WASHINGTON, D.C. – National Association of Counties (NACo) Executive Director Matt Chase recently appeared on the cable television show, Comcast Newsmakers, to discuss the ongoing fiscal debate and the potential impact on U.S. counties.

To watch the complete interview, click here.

Chase, interviewed by host Robert Traynham, emphasized the critical role counties play in communities across the country and how many services, programs and funding priorities could be jeopardized as a result of current national debt and deficit reduction negotiations on Capitol Hill.

“When the counties talk about the fiscal cliff, we are worried about the libraries, healthcare, flu shots, roads and bridges,” Chase said. “Hospitals are key. Counties run over 900 hospitals across the country and are traditionally the providers of last resort for those who do not have insurance. Under state law in most cases, we have to provide for indigent care as well as Medicaid patients.”

For more information on how these important issues may affect counties and their residents, check out:

- NACo Legislative Presentation: Debt Limit and Ongoing Fiscal Debate: County Risks and Opportunities (Jan. 24, 2013);
- NACo Legislative Brief: The County Perspective: The Fiscal-Cliff Deal (Jan. 3, 2013);
- NACo Legislative Presentation: Federal Budget Sequestration 101: Perspective Through the County Lens (Nov. 2012); and

Comcast Newsmakers is a unique local news platform where local, state and federal officials and community leaders are invited to share their thoughts on current events and issues of interest to local residents. The five-minute Comcast Newsmakers segments air on CNN Headline News at 24 and 54 minutes past each hour in Comcast media markets across the country.

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The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.