

Dear Congressman Aderholt,

We're hoping this letter finds you safe and well.

On behalf of the ten largest cities in the state of Alabama, we are writing to urgently request your support for direct federal assistance due to the COVID-19 crisis.

As you well know, the human toll of the pandemic has been devastating. Our communities have lost neighbors, friends and family members. And even as we seek to heal from these losses, we are also forced to confront the very harsh realities of the crushing economic impact on our Cities.

As Mayors, it is our responsibility to employ and support first responders – our firefighters and police officers – who keep our communities safe. We support the public health and public education infrastructure to make our communities strong. We pick up garbage, pave streets and fill potholes, all things our residents expect and need to take care of their families and get back and forth to work.

Because of the national downturn, our ability to provide these most basic and vital services is in very real jeopardy.

Prior to COVID-19, our economies were running at full throttle: teeming with development, recruiting new businesses to the state, launching new enterprises with young entrepreneurs – especially in the tech sector and burnishing Alabama's reputation as a state that is open for business. At the same time, we build unprecedented alliances between local leadership. In Jefferson County, more than twenty Mayors signed an economic cooperation agreement. And, the Big 5 Mayors association has now become the Big 10 Mayors association. We are working together to building a stronger Alabama.

We are not making this request as Democrats or Republicans, red Cities or blue Cities, nor majority black or majority white Cities – we are simply Alabama Cities, American Cities. More than 75% of all of our state's residents live and work in our metropolitan areas. We generate more than 80% of the state's GDP. We are proud to be the economic, education and innovation engines of Alabama.

As our leaders work to jumpstart our state's economy, we are firmly convinced that there is no Alabama recovery unless our largest cities recover. We are doing everything we can do to provide all of the support our businesses need to survive, and then to thrive. We are seeking your help to assist us in pressing through this crisis.

We understand the amazing difficulty of the decisions you face and are very appreciative of your consideration. Should you have any questions, we stand ready to respond.

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Dear Congressman Brooks,

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Dear Congressman Byrne,

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Dear Congresswoman Palmer,

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Dear Congresswoman Roby,

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Dear Congresswoman Rogers,

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Dear Congresswoman Sewell,

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Dear Senator Jones,

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Dear Senator Shelby,

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