



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

September 24, 2020

Taylor Caswell
Director
Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery
100 North Main Street, Suite 100
Concord, N.H. 03301

Dear Director Caswell,

Pursuant to my authority under RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; and Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, and 2020-18 I have approved your written request, in attachment, to take the following actions related to the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds:

1. Authority to transfer an additional \$17,000,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding to the existing COVID-19 Emergency Healthcare System Relief Fund (EHSRF), to provide emergency relief to hospitals that are serving as an essential component of the State's healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic. Budgeted consistent with the information in the request in attachment, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)
2. Authorize GOFERR to accept and expend \$17,000,000 for the EHSRF, to provide emergency relief to hospitals, as established by Emergency Order #9, and as amended by Emergency Order #44, effective through December 30, 2020. (100% Federal Funds)

The Department of Administrative Services is authorized to take the actions necessary to effectuate this authorization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

CC: Charles Arlinghaus, Commissioner, Department of Administrative Services



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

September, 24, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
State House
Concord, NH 03301

REQUESTED ACTION PURSUANT TO RSA 21-P:43; RSA 4:45; RSA 4:47; AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 2020-04, AS EXTENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDERS 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10, 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, AND 2020-17

Dear Governor Sununu,

- 1. The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) requests authority to transfer an additional \$17,000,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding to the existing COVID-19 Emergency Healthcare System Relief Fund (EHSRF), to provide emergency relief to hospitals that are serving as an essential component of the State's healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for the transfer payment are available in 01-02-002-020210 - Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery, 19110000 - Office of the Director, as follows:

085-588502 - Inter-Agency Transfer of Federal Funds FY 2021 \$17,000,000

- 2. Contingent on Requested Action #1, authorize GOFERR to accept and expend \$17,000,000 for the EHSRF, to provide emergency relief to hospitals, as established by Emergency Order #9, and as amended by Emergency Order #44, effective upon your approval through December 30, 2020. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Description, ACCOUNT, BUDGET REQUEST. Rows include: 02-02-002-020210-19200000 HEALTHCARE RELIEF FUND-COVID19, CLASS, 072-GRANTS FEDERAL, TOTAL EXPENSES, SOURCE OF FUNDS, 00D - Transfer of Federal Funds From Other State Agency, TOTAL FUNDS.

EXPLANATION

In response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency, on March 19, 2020, Governor Sununu issued Emergency Order #9, which established the COVID-19 Emergency Healthcare System Relief Fund (EHSRF). The order created a \$50 million fund to provide emergency relief to hospitals and other health care providers that are serving as an essential component of the State's healthcare system during the COVID-19 state of emergency.

On May 18, 2020, Governor Sununu issued Emergency Order #44, which amended Emergency Order # 9 by increasing the amount authorized for the EHSRF to disburse up to a total of \$100 million, provided that \$30 million be allocated to long-term care facilities due to the acute need within those facilities, and provided that the payments from the Fund shall be an obligation of GOFERR from CARES Act Funding to the maximum extent allowable.

On July 27, 2020, the Governor issued a fiscal authorization letter, which approved disbursement of the additional \$50,000,000 allocated by Emergency Order #44 to GOFERR.

Since then, GOFERR has solicited applications for additional rounds of EHSRF funding. In the most recent round of applications, it became apparent that the needs demonstrated by the eligible hospitals, if included in the formula calculation with other healthcare providers, would significantly diminish the residual funds available in the EHSRF, such that awards to other healthcare applicants would be substantially reduced. As a result, GOFERR, in consultation with the Governor's staff, made the determination to treat hospitals separately from the rest of the healthcare applicant pool and dedicate separate funding to address their needs. The additional \$17,000,000 sought through this fiscal authorization request is for awards for the hospitals that applied during the most recent healthcare application round. Any excess will remain in the EHSRF for future use.

All CARES Act funds must be for allowable losses incurred by the recipients before December 30, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Doiron
Deputy Director, GOFERR