



# American Rescue Plan State & Local Advocacy Toolkit

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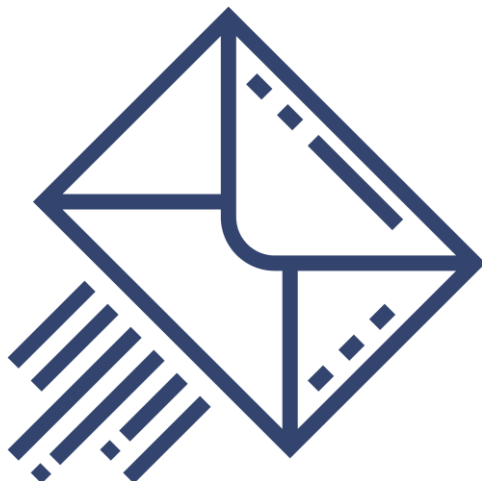
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## ABOUT THE TOOLKIT

The [American Rescue Plan](#) is a great opportunity for hoteliers. This legislation sent \$350 billion to help state, local, and tribal governments recover from the pandemic. Twenty-five percent of those funds will go toward hospitality industry relief efforts, but the American Rescue Plan does not specify how governments should meet this goal.

Each state has different guidelines on how to spend these funds. (For example, some states can create grant programs, while other states are prohibited from creating them.) It is critical to participate with your state and local hospitality association. Here is how you can advocate for the American Rescue Plan funds in your community:

- Be an active member of your [state and local hotel associations](#).
- Reach out to your [state and local hotel associations](#) to see how you can help amplify our industry's message for American Rescue Plan funds in your community.

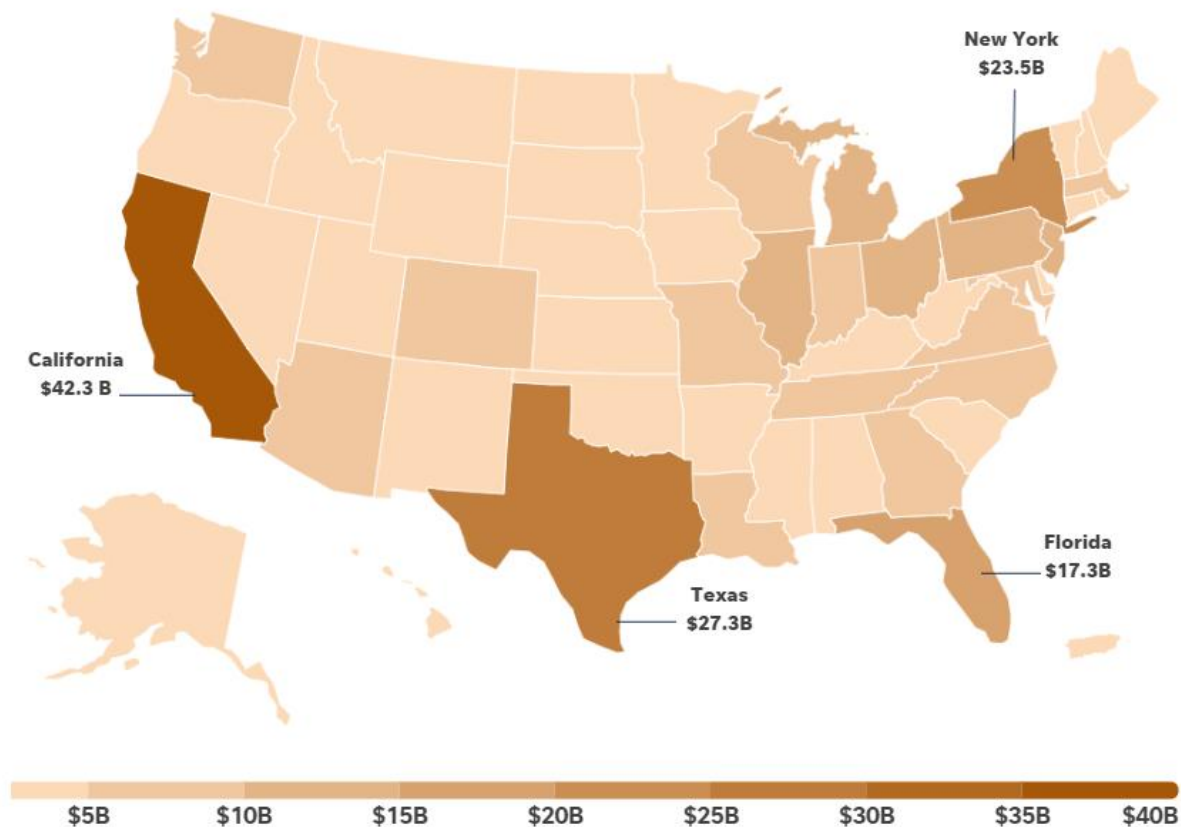


*Working with your state and local hotel associations, customize the enclosed letter template on page 4 and send to your state and local officials.*

# AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Here are some helpful resources on the [American Rescue Plan](#):

- National Conference of State Legislatures – [Estimate](#) on American Rescue Plan Funds by State
- [JD SUPRA](#) – Summary of State and Local Aid from the American Rescue Plan Funds
- [USA Today](#) – Map: How much aid will my state receive?



Graphic source: [USA Today](#)

# LETTER TEMPLATE FOR STATE & LOCAL OFFICIALS

Dear:

I am a hotelier and a constituent who lives in your district. I urge you to use the American Rescue Plan funds to help hotel owners and their employees survive this economic crisis.

Hotels like mine are in severe distress and we need your help now. The pandemic has rightfully led to event cancellations and travel restrictions out of concerns for health and safety. There has been a dramatic drop-off in guests in every hotel across the country over the past year. The results thus far are troubling:

- Nationally, hotel employment will not rebound until 2023.
- Business travel is not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels until 2024.
- State and local tax revenue generated from hotels fell by one-third in 2020, and will not rebound until at least 2023.

As you know, the American Rescue Plan sent \$350 billion to help state, local, and tribal communities recover from the pandemic. The American Rescue Plan stipulates that 25 percent of those funds go toward hospitality industry relief efforts but does not specify how governments should meet this goal.

1. **Sec. 9901 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

a. page 223 – “Use of Funds – Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraphs (3), a state, territory, or Tribal government shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section, or transferred pursuant to section 603(c)(4) to cover costs incurred by the State, territory, or Tribal government, by December 31, 2024 – (A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality”

b. page 228 – “Requirements - “(1) USE OF FUNDS.—Subject to paragraph (2), and except as provided in paragraphs (3) and (4), a metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county shall only use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover costs incurred by the metropolitan city, nonentitlement unit of local government, or county, by December 31, 2024— “(A) to respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;

2. **Sec. 6001 Economic Adjustment Assistance Grants**

a. (page 90) – “(c) of the funds provided by this section, 25 percent shall be for assistance to States and communities that have suffered economic injury as a result of job and gross domestic product losses in the travel, tourism, or outdoor recreation sectors.”

Please use these federal funds to help hotel owners and employees get back on their feet. Thank you for your leadership during this challenging time.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,