Maine Forward is a project of the Maine Center for Economic Policy.

An Open Letter to Senator Susan Collins

The pandemic and resulting recession are hitting Mainers hard. Unemployment continues to smash pre-pandemic records, and Mainers are worried about how to stay safe from the virus, remain in their homes, and keep food on the table.

Congress must approve more disaster relief funds, or our state will see more layoffs, a deeper recession, and a delayed recovery. We need you to step up to give our families, communities, and state the resources necessary to survive the crisis and rebuild our economy.

Senator Collins, we are counting on you to use your leverage in Washington to deliver resources for Maine – our future is at stake.

The next COVID-19 relief bill needs to put us on the road to recovery. That means:

- ✔ Increasing emergency funding for states, communities, and tribal governments so they can respond to the crisis.
- ✔ Boosting federal matching funds for health care, so everyone has access to the care they need during the pandemic.
- ✔ Extending worker relief until the economy recovers.
- ✔ Investing in housing so all Americans can stay safe at home.
- ✔ Strengthening the social safety net for families in need.

We are long overdue for a federal response that meets the magnitude of this crisis. Our families are struggling, and Congress needs to step up and provide real solutions.

Sincerely,

Garrett Martin
Executive Director, Maine Center for Economic Policy

P.S. Readers: Please join us in asking Senator Collins to deliver the funding for Maine’s recovery by calling her office at 207-426-4400. Visit FundMainesRecovery.com to learn more.