

**TO: County Board
Presidents/Executives/Chairpersons/Board
Members/Administrators**

**FROM: Joe McCoy, Executive Director
Illinois State Association of Counties**

DATE: March 13, 2020

RE: Coronavirus Assistance for Counties

The Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) stands ready to render whatever assistance we can offer as your counties work to address and mitigate the effects of Coronavirus in your communities.

First and foremost, please feel welcome to contact me if your county has needs associated with this public health issue that might be addressed or helped by the federal government. I have been in discussions with staff at the National Association of Counties (NACo). As our federal partner, NACo is coordinating with state county associations like ISACo to identify local needs. Any county needs communicated to ISACo will be forwarded along to our NACo partners who will present them to the White House and Congress.

Secondly, I have had conversations with county officials this week about the prospect of amending state law to allow for all local government officials to attend meetings via electronic means during a crisis situation such as a pandemic. ISACo supports such a proposed change in law and is communicating the request to the Governor and legislative leaders.

At this point it remains uncertain when the General Assembly will return to session. As you are likely aware, the legislative session for next week was cancelled and we don't know at this point if additional session days will be cancelled.

I would also encourage you to develop a reliable system to track expenses incurred as a result of your county's response to Coronavirus. This may prove helpful in the event your county seeks any available federal reimbursement.

ISACo has developed a webpage dedicated to information about the Coronavirus along with best practices to protect your constituents and yourselves. The webpage is [available via this link](#).

Finally, please feel welcome to contact ISACo with any questions for which we may be helpful. Our office number is 217/679-3368. My e-mail address is jmccoy@isacoil.org. I can also be reached on my cell phone at 217/836-9164. Thanks.