

# PILT Funding in Jeopardy for Counties Impacted by Federal Public Lands

## Take Action Now!

With the fate of FY 2015 funding for the federal Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program remaining in jeopardy, **county leaders from across the nation will be participating in NACo's PILT Fly-In in the nation's capital this week.** While Congress is working this week to pass a short-term funding extension for most federal programs, **the current Continuing Resolution (CR) does NOT include new funding for PILT.** NACo members are calling on Congress and the administration to include full mandatory funding for PILT in the final FY 2015 appropriations package, as well as to work on a long-term strategy for PILT reforms and payments for the nearly 1,900 counties with federal public lands. **It is important that all county leaders contact their members of Congress today to urge active support for full FY 2015 funding for PILT!**

## Hill Briefing and Meetings

During the PILT Fly-In, **NACo will host a [briefing on Capitol Hill](#)** in which county leaders will be joined by members of Congress to discuss the importance of PILT. **Speakers at the briefing will include Sens. Michael Bennet (D-Colo.), Mark Udall (D-Colo.), Mike Lee (R-Utah), John Walsh (D-Mont.) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), as well as Reps. Ann Kirkpatrick (D-Ariz.) and Chris Stewart (R-Utah).** Supervisor Liz Archuleta, Coconino County, Ariz. and County Manager Greg Cable, Graham County, NC, will also address attendees.

County leaders and NACo staff will also **meet with over 40 key members of Congress, as well as officials from the U.S. Department of Interior and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service,** to stress the importance of PILT to America's counties and to urge full funding for the program in FY 2015. County leaders will also urge their members of Congress to support a sustainable long-term approach to financing essential local services in America's public land counties.

## Take Action Today!

At this critical juncture in the FY 2015 appropriations process, **it is important that all county leaders contact their members of Congress to urge support for full funding for PILT in FY 2015, as well as a sustainable long-term approach.** Please take advantage of our many resources, listed below, to effectively communicate this message to members of Congress.

## Visit NACo's New PILT Action Center

In conjunction with the Fly-In, NACo has launched a [comprehensive PILT Action Center](#) to assist county leaders in advocating for full funding for this priority program. In this information hub, you will find the following:

- **New Individual County PILT Profiles:** these one-page profiles convey the importance of the PILT program to counties across America by providing graphics and statistics that show the amount of PILT funding received by each county that receives at least \$10,000 in funding, as well as the percentage of federal land in that county, and other pertinent information.
- **Draft Letter to Congress on PILT:** NACo has prepared a draft letter that county leaders can use to stress to Congress the importance of the PILT program and its full funding in FY 2015.
- **Sample Op-Ed on PILT:** NACo Public Lands Chair Ron Walter, Commission Chair, Chelan County, Wash., has published an op-ed in *The Hill* on the importance of the services counties provide on federal lands, and in turn, the importance of PILT to county governments. NACo members are encouraged to submit similar op-eds to their local newspapers.
- **Other NACo Resources:** NACo has also prepared a presentation that provides a comprehensive overview of the PILT program, as well as a policy briefing fact sheet on PILT.

To visit the PILT Action Center, click [here](#).

NACo staff will continue to provide updates on funding for the PILT program in FY 2015 and beyond.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact NACo's Legislative Director Deborah Cox at [dcox@naco.org](mailto:dcox@naco.org) or 202.942.4286.