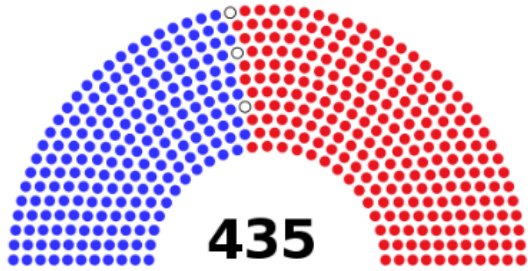


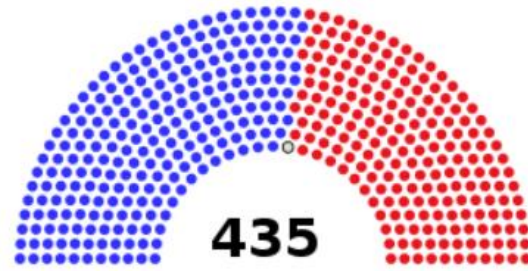
Jonathan Shuffield
Associate Legislative Director
National Association of Counties

Federal Issues Update

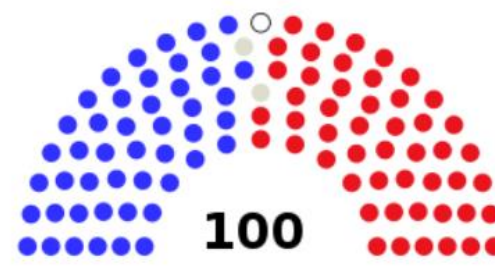




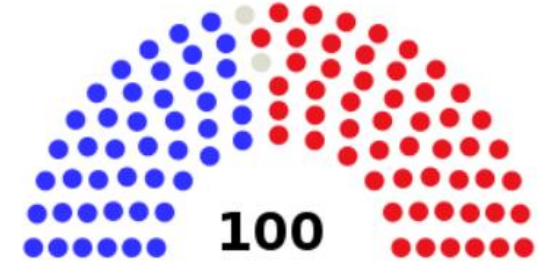
U.S. House last Congress
236 R, 197 D, 2 Vacant



Current U.S. House
235 D, 199 R, 1 I



U.S. Senate last
Congress
51 R, 46 D, 2 I, 1 Vacant



Current U.S. Senate
53 R, 45 D, 2 I

Congressional Election Results

FY 2020 Appropriations

- Two-year budget agreement signed by President Trump on August 2
- On September 19, U.S. House passed a continuing resolution through Nov. 21
- U.S. House has passed all 12 appropriations bills
- Senate Appropriations Committee is currently moving appropriations bills

Infrastructure

- Large infrastructure package remains elusive
- Highway Trust Fund expires in September 2020
- **S. 2302 (Sen. Barrasso), America's Transportation Infrastructure Act**
 - Five-year reauthorization of the Highway Trust Fund
 - \$287 billion—27% increase
 - Reported favorably by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on August 1

It's time to end the callous policy of inmate Medicaid exclusion

Inmate Medicaid Exclusion

- Current federal law bans coverage for pre-trial inmates
- NACo and National Sheriffs' Association Task Force
- **Restoring the Partnership for County Health Care Costs Act, H.R. 1345**—Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.)
 - Removes limitations on Medicaid, Medicare, Supplemental Security Income and CHIP benefits for pre-trial inmates
- **Working with Senate allies to get bipartisan legislation introduced this Congress**

National Flood Insurance Program

- **Current NFIP extension expires September 30**
- Last fully reauthorized in 2012 and has been funded with temporary spending measures since 2017
- **H.R. 3167—NFIP Reauthorization Act**—Rep. Waters (D-Calif.):
 - Five-year pilot program to provide means-tested assistance for low-income policy holders
 - \$500 million annually to update mapping technology
 - \$200 million annually for the flood mitigation assistance grant program
 - Monthly premium payments to ensure low-income policy holders can afford flood insurance
 - Provides continuous coverage for policy holders who wish to explore flood insurance in the private market



Find us in the
app store!



Broadband Access

- The accuracy of FCC's National Broadband Map has become the target of bipartisan concern within Congress
- No mechanism to verify the accuracy of the data
- Lack of competition in areas with limited coverage means higher prices
- Legislation to address this issue:
 - **S. 1822, Broadband Deployment Accuracy and Technological Availability (Broadband DATA) Act**
 - **S. 842, Improving Broadband Mapping Accuracy Act**
 - **S. 1522, Broadband Data Improvement Act of 2019**
 - **H.R. 1644, Save the Internet Act of 2019**
 - **H.R. 2643, Broadband Mapping After Public Scrutiny (MAPS) Act**

Waters of the United States

- Several Supreme Court decisions have led to inconsistent application of WOTUS definition
- In 2015, Obama administration issued a sweeping national WOTUS rule that was immediately challenged in court
- More conflicting court decisions: 22 states under the 2015 rule; 28 under pre-2015 rule
- **September 12: Trump administration formally repealed 2015 WOTUS rule**
- **New draft rule expected as early as this winter**

PILT and SRS

PILT

- **Full PILT funding in FY 2020 House Interior Appropriations bill**
- **Permanently Authorizing PILT Act (H.R. 3043)**
- **PILT Reauthorization Act (S. 2480)**—ten-year mandatory PILT
- **PILT population caps bill (S. 2108; H.R. 3716)**

SRS

- **SRS 2-year bills (H.R. 3048 and S. 430)**
- **S. 1643, Forest Management for Rural Stability Act**—permanent SRS endowment fund

Forestry and Endangered Species Regulation Changes

- **Forest Service NEPA regulations**
- New categorical exclusions for road/trail maintenance, watershed protection, and the salvage/removal of dead or dying trees
- **New Endangered Species Act regulations unveiled July 25th**
 - Critical habitat—agencies would have to consider occupied habitat options before moving to unoccupied
 - Rescission of blanket 4(d) rule
 - Clarifies Section 7 consultation process

**Save the
Dates for
NACo Events**

- WIR Board Meeting, October 28-30, Mariposa County, CA
- NACo Legislative Conference, February 29-March 4, Washington, DC
- WIR Conference, May 13-15, Mariposa County, CA
- NACo Annual Conference, July 17-20, Orange County/Orlando, FL