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Erica C. Crawley
State Representative

134th G.A. Committees

Armed Services and Veterans

Affairs Committee

Finance Committee

Capitol Square Review and
Advisory Board

Ohio Black Maternal Health
Caucus

Ohio Commission on Infant
Mortality

Ohio Commission on Minority
Health

State Controlling Board

The Honorable Secretary Janet Yellen
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington D.C., 20429

Dear Secretary Yellen,

Thank you for your leadership in quickly directing relief to millions of Americans and the communities they live in. As you issue guidance on distribution of American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds, I urge you to ensure that townships are expressly eligible for funding.

Our local governments have been vital partners on the front lines of the response to this pandemic from Day One, providing leadership on COVID-19 and maintaining the services essential to our daily lives. Our local governments, including townships, will be just as important as we emerge from this pandemic and start on the road to recovery.

The ARP provides \$350 billion for state and local government funding. However, due to the ARP's definition of "nonentitlement unit of local government," there are concerns that Ohio's townships may not be eligible for funding.

Ohio has over 1,300 townships that provide essential support to at least four million residents, according to the 2010 census. As other types of municipalities receive direct funding, Ohio's townships should be eligible too.

The ARP provides critical resources to our local communities to help with the COVID-19 emergency and its economic effects, including funds for local government services affected by revenue reductions as well as investments in water and sewer infrastructure. To ensure our recovery benefits all Ohioans, townships need to receive this support as well.

We are thankful for the American Rescue Plan which provides much needed assistance to our government and to our citizens. I would appreciate your consideration in the formation of the U.S. Treasury guidance to ensure Ohio's townships receive funding.

Yours in Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erica C. Crawley".

Erica C. Crawley, JD, MPA
State Representative – 26th Ohio House District