May 14, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer,

The California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits), a policy alliance of more than 10,000 organizations and the voice of the nonprofit sector in California, thanks you for passing the CARES Act and PPP and Healthcare Enhancement Act, which include vital relief programs and charitable donation policies that benefit nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit organizations are stepping up nationwide to serve their communities during the COVID-19 crisis, as they always do in a crisis.

The nonprofit sector is a critical part of services supply chains throughout the country and central to state economies. In California, the nonprofit sector is the fourth largest employer by industry, generates 15 percent of the Gross State Product, and provides 32 percent of all Medi-Cal services. But nonprofit organizations cannot play these critical roles and provide these vital services without financial resources, including government contracts and other supports.

The unprecedented economic consequences of the COVID-19 crisis mean that support for government and nonprofit programs is more important than ever before. It is these agencies and organizations that will provide critical safety net services, job training, and other supports to the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs and are struggling to meet their basic needs.

With the precipitous drop in tax revenues, state and local governments are facing the prospect of making massive cuts to the very programs that can sustain people through these tough times and that can help rebuild the economy. State and local governments must have federal government support to preserve core programs and get people back to work.

The HEROES Act will provide necessary financial support to state and local governments to help prevent destructive and counterproductive program cuts. It will enhance access to small business and nonprofit relief programs like the Paycheck Protection Program and the Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program. It will provide struggling individuals and families with much-needed financial and other safety-net supports to help them meet their immediate needs and plan for a better future.

For these reasons, CalNonprofits respectfully asks, on behalf of nonprofit organizations and the communities they serve, that you pass the HEROES Act. We thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Jan Masaoka  
CEO, California Association of Nonprofits