

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Charles Grassley Chairman U.S. Senate Committee on Finance 219 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

RE: Charitable Giving Coalition Urges Support for a Temporary Universal Charitable Deduction

Dear Chairman Grassley:

On behalf of the Charitable Giving Coalition (CGC), we urge you to support enactment of a temporary universal charitable deduction as part of an emergency COVID-19 response package. The CGC is a coalition of associations representing thousands of charitable and faith-based organizations across the country.

A temporary universal charitable deduction would encourage all Americans to give more, helping charitable organizations continue to provide vital services to families, workers, and communities critically impacted by the novel coronavirus.

As you know, nonprofits are and will remain on the front lines of supporting our communities, including the most vulnerable. In this time of crisis, the demand for such services will increase and a drop in charitable giving is expected.

A temporary universal charitable deduction will encourage all individuals, regardless of income, to give more to help in the crisis. It will provide some immediate relief to charitable organizations to meet their missions and support their workforce. Language can be adapted from HR 651, HR 1260, or HR 5293, though we note that each of these would establish a universal charitable deduction on a non-temporary basis.

Again, we urge you to support a temporary universal charitable deduction. Thank you for your leadership and support of America's charitable service providers.

Sincerely, Charitable Giving Coalition