May 21, 2020

Via Electronic Delivery

The Honorable Tim Walz
Governor of the State of Minnesota
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Governor Walz,

Your continued engagement with the Congressional Delegation through our weekly calls is greatly appreciated during the pandemic. This example of collaboration from government leaders is what Minnesotans expect from their elected officials. However, we are concerned that counties, municipalities, and local governments have not received a proportional share of the $2.2 billion that was appropriated to the State of Minnesota through the CARES Act.

As you know, nearly eight weeks ago, Congress came together to pass the bipartisan CARES Act which was subsequently signed into law. Included in the CARES Act was funding that was disbursed to states based on populations outside of metropolitan areas. We ask that you quickly disburse the state and local government allocation to Greater Minnesota in an expeditious and equitable manner.

In the eight weeks since the CARES Act funding was signed into law, hundreds of thousands of Minnesotans have lost their jobs, countless businesses have closed, and Greater Minnesota has suffered an identical economic fate as Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. As you know, Hennepin and Ramsey Counties received their allocation quickly from the federal government, yet the rest of Minnesota has been sidelined as funds sit idle awaiting deployment.

Rural Minnesota matters and it is our request that you urgently work with the legislature to allocate the local share of the nearly $2.2 billion Minnesota received.

Sincerely,

PETE STAUBER  
TOM EMMER  
JIM HAGEDORN

MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS