



Governor Brad Little
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May 6, 2020

Alex J. Adams, Chairman
Coronavirus Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC)
304 N 8th St, 3rd Floor
Boise, ID 83702

Chairman Adams,

On April 7, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-07 which outlined my expectations on how the Coronavirus Relief Funds may be used. In this order, I placed several important limitations on use of the funds to ensure they are used prudently and judiciously on behalf of Idaho taxpayers.

On April 22 and May 4, 2020, the U.S. Treasury issued guidance that Coronavirus Relief Funds may be used for economic support, including to provide grants to private businesses who faced business interruptions due to COVID-related closures. This was a welcome addition to the guidance, but one that we did not anticipate would be allowable under the CARES Act language when the original Executive Order was signed.

Given the potential for funds to passthrough to private entities, it is important to add an additional limitation on the use of Coronavirus Relief Funds to ensure the funds are used for the purposes intended—to help small Idaho businesses whose operations were interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic—and to avoid the appearance of impropriety. Accordingly, I direct that none of the funds be used for private entities that directly lobby federal or state officials, defined as having had a registered lobbyist at any point during 2020, or to entities that exist for the purpose of advancing partisan political activities. Confidence in state government and avoiding actual or perceived impropriety is crucial to our state, important to my administration, and something that is reflected in multiple places in Idaho and federal law.

Please work with the State Controller in reviewing receipts for reimbursement to ensure that this directive is carried out.

Best regards,

Brad Little
Governor