



A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.



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Supervisor Lunt Receives Distinguished Service Award



Earlier this month, Greenlee County Supervisor Richard Lunt received the Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative for the Arizona G & T Cooperative's Distinguished Service Award.

Upon receiving the honor, Supervisor Lunt shared, "I was humbled to receive the Distinguished Service Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to the people of rural Arizona from the Arizona G & T Cooperatives."

Supervisor Lunt has served as a member of the Duncan Valley Electric Cooperative Board of Directors for 25 years, including three years as a board vice president. He also served on the Southwest transmission Cooperative Board for two years and on the Sierra Southwest Cooperative board for four years, including three years as board president.

CSA extends our congratulations to Supervisor Lunt.

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Arizona Counties to Receive NACo Awards

CSA would like to extend our congratulations to the Arizona county winners of the 2018 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards. Three counties, Coconino, Maricopa, and Yuma will receive their awards for a variety of innovative programs on July 13-18, 2018 at [NACo's 2018 Annual Conference and Exposition](#) in Davidson County (Nashville), Tennessee. More than 50 programs from Arizona counties were honored with awards in a variety of areas ranging from supporting children and youth, to air quality, to criminal justice, to healthcare, and libraries.

To view Arizona's winners in the searchable database, please [click here](#), where winning programs are searchable by year, category, and state dating back to 2007.

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CSA Presents Session Wrap Up

During the Thursday CSA Board of Directors meeting, CSA Executive Director Craig Sullivan briefed the membership on the final results of the 2018 Legislative Session, specifically the progress made towards the organization's financial and policy objectives.



CSA's top priority this legislative session was to secure a package of expenditure relief items for counties in the state budget. This relief is critical given recent court rulings regarding the Elected Officials Retirement Plan (EORP) and the need to put the plan on actuarially sound footing, which will lead to increased employer contribution rates. To this end, the following priorities were included in the state budget:

- The Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC): \$11.26 million in relief for FY19.
- In-Lieu Lottery Appropriations: As session law, continues payments for ten rural counties and adds \$550,000 to the JLBC Baseline for Mohave, Pinal and Yavapai counties in FY19 for the purpose of receiving an appropriation in-lieu of county lottery revenue, providing an additional \$1.7 million in ongoing relief to counties.
- Disproportionate Uncompensated Care Pool (DUC Pool): County payments made to the DUC Pool are not continued, a \$2.6 million savings for counties.
- Sexually Violent Persons (SVP) Payments: County reimbursements for 31 percent of the cost of the SVP population housed at the Arizona State Hospital were not continued, a \$3.26 million savings for counties.
- Elected Officials Retirement Plan (EORP) Relief: As session law, creates a one-time appropriation of \$1.7 million to offset the increase in EORP liabilities for the smallest eight counties (Apache, Cochise, Gila, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Navajo, and Santa Cruz).
- Restoration of 50/50 Cost Share of Maricopa Superior Court Judges: As permanent law, starting in FY20, the state will contribute 25 percent of the salaries and benefits of Superior Court Judges in Maricopa County. In FY21, this contribution increases to 50 percent of the judges' salaries and benefits which matches the state's contribution for the other fourteen counties' judges, a \$13.1 million savings to Maricopa County in FY21.
- County Flexibility Language: County flexibility language is again included in the budget, which allows counties with a population below 250,000 in the 2010 decennial census to use any source of county revenue to meet a county fiscal obligation for FY19, up to \$1.25 million of county revenue for each county. There are also additional flexibility allowances.

Other budget items that have a positive financial benefit to counties include:

- Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF): The passage of [HB 2166 vehicle fees: alternative fuel VLT \(Campbell\)](#) established an annual highway safety fee for registered vehicles to fund the Highway Patrol Division of the Department of Public Safety (DPS), a \$5.9 million increase to counties.

Sullivan also presented on CSA's efforts to support and defeat legislation with potential county impacts.

To view the presentation given to the CSA Board of Directors, please [click here](#).

To view For the Joint Legislative Budget Committee outline of the entire state budget, please [click here](#).

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CSA Thanks APS for Supporting Internship Program & Congratulates Vanessa Shaw



At Thursday's CSA Board of Directors meeting, CSA Executive Director Craig Sullivan recognized Vanessa Shaw, on behalf of the association, for her service with CSA's Arizona Public Service (APS) Local Government Internship Program.

CSA has partnered with APS since 2014 to establish an outstanding internship program. Sullivan expressed his gratitude to APS and their representative, Local Affairs Managers James Bloom, for their work to strengthen the next generation of public services professionals.

Sullivan said, "During her time with CSA, Vanessa has been an indispensable part of our team. Her work to modernize our CSA County Encyclopedia, contributions to our newsletter, her research skills and her work creating presentations have helped us interface with our membership this session. She's done an exceptional

job during the internship and we are thrilled she is staying on with us for the summer."



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Governor Ducey Puts Final Stamp on 2018 Legislative Session

On Wednesday afternoon Governor Ducey signed and vetoed the remaining bills from the 2018 Legislative Session, officially closing the book on the 53rd Arizona State Legislature, Second Regular Session.



The legislature passed, and Governor Ducey signed, a \$10.4 billion dollar budget package the night before session ended. When all was said and done after 116 days, 1,206 bills were introduced and of that 369 bills were sent to the governor, of which he signed 346 and vetoed 23. Unless a bill states otherwise, the general effective date for legislation is August 3, 2018.

The complete summary of all enacted or vetoed legislation impacting counties will be available shortly.

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CSA on the Road



Each year, after the legislative session ends, CSA staff travels the state to meet with county supervisors and professional staff.

Our outreach continues next week in La Paz and Yuma counties, followed by Pinal County on May 30th. Over the course of the summer, we will visit each of the 15 counties to brief them on the recent legislative session and our work going into 2019.

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State & Counties Continue to Combat Wildfires



The Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management has implemented a Stage III or full closure on all state-owned land in Apache County and Navajo County starting May 18, 2018 until further notice due to extreme drought conditions. All other counties are under either Stage I or State II conditions. There is one prescribed fire and two wildfires burning in Arizona, which include:

- Happy Fire, Yavapai County – Reported Tuesday, May 15, the Happy fire is burning short grasses and brush on Mohon Peak 19 miles north of Bagdad, Arizona. The fire has burned an estimated 1,116 acres and is 10 percent contained. The fire is not threatening any structures and the fire growth is currently minimal.
- Pinery Fire, Cochise County – Reported Saturday May 12, the Pinery Fire is located approximately 29 miles southeast of Willcox, Arizona it has burned 1,200 acres and is 80 percent contained. Reports show the human caused fire is under investigation, but fire activity is minimal with no additional growth expected.

For up to date information on wildfires, please click on the following links:

[Arizona Interagency Wildfire Prevention](#)

[Arizona State Forestry Division](#)

[Arizona State Parks Fire Restrictions and Information](#)

[InciWeb – Interagency All-Risk Incident Information Management System](#)

[Federal: Active Fire Maps](#)

Image Source: [Arizona State Forestry @azstateforestry](#)

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NACo Webinar: Stepping Up - Reducing Number of People with Mental Illnesses Booked into Jails

On June 7, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m., EST, the National Association of Counties (NACo) is hosting a webinar titled [Stepping Up Four Key Measures: Reducing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses Booked into Jails](#).

The Stepping Up framework encourages counties to focus their efforts on impacting one or more of “Four Key Measures” for people with mental illnesses: 1) jail bookings; 2) jail length of stay; 3) connections to treatment; and 4) recidivism. The next series of Stepping Up webinars will focus on providing counties with the tools they need to collect accurate data on each of these measures and use this data to inform policy and practice decisions to impact them. Join Stepping Up for the first webinar in the Four Key Measures series, which will provide an overview of each of the measures, describe strategies for reducing the number of people with mental illnesses who are booked into jails and outline key data points to collect and analyze to track this measure of success. For information and to register for the webinar, please [click here](#).



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New Videos, Webpage Illustrate CORP Changes

The Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) of Arizona has released two of three videos designed to help teach the pending reforms to the corrections and detention community, including all of the human resources, payroll and management employees who help provide these vital services. The [first video](#) covers the basics of the upcoming changes, while the [second video](#) dives deeply into the details of the 401(a) Defined Contribution plan for Tier 3 corrections/detention officers.

Additionally, a new [PSPRS webpage](#) dedicated to the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan (CORP) is now live, and it offers a [how-to-guide](#) for employers, a [matrix](#) that summarizes the benefits among each employee tier and a benefits [brochure](#) for prospective Tier 3 probation and surveillance officers of the AOC.

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