

RESOLUTION NO. 30397

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA AS BEING ESSENTIAL AND IN SUPPORT OF FAIR AND DIRECT FEDERAL EMERGENCY SUPPORT TO REOPEN AND REBUILD LOCAL AMERICAN ECONOMIES.

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WHEREAS, many of America's cities, towns and villages face unprecedented threats due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic emergency; and

WHEREAS, all municipalities are essential to America's economic recovery and without funding support for local governments, municipalities may go from being a critical part of the economic solution, to becoming a major obstacle to long-term stabilization and recovery; and

WHEREAS, all of America's cities, towns and villages will experience budgetary shortfalls of up \$134 billion in fiscal year 2020 alone, and the negative effects of the COVID-19 pandemic emergency on local communities will continue long after this year; and

WHEREAS, three million critical municipal worker jobs are at risk, threatening cuts to basic community services, including 9-1-1 response, sanitation, and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, communities have taken extraordinary measures to protect health, safety, and the continuation of essential services throughout the emergency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chattanooga has been impacted by this COVID-19 pandemic, has responded to this emergency and other natural disasters, and has made budgetary sacrifices; and

WHEREAS, America's mid-sized cities and small towns are struggling just as much as big cities and risk being left behind or wiped out entirely.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE, that the City of Chattanooga calls on Congress to allocate fair and direct federal support to all of America's communities, regardless of population size; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council urges that this funding must be flexible and address not only provide assistance for the additional expenses incurred by communities to respond to the pandemic emergency, but also to provide assistance for the dramatic budgetary shortfalls resulting from pauses in commerce, tourism, other economic engines in all cities and towns; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chattanooga City Council will ensure that any allocated federal funds are immediately used to rebuild and reopen the national economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any allocated funding will help keep middle class workers employed and critical services operating in this City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Chattanooga has been part of the COVID-19 emergency response and now calls on Congress to build a united national partnership for a safe, healthy, prosperous life with all local governments.

ADOPTED: June 23, 2020

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