April 2, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary
Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

I am writing to you today urge you to move as expeditiously as possible to provide state guidance on Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding and to make that funding available for States to draw down as quickly as possible.

Congress and President Trump moved in an expedient and bipartisan manner to ensure passage of this vital legislation. New Hampshire has wasted no time in taking steps to operationalize this funding to provide for relief in our health care sector, small business community and individuals. However, our ability to move nimbly and engage in further planning process is hindered by a lack of guidance from Treasury. New Hampshire are ready to hit the ground running to combat the Coronavirus epidemic but it is difficult to move forward when subsequent guidance could potentially unravel those plans.

In some instances, we have refused to wait and taken immediate action with state funding to address critical areas of need. These include ensuring enhanced unemployment benefits, additional funding for child protection, and victims of domestic violence and a fund to assist our state’s health care system. It is our expectation that the federal government will now assume these costs but it is unclear when this funding is accessible.

What this epidemic has demonstrated is that any delay or failure to take quick action can result in serious consequences. New Hampshire is ready to be responsible stewards of CARES Act funding to effectively keep Granite Staters safe and preserve our state’s economy. As such, I ask that your department issue guidance and allow states to access their allocation of this funding as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

Cc: New Hampshire’s Congressional Delegation