



## MAYORS FOR A GUARANTEED INCOME

July 6th 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, and Leader McCarthy,

As Mayors of 14 American cities across the country with a collective population of more than 7 million people, we are writing to urge your support for bigger, regular direct payments to people until the economy recovers. On Tuesday, June 30, the United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) passed a [Resolution In Support of a Guaranteed Income](#) calling for the advancement of guaranteed income as a solution to economic insecurity, inequality, and poverty.

The [Monthly Economic Crisis Support Act](#) (S. 3784), introduced by Senators Harris, Sanders, and Markey would get money to those hardest hit by this pandemic. The bill would provide \$2,000 per person each month until three months after the public health emergency ends. Our constituents—your constituents—are suffering. We must provide them with the money they need to put food on the table, pay the rent, and ensure their utilities are maintained. More than 1.3 million people have signed a [Change.org petition](#) calling for recurring cash payments during this crisis. The time for Congress to act is now.

The CARES Act was an important first step, and [research shows](#) that the CARES Act checks were used to catch up on rent and bill payments and to buy food and non-durable goods, but there is more to be done to address the gaps and the deepening need. With tens of millions filing for unemployment over the past months, new increases in COVID cases closing down areas that had attempted re-openings, and analysts warning that the economic crisis is likely to last years, not months, Congress must take bold action.

As Congress looks to its next round of legislation we must provide ongoing financial support to families who are struggling. Both Speaker Pelosi and President Trump have publicly stated their support of another round of direct stimulus payments to Americans and as elected executives closest to the people, we believe that including the Monthly Economic Crisis Support Act in the next Coronavirus Relief Package meets that ambitious and courageous goal. It makes sense to extend relief to keep businesses afloat and help keep wages flowing, and it is essential to fund state and local governments. At the same time, we must also keep families afloat through recurring direct payments, expanded unemployment insurance, and food/housing aid to those in need. Solutions that focus only on employers and wage replacement will inevitably [leave some people out and leave some people short](#).

Congress must provide lasting financial support to the millions of American families who were already living paycheck to paycheck before this crisis unfolded. We urge you to provide [Emergency Money to the People](#) in the next coronavirus response package by passing the [Monthly Economic Crisis Support Act](#).

Sincerely,

**Mayors for a Guaranteed Income**

Michael Tubbs, Stockton, CA

Ras Baraka, Newark, NJ

Steve Benjamin, Columbia, SC

Aja Brown, Compton, CA

Melvin Carter, St. Paul, MN

Eric Garcetti, Los Angeles, CA

Chokwe Antar Lumumba, Jackson, MS

Adrian Perkins, Shreveport, LA

Libby Schaaf, Oakland, CA

Victoria R. Woodards, Tacoma, WA

William Peduto, Pittsburgh, PA

Robert Garcia, Long Beach, CA

Satya Rhodes-Conway, Madison, WI

Cc: Steven Mnuchin, United States Secretary of the Treasury