To provide for an enhanced Coronavirus relief fund for units of government with a population of 500,000 or less, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

(introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on __________)

A BILL

To provide for an enhanced Coronavirus relief fund for units of government with a population of 500,000 or less, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Coronavirus Community Relief Act”.

SEC. 2. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND FOR UNITS OF GOVERNMENT WITH A POPULATION OF 500,000 OR LESS.

Title VI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 801 et seq.) (as added by section 5001(a) of the Coronavirus...
Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116–136)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 602. CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUND FOR UNITS OF GOVERNMENT WITH A POPULATION OF 500,000 OR LESS.

“(a) Appropriation.—Out of any money in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, there are appropriated for making payments to units of local Government with a population of 500,000 or less, $250,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.

“(b) Authority to Make Payments.—The Secretary shall pay to a unit of local government the relative unit of local government population proportion amount determined for such government under subsection (c)(4) within 30 days after such government submits the certification required by subsection (e).

“(c) Payment Amounts.—

“(1) In General.—The maximum aggregate amount paid under this section for fiscal year 2020 to units of local government in a State shall not exceed the relative population proportion amount determined for the State under paragraph (2) for such fiscal year.

“(2) Relative population proportion amount.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the rel-
ative population proportion amount determined under this paragraph for a State for fiscal year 2020 is the product of—

“(A) the amount appropriated under subsection (a) for fiscal year 2020; and

“(B) the relative State population proportion determined under paragraph (3).

“(3) Relative state population proportion defined.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(B), with respect to a State, the relative State population proportion is the quotient of—

“(A) the population of the State; and

“(B) the total population of all States.

“(4) Relative unit of local government population proportion amount.—For purposes of subsection (b), with respect to a unit of local government, the relative unit of local government population proportion amount is equal to the product of—

“(A) the relative population proportion amount determined under paragraph (2) for the State in which the unit of local government is located; and

“(B) the quotient of—
“(i) the population of the unit of local government; and

“(ii) the sum of the population of all units of local government with a population of 500,000 or less within the State that submit the certification required by subsection (e) by the deadline specified in that subsection.

“(5) DATA.—For purposes of this subsection, the population of States and units of local governments shall be determined based on the most recent year for which data are available from the Bureau of the Census.

“(6) OTHER RELIEF.—The payments made under this section shall be in addition to, and shall not affect or reduce, payments made to units of local government with a population that exceeds 500,000 under section 601.

“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A unit of local government shall use the funds provided under a payment made under this section to cover only those costs of the unit of local government that—

“(A) such government reasonably deems to be necessary and directly or indirectly involve,
relate to, are, have been, or will be incurred due
to, or are, have been, or will be a response to
circumstances caused by, the public health
emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Dis-
ease 2019 (COVID-19); and
“(B) were incurred during the period that
begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on Decem-
“(2) AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER FUNDS.—If a
unit of local government determines it will not ex-
pend all of the funds paid to the government under
this section by the end of the period described in
paragraph (1)(B), the government may transfer the
unexpended portion of such funds to another unit of
local government in the State with a population of
500,000 or less. Funds transferred under this para-
graph—
“(A) shall be used by the unit of local gov-
ernment receiving such funds consistent with
the requirements of paragraph (1); and
“(B) shall be deemed to be a cost of the
unit of local government making the transfer.
“(e) CERTIFICATION.—In order to receive a payment
under this section, a unit of local government shall provide
the Secretary with a certification signed by the Chief Ex-
ecutive (or equivalent) for the unit of local government
that the local government’s uses of the funds are or will
be consistent with subsection (d) not later than 15 days
after the date of enactment of this section.

“(f) INSPECTOR GENERAL OVERSIGHT;
RECOUPMENT.—

“(1) OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY.—The Inspector
General of the Department of the Treasury shall
conduct monitoring and oversight of the receipt, dis-
bursement, and use of funds made available under
this section.

“(2) RECOUPMENT.—If the Inspector General
of the Department of the Treasury determines that
a unit of local government has failed to comply with
subsection (d), the amount equal to the amount of
funds used in violation of such subsection shall be
booked as a debt of such entity owed to the Federal
Government. Amounts recovered under this sub-
section shall be deposited into the general fund of
the Treasury.

“(3) AUTHORITY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL.—
Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to di-
minish the authority of any Inspector General, in-
cluding such authority as provided in the Inspector
“(4) FUNDING.—Notwithstanding section 601(f)(3), the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury may use the amounts appropriated under that section to carry out oversight and recoupment activities under this section in addition to the oversight and recoupment activities carried out under section 601(f).

“(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COSTS.—The term ‘costs’ includes, but is not limited to, lost revenue, reimbursement for expenses incurred before the date of enactment of this section, and increases in costs reasonably believed to be the direct or indirect result of, or direct or indirect responses to circumstances caused by, the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

“(2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘unit of local government’ means any of the following that has a population of 500,000 or below: a county, municipality, town, township, village, parish, borough, or other unit of general government below the State level.

“(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of the Treasury.
“(4) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.”.