Dear Mayors,

Earlier today, the League Officers sent this message (see below) to the members of our Congressional delegation, urging them to support the Coronavirus Community Relief Act. If enacted this bill would provide direct funding to every municipality in our State.

Please contact your Representative and, if they haven’t already done so, ask them to co-sponsor H.R. 6467

Decisions are being made today. Draft language for a formal letter from you is below.

Thanks for your ongoing support and assistance.

Respectfully, we urge you to cosponsor H.R. 6467, the ‘Coronavirus Community Relief Act’ (CCRA). This bill is sponsored by Congressman Malinowski, and cosponsored by Representatives Sherrill, Gottheimer, Sires, and more than 90 others. It will allocate $250 billion in emergency funding to communities with populations under 500,000. Those communities, which include every New Jersey municipality, were excluded from direct stabilization aid in the ‘Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act’ (the CARES Act).

The bill would divide the $250 billion among the states, based on each state’s share of total national population. It would, then, subdivide each state’s share among all units of local government, also proportionally based on population. Any funds that cannot be used for the purposes set forth in the act by an individual local government could be transferred to another local government.

The CCRA funding could be used to address extraordinary local costs, incurred in response to COVID-19. These costs would include deploying timely public service announcements to keep your citizens informed, rapidly activating emergency operations, readying employees for telework to keep services running, and more.