



County Supervisors

A S S O C I A T I O N
o f a r i z o n a

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Resolution Number 2-15

A Resolution of the County Supervisors Association of Arizona Respectfully Requesting the Congress of the United States to Immediately Provide Mandatory Funding for the Payment-In-Lieu-of-Taxes Program For Fiscal Year 2016 And Find a Solution for Long-Term Funding Into the Future, And Requesting the United States Department of the Interior to Immediately Release the Remaining \$37 Million of Fiscal Year 2015 Payments

WHEREAS, the Payment-In-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) program was established in 1976 to offset costs incurred by counties for services provided to the federal government and to the users of federal lands located within a county, and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona is comprised of 113,417 square miles of land, 42 percent of which is federally owned, non-tribal land unavailable for economic development and not part of the property tax base, while private land in Arizona comprises only 17 percent, and

WHEREAS, the national average PILT payment in Fiscal Year 2014 was \$0.72 per acre, far below the amount federal lands would return through both value based taxation and economic development, and

WHEREAS, \$37 million of the Fiscal Year 2015 PILT payments have yet to be released, placing additional financial pressure on county taxpayers, and

WHEREAS, counties are required to provide law enforcement, search and rescue, emergency services, road building and maintenance, and other community services on, or associated with, tax-exempt federal public lands, and

WHEREAS, a lack of PILT funding places the large, unsustainable burden of providing services on federally managed land squarely on the backs of county taxpayers, while the presence of that federally managed land creates barriers to further economic opportunities, and

WHEREAS, failure to provide PILT funding to Arizona counties in a timely manner will critically impact the budget process and structural solvency of counties, and will substantially compromise their ability to provide essential services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the County Supervisors Association of Arizona hereby respectfully requests that Congress provide mandatory funding for the PILT program in



County Supervisors ASSOCIATION of arizona

Resolution Number 2-15
Page Two

Fiscal Year 2016 and that Congress develop a long-term approach to funding these essential local services in America's public land counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the County Supervisors Association of Arizona strongly urges the United States Department of the Interior to immediately release the remaining \$37 million of Fiscal Year 2015 PILT payments.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 18th day of September, 2015.

Clint Hickman
President, County Supervisors Association of Arizona
Maricopa County Supervisor, District 4

ATTEST:

Craig A. Sullivan, Executive Director
County Supervisors Association of Arizona