



All About Florida

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DELEGAL**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 24, 2020

The Honorable Marco Rubio
United States Senate
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Senator Rubio:

On behalf of Florida's 67 counties, thank you for your leadership in helping our state address the unprecedented public health crisis and economic impact caused by COVID-19. This event is unlike anything our state has experienced before, and our local systems are being tested to their fullest.

While we greatly appreciate your support in passing the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (H.R. 6201) and the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 6074), we believe those pieces of legislation do not effectively support the continuity of operations for counties long-term. Specifically, H.R. 6201 creates paid sick leave and family medical leave requirements for all state and local public agency employers. However, the bill treats private companies and public employers very differently in that only private sector employers will receive a tax credit to offset the costs.

Since counties pay the same federal payroll taxes (i.e. Social Security and Medicare) as private businesses and, importantly, are on the frontline fighting to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19 community wide, it is only fair that they qualify for the payroll credits under the new paid sick leave and paid family leave provisions. Accordingly, as the Senate works to pass a third funding package for COVID-19, we hope that you will support inclusion of this provision to help Florida counties.

Again, thank you for your leadership and all that you do for Florida's counties.

Sincerely,

Virginia "Ginger" Delegal
FAC Executive Director

