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Contact: Jenny Tan, Senior Manager of Public Affairs & Member Services  
Phone: (916) 327-7500 Ext. 530 | Email: [jtan@counties.org](mailto:jtan@counties.org)

## **CSAC Applauds Governor Newsom’s \$2.7 Billion COVID-19 Emergency Response Spending Package**

**(Sacramento, CA)** – The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the voice of California’s 58 Counties at the state and federal levels, applauds Governor Newsom’s announcement today to commit [\\$2.7 billion in a COVID-19 Emergency Response Package](#).

As key partners with the State of California throughout the pandemic, counties have been on the front lines for almost two years, battling this deadly disease to keep their communities healthy and safe. The \$2.7 billion state investment – half of which will be allocated almost immediately – provides funding for three top priorities identified by local public health departments: testing capacity, surge workforce, and community outreach efforts for underserved and vulnerable communities.

This funding is a critical infusion of resources as counties, the health care system, and community-based organizations continue efforts to protect Californians from severe illness and death. Counties also look forward to the Governor’s January Budget Proposal on Monday as an opportunity to provide direct resources for stabilizing and rebuilding the beleaguered local public health system. Together, we can save lives and exit this pandemic with a continued joint commitment to partnership, equity, and resiliency.

“This state investment comes at a critical time for counties as they face an unprecedented wave of COVID-19 cases,” said CSAC Executive Director Graham Knaus. “We must not lose sight of the tremendous burden our counties face to protect their residents. We thank Governor Newsom for his continued support and recognition of counties during this pandemic.”

*The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is the voice of California’s 58 counties at the state and federal level. Connect with CSAC on Twitter at: [https://twitter.com/CSAC\\_Counties](https://twitter.com/CSAC_Counties) and on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/CSACCounties>.*

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