



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

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

June 10, 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 transfer \$10,000,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) to the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) for the purposes of facilitating the Lodging Relief Program and disburse funds to award recipients. Budgeted consistent with the request, in attachment, effective through December 31, 2021. (100% Federal Funds)
2. Authority for the DRA to accept and expend \$10,000,000 from GOFERR to disburse Lodging Relief Program awards to eligible recipients. Budgeted consistent with the request, in attachment, effective through December 31, 2021. (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  
Lindsey Stepp, Commissioner, Department of Revenue Administration



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

for

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND RECOVERY

June 9, 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 \$10,000,000 in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Funding for the purposes of facilitating the Lodging Relief Program and disburse funds to award recipients, effective upon your approval through December 31, 2021. 100% Federal Funds.

Funding will be transferred from the following accounting unit:

Table with 3 columns: CLASS, ACCOUNT, TRANSFER REQUEST. Rows include 01-02-02-020110-19110000 OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, 085 -INTERAGCY XFR OUT OF FED FND, TOTAL EXPENSES, SOURCE OF FUNDS, FEDERAL FUNDS, and TOTAL FUNDS.

- 2. Contingent upon approval of Requested Action #1, authorize DRA to accept and expend \$10,000,000 from GOFERR to disburse the Lodging Relief Program funds to recipients effective upon your approval through December 31, 2021. 100% Other Funds.

Funds will be budgeted as follows:

05-84-84-840010-19030000 MAIN STREET RELIEF FUND		
CLASS	ACCOUNT	BUDGET REQUEST
075 - GRANTS SUBSIDIES AND RELIEF	500590	\$10,000,000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,000,000
SOURCE OF FUNDS		
00D - Transfer of Federal Funds	488502	\$10,000,000
	TOTAL FUNDS	\$10,000,000

**EXPLANATION**

The Governor authorized the Lodging Relief Program, which is designed to provide relief to qualifying New Hampshire hotels and lodging establishments for revenue loss due to the effects of COVID-19.

Since March of 2020, the pandemic and its economic effects have negatively impacted the over 2,000 New Hampshire based hotels and lodging establishments. Such businesses in our state rely heavily on travelling tourists and business people to enjoy temporary stays. However, with lockdowns, social distancing requirements, remote work, health and safety concerns, and many other challenges and limitations, hotels and lodging establishments have suffered greatly.

Although the economy is opening back up and travel is picking up pace, many of these establishments still struggle to keep their doors open or face difficulty exacerbated by seasonal ebbs and flows.

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide funding to help restaurants and other eligible businesses keep their doors open. Although the RRF provides restaurants and some inns with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss, that program largely excludes hotels and lodging establishments.

The State's Lodging Relief Program would quickly and efficiently help provide some relief to these critical New Hampshire based businesses that experienced revenue loss during the pandemic.

To be eligible for this program, a hotel or lodging establishment must file monthly Meals and Rooms taxes with DRA, and have an April 2021 return on file. If a seasonal filer, the entity must have filed for all appropriate seasonal months.

Short-term rentals and room facilitators, as defined in RSA 78-A:3, XXIII, will be ineligible. This exclusion is intended to make ineligible residential homeowners who rent a vacation or other home or condominium, or a room therein. This exclusion is also intended to make ineligible any facilitator, platform, or other agent that facilitates room and home rentals.

Revenue calculations will compare April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020 to April 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021. Final awards will be subject to a cap and a pro-rata amount based on the number of applicants and funds available. Thus, the cap and pro-rata amount will be determined after the application period for the

program has closed. Awards will also be reduced by any state or federal relief each entity received during the covered period.

DRA will run the program, from receiving applications to calculating and issuing awards, with consultation from GOFERR. A simple application will enable DRA to retrieve revenue-related information from filed tax documentation in order to confirm data and determine final award amounts.

The application period is expected to open June 18, 2021 and close July 16, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,



Taylor Caswell,  
Executive Director, GOFERR