package.

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Please support the direct assistance to counties in the American Rescue Plan.

Sincerely,

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Donnie Boyd  
Commissioner

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Kelley Minty Morris  
Chair

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Derrick DeGroot  
Vice Chair



## Board of Commissioners

Donnie Boyd, Commissioner  
Position One

Kelley Minty Morris, Commissioner  
Position Two

Derrick DeGroot, Commissioner  
Position Three

February 16, 2021

Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator  
Submitted electronically:  
[michael\\_zamore@merkley.senate.gov](mailto:michael_zamore@merkley.senate.gov)

Honorable Ron Wyden  
United States Senator  
Submitted electronically:  
[jeff\\_michels@wyden.senate.gov](mailto:jeff_michels@wyden.senate.gov)

Dear Senators:

Thank you for your leadership during these challenging times. Klamath County is grateful for your support of Oregon's 36 counties, our state, and the people of Oregon. As you are considering the next COVID-19 relief package, Klamath County asks you to support dedicated and robust funding for county governments provided for in the American Rescue Package.

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Sincerely,

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Donnie Boyd  
Commissioner

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Kelley Minty Morris  
Chair

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Derrick DeGroot  
Vice Chair