



May 1, 2020

The Honorable Eric Holcomb
Governor
State of Indiana
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Holcomb:

Elected officials all across the state are managing their communities in the midst of an of unprecedented public health crisis. I am very proud of the leadership our mayors have shown, many newly elected facing this pandemic in their first ninety days of office! Navigating safe and effective solutions, while managing the anxiety that comes with economic uncertainty, has proven a significant local challenge.

Your leadership has been exemplary. It has given local officials across the state, the resources and confidence to support your strategies and the flexibility to meet our unique local challenges. We set our watches every day to your 2:30 press conference and its increasingly popular supporting cast. These live strategy sessions disseminate current, leading edge information and provide the reassurance of not only a steady hand at the wheel, but a purposeful course of action.

As a Hoosier mayor, and leader of Aim, I applaud your leadership during this most critical period in our nation's history. You have demonstrated great strength and skill balancing the mitigation of a public health crisis

with the serious social and economic side effects. Providing leadership doesn't always equate to taking popular positions or bending to public pressure and you have demonstrated that.

While the devil will be in the details, we are heartened to hear that your task force understands, and you agree, that local governments must be considered in the state's disbursement of \$2.4 billion in CARES Act funding. We look forward to working with you and your team to ensure local units are reimbursed for expenses directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Aim is ready and willing to meet the difficult challenges that lie ahead as our mayors and elected officials work together with you to reopen and strengthen our communities. We are most confident in your continued leadership!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joseph M. Thallemer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Mayor Joe Thallemer
Aim President
Warsaw Mayor