

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 17, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write in support of the State of New Hampshire's April 11th request for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to increase the federal cost share for emergency work and Direct Federal Assistance from 75 percent to 100 percent for costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

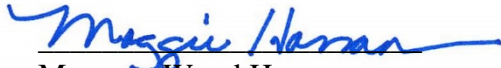
Our state and local partners on the front line of this crisis have committed significant resources toward slowing the spread of COVID-19. As this crisis continues, we appreciate that FEMA has assigned more personnel and resources toward expediting the paperwork review so that states quickly receive Public Assistance reimbursements. However, the demands of responding to this global pandemic have already outstripped many of the capabilities and resources of the state and local communities. New Hampshire communities, particularly small towns with small budgets, are making difficult operational decisions driven in part by whether they will be able to afford the 25 percent cost share.

FEMA has historically waived the state cost share requirement for Major Disaster Declarations with an extraordinary impact. This global pandemic is unprecedented, as is the lengthy and sustained response it requires of emergency management officials at all levels. It is critical that New Hampshire receives the full support of the federal government as it works to save lives.

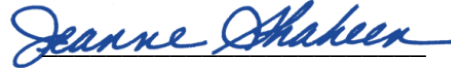
We recognize that the scale of this public health crisis also challenges federal resources. That is why Congress added \$45 billion to the Disaster Relief Fund as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. The additional funding should ensure that FEMA has the money it needs to provide full assistance to state and local governments.

We urge you, therefore, to waive the State of New Hampshire's cost share for Public Assistance related to COVID-19 by increasing the federal cost share from 75 percent to 100 percent. Thank you for your consideration of this request during this ongoing crisis, and please do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

Sincerely,



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Anne McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress