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# Inside Washington

## County Impacts from the White House & Congress

December 11, 2025

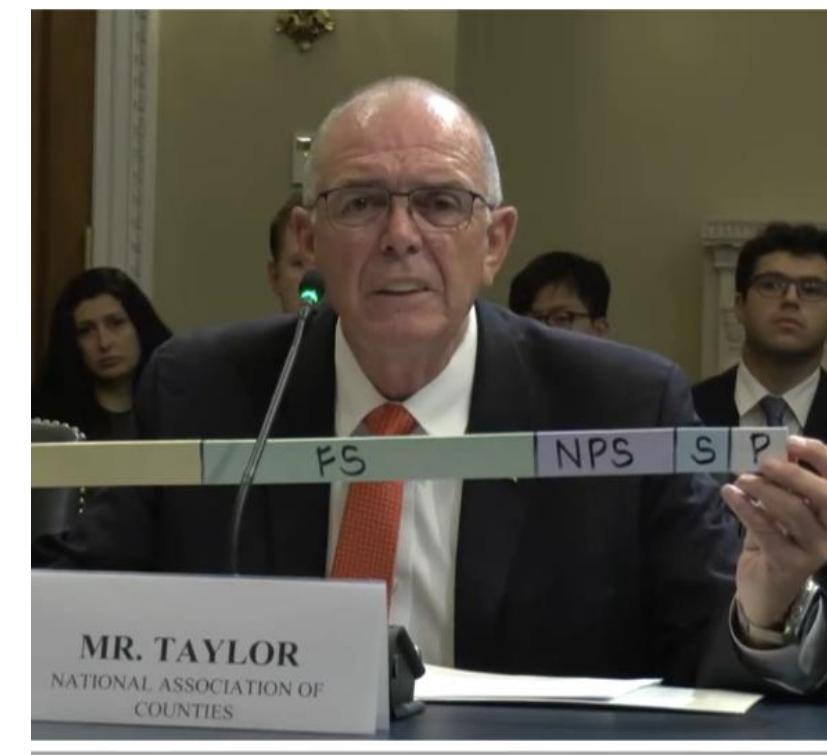
# SRS Reauthorization

Secure Rural Schools reauthorization has been signed into law!

- NACo-led coalition convinced the House to pass SRS on Dec 9
- Provides funding for FY 2026 and provides back pay for missed FY 2025 and FY 2024 payments
  - Avoids duplicative payments (25% timber payments)
- Reauthorized until 2028
- 700+ Counties will receive a payment



*Scan for NACo's Analysis of SRS Reauthorization*



# SRS Reauthorization

# Government Funding

Now that Congress is back in D.C., they are working to avoid another government shutdown once funding expires for certain agencies on Jan. 30, 2026.

- Potential “minibus” in Senate – Attaches discretionary funding to Defense funding bill
- Topline numbers for the 9 remaining funding bills are still being negotiated
- House and Senate Appropriators still need to agree on a path forward
- Negotiations are likely to be punted to the new year



*Scan for NACo's FY 2026 appropriations tracker*

# Surface Transportation Reauthorization

- Package is currently being written – Text is forthcoming
- **Key NACo priorities:**
  - Streamline formula funding directly to counties
  - Improving the federal grant process
  - Maintain competitive federal funding access for local governments
  - Streamline permitting process for smaller projects

## CALL TO ACTION!

- Reach out to your Senators and Representatives
- Share your role as county leaders, owners & operators
- Talk about the challenges in your county
- Highlight county priorities
- Continue connecting and working with the NACo team

# Surface Transportation Reauthorization



*Scan to view NACo's Surface  
Transportation Reauthorization Hub*

# Continuum of Care Program

- **NOFO Withdrawn on December 9**
- HUD's CoC Program is a \$3.5 billion grant awarded to 400 regional coalitions nationwide for homelessness services and housing
- Grants were expected to be on a two-year cycle, but HUD released new guidance outlining funds will only be available for 1 year and capped, with some grants set to expire *January 2026*
- Urgency raised by bipartisan bicameral letters: Recent letter highlights delays in HUD's CoC grant process and urged an extension
  - Without full 12-month renewals of current grants, communities may face long delays or lapses in funding



*Learn more about HUD's announcement, the CoC Program and impact on counties*

# Reported Executive Order on AI



- News reports have indicated that a Presidential Action may be underway to direct federal agencies to challenge state and/or local laws that pertain to artificial intelligence (AI)
- Reported provisions include a litigation task force at the U.S. Department of Justice, a direction to the U.S. Department of Commerce to withhold select broadband funding to offending states, and directives to independent agencies to pursue preemptive measures
- **Counties support a meaningful, intergovernmental policymaking role for AI that fosters responsible growth and protecting resident interests. Counties urge the White House and Congress to reject calls for preemption of state and local governments**



*Learn more about county priorities for federal policy-making on AI*



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