

June 26, 2020

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
United States Senate
400 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cramer:

Thank you for signing on to the [Lankford/King letter](#) supporting nonprofits. Like most other parts of our economy, North Dakota's nonprofit sector – which provides about one in seven private sector jobs in our state – continues to struggle in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Recent [data](#) shows a significant drop in giving nationwide for first quarter 2020, a trend which could cost nonprofits \$25 billion if it continues through the year. Research also finds [1.6 million nonprofit jobs](#) have been lost in the last three months nationwide, or about 13 percent of jobs in the nonprofit sector.

Two bipartisan bills introduced in the Senate within the last week address some of the priorities called for in the Lankford/King letter:

- **Increase Unemployment Insurance Reimbursement:**
The bipartisan [Protecting Nonprofits from Catastrophic Cash Flow Strain Act](#) (S. 4001) solves half of the problems nonprofits have with the enormous costs of reimbursing their states for benefits paid to laid off or furloughed employees. Specifically, the bill would correct the Labor Department interpretation requiring reimbursing employers to pay 100 percent of unemployment claims upfront and get reimbursed later.
- **Strengthen Charitable Giving Incentives:**
The bipartisan [Universal Giving Pandemic Response Act](#) (S. 4032) would make available — for tax years 2019 and 2020 — an above-the-line deduction for charitable giving on federal income taxes valued at up to one-third of the standard deduction (around \$4,000 for an individual filer and \$8,000 for married joint filers).

The North Dakota Association of Nonprofit Organizations respectfully asks you to consider co-sponsoring one or both pieces of legislation which advance the priorities stated in the previous letter you signed on to. North Dakota nonprofits appreciate the support you have shown these past few months as the state begins to recover from the crisis. We hope you and your colleagues in Congress can take these important steps to help nonprofits continue to provide essential services in our communities.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Greuel
NDANO Executive Director