



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

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

June 4, 2021

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, 2020-18, 2020-20, 2020-21, 2020-23, 2020-24, 2020-25, 2021-01, 2021-02, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-08, and 2021-10 I have approved your written request, in attachment, to take the following actions related to the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds:

1. Authority for the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) to expend \$2,500,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) for the 2021 Live Venue Assistance Program (LVAP).
2. Authority for GOFERR to make pro rata payments as direct beneficiary awards to recipients of the LVAP to cover eligible operating expenses incurred as of January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021 without further approval. Budgeted consistent with the request, in attachment, effective through December 31, 20221.

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 "Chitah 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

June 4, 2021

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

REQUESTED ACTION 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, AND 2020-14, 2020-15, 2020-16, 2020-17, 2020-18, 2020-20, 2020-21, 2020-23, 2020-24, 2020-25, 2021-01, AND 2021-02, 2021-04, 2021-05, 2021-06, 2021-08, AND 2021-10

Dear Governor Sununu:

- 1. The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) requests authority to expend \$2,500,000 million in CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds for which you authorized the allocation of for the 2021 Live Venue Assistance Program (LVAP) under your emergency authority.
2. Contingent on Requested Action #1, authorize GOFERR to expend this allocation by making pro rata payments as direct beneficiary awards to recipients of the LVAP to cover eligible operating expenses incurred as of January 1, 2021 through April 30, 2021 without further approval under your emergency authority under the above executive orders, which are still in effect on the date of this authorization, even if the State of Emergency is no longer in effect on the date the awards are issued. Effective upon your approval through December 31, 2021. 100% Federal Funds.

Funds for these payments are available in 01-02-002-020210 - 19110000 - Office of the Director, as follows:

072 - 500575 - Grants Federal FY2022 \$2,500,000

EXPLANATION

The Governor has authorized the allocation and expenditure of \$2,500,000 million in CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds for the Live Venue Assistance Program (LVAP).

The LVAP is for New Hampshire venues that previously participated in GOFERR's Live Venue Relief Program (LVRP) and that are also categorically ineligible to receive relief through the federal Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program. LVAP awardees will receive a pro rata percentage of their actual 2021 operating expenses, up to 75% of those expenses or \$750,000 - whichever is lower.

Since March of 2020, the pandemic has left live-event venues in New Hampshire either entirely closed or operating at a significantly reduced capacity. As a result, in October 2020, GOFERR created its LVRP

through which venues with qualifying losses received assistance from CARES Act flex funds. Eligible venues received 46% of their adjusted projected revenue losses for 2020, up to \$1.5 million.

At present, New Hampshire venues continue to remain closed or are hosting infrequent reduced-capacity events. The Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, signed into law on December 27, 2020, provided for the SVOG program, through which the federal government allocated \$16 billion to qualifying venues.

The SVOG, however, categorically excludes entities with certain ownership-types or other affiliations from participation. Significant pandemic-related revenue challenges remain among New Hampshire live venues, many live acts have yet to initiate large-scale scheduling of events, and many performers that previously rescheduled their summer 2020 dates for summer 2021 are cancelling these dates in favor of summer 2022. Consequently, some live-event venues in New Hampshire continue to struggle to produce meaningful revenue streams due to the ongoing effects of COVID-19.

To qualify for relief under the LVAP, applicants must first verify they were award recipients of LVRF, specify the basis upon which they are categorically excluded from participating in the federal SVOG program, and certify that, as a result of the pandemic, they have been unable to generate sufficient revenue to satisfy their actual 2021 operating expenses. Applicants will then submit their actual, itemized operating expenses from January 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021.

The program application period will begin June 10, 2021 and remain open through June 30, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Chase Hagaman  
Deputy Director, GOFERR