NCSL Releases Statement on the House Coronavirus Relief Proposal

Washington, D.C. – The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) released the following statement on the House proposal for the next round of federal coronavirus relief funds.

The National Conference of State Legislatures calls upon Congress to unite in bipartisan support for critical and flexible state fiscal relief. As the economic and health effects of this pandemic continue to impact states to varying degrees, we urge Congress to support the state and local aid provisions in the “Heroes II” Act. We are encouraged by the House of Representatives’ and administration’s renewed efforts to reach agreement on a COVID relief package and are appreciative of their recognition of the importance of sound state economic health. This pandemic has affected each state differently, and while recent data has shown some states are collecting more revenue than expected, it shadows the realities of the long-term and persistent effects this virus will continue to have on state economies. Many states have already made significant budget cuts to vital programs, which may take years to reinstate. Additional state aid is crucial for overall state economic recovery. Healthy states mean a healthy nation.

NCSL is a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the states, commonwealths and territories. It provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues and is an effective and respected advocate for the interests of the states in the American federal system.