



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE

PIMA COUNTY GOVERNMENTAL CENTER
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C.H. HUCKELBERRY
County Administrator

April 10, 2020

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva
US House of Representatives, Arizona District 3
1511 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: **Coronavirus Relief Fund – Reimbursement of Necessary Expenditures due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency**

Dear Congressman Grijalva:

Remember when you were a County Supervisor and a member of the Board of Health?

The Pima County Health Department is the only Countywide regional agency responsible for public health throughout the County, including the unincorporated area as well as cities and towns. In a public health emergency, it is the County public health agency that incurs a majority of the cost and has the responsibility of responding to public health concerns and issues.

Our view of the Coronavirus Relief Fund is that it is for the sole purpose of providing assistance in the expenditures necessary to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

Of our Congressional representatives and Senators, most do not have the experience of being a County Supervisor. In the Arizona Delegation, I believe you are the only former County Supervisor who well knows the responsibility of County public health agencies.

As we understand, the CARES Act is for necessary expenditures occurring during the public health emergency. It is not to offset the decrease in local tax revenues as a result of the decreased economic activity of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is an important distinction that I do not believe is being understood by other local governments making inquiries regarding federal funding assistance associated with the current pandemic.

Congressman Grijalva

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As a former County Supervisor, you certainly understand the primary role of the County public health agency and the necessity to offset the extraordinary expenditures that we have made to contain the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Your assistance in educating other members of Congress and the US Treasury Department of the vital role County public health agencies provide in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.H. Huckelberry". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

c: The Honorable Chairman and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Jan Leshar, Chief Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer,
Health and Community Services
Dr. Bob England, Director, Health Department