

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



In the May 17, 2019 CSA Weekly Update:

- [Western Interstate Region Conference](#)
- [Budget Update](#)
- [Counting All Children - 2020 Census](#)
- [Stepping Up - Month of Action](#)
- [CSA Legislative Update](#)
- [Next Week: Committee Agendas](#)
- [NACo Webinar: Making the most of the 2019 County Health Rankings](#)

Western Interstate Region Conference



Arizona County Supervisors traveled to Spokane, Washington this week to take part in the NACo Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference. The conference brings together county officials from across the nation to focus on pressing issues facing counties and residents. Attendees are provided an opportunity to interact with federal, state and regional policymakers, participate in educational sessions and take home tools to help address the challenges faced by counties.

For more information on WIR please, click [here](#).

To view the 2019 WIR Conference Program please, click [here](#).

[Top](#)

Budget Update

This week there was progress on the budget between the Governor and Legislature. We are expecting to see the Legislature introduce a budget next Monday and work to finish session by the end of next week. On Wednesday, the House waived [Rule 8](#) to allow Speaker Bowers, Representative Cobb and Representative Toma to sponsor additional legislation, notwithstanding the House seven bill limit. The Senate announced a Rules Committee on Monday, per Senate [Rule 14](#), which requires the Rules Committee to allow the introduction of any bill beyond the first 22 days of regular session. Both of these actions indicate they are preparing for the introduction of budget bills.

Arizona's County supervisors urge state lawmakers to support CSA's 15-county budget solution:

- [SB 1140 county contributions; committed youth; repeal](#) (*Leach*) Repeals the county contribution to the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections for all 15 counties, providing a total of \$11.3 million in relief.
- [SB 1293 appropriations; EORP contributions; counties](#) (*Gowan*) Provides a total of \$3 million in permanent relief to counties with a population of less than 350,000.

To view CSA's Budget Priorities document please click [here](#).

[Top](#)

FY2020 County Budget Priorities

- 1 Eliminate the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections (ADJC) Fee - \$11.3M ongoing
SB 1140 county contributions; committed youth; repeal (Leach)
- 2 Provide permanent relief to 12 rural counties for increased EORP liability - \$3.0M ongoing
HB 2429 approp; EORP contributions; counties (Thorp)
- 3 Maintain financial "flexibility language" as a tool to meet county fiscal obligations in FY20
SB 1293 approp; EORP contributions; counties (Gowan)

Why eliminate the ADJC Fee?

- In 2015, the state shifted 25% of the cost of ADJC to counties to patch a state budget shortfall.
- The fee is bad policy and shifts a state obligation to the county taxpayer.
- Counties pay millions locally in juvenile justice costs associated with detention and courts.
- Because of this, lawmakers have worked to provide counties partial or full relief each year after the initial enactment.

Why is permanent EORP relief important for 12 rural counties?

- State actions and court decisions caused the EORP plan to become drastically underfunded.
- SB 1478 employer contributions; EORP uncapped the employer contribution rate, increasing county costs by \$20.2 million (162% increase).
- The state must provide relief to protect taxpayers in rural Arizona from the increased liability.

County	FY20 ADJC Fee Absent Action	FY20 EORP Impact		FY20 Proposed EORP Relief
		As a Property Tax	As a State GF Equivalent	
Apache	\$126,000	\$0.08	\$265.4M	\$250,000
Cochise	\$231,400	\$0.07	\$124.4M	\$250,000
Cocconino	\$236,900	\$0.04	\$105.9M	\$250,000
Gila	\$14,400	\$0.06	\$82.4M	\$250,000
Graham	\$65,600	\$0.17	\$188.4M	\$250,000
Greenlee	\$14,800	\$0.07	\$223.9M	\$250,000
La Paz	\$56,200	\$0.15	\$231.7M	\$250,000
Maricopa	\$6,724,000	\$0.05	\$118.0M	\$250,000
Mohave	\$352,600	\$0.07	\$171.4M	\$250,000
Navajo	\$189,300	\$0.13	\$178.9M	\$250,000
Pima	\$1,726,900	\$0.03	\$77.7M	\$250,000
Pinal	\$661,900	\$0.03	\$34.8M	\$250,000
Santa Cruz	\$83,500	\$0.07	\$171.4M	\$250,000
Yavapai	\$271,700	\$0.03	\$77.7M	\$250,000
Yuma	\$344,800	\$0.07	\$102.0M	\$250,000
Total	\$11,260,000			\$3,000,000

Counting All Children – 2020 Census

On Tuesday, the National Association of Counties (NACo) hosted a webinar focused on ensuring all children are counted in the 2020 census. They noted that the undercount of children has increased since the 1980's. The 2010 Census missed 1 in 10 young children, 16 percent live in an address that was not included in the census and children are 73 percent more likely to be missed if the person filling out the form is not the child's parent. Young children had higher net undercount rates than any other age group in the 2010 Census and the rate of uncaptured children increases with the size of the county.

The Count All Kids Campaign is developing tools counties can use to improve outreach efforts in areas that had low response rates in the 2010 Census. For more information on why children are missed and how counties can improve counts of children please, click [here](#).

Census Counts is a collaborative campaign working to bring together national organizations, community partners and states to ensure the 2020 Census is fair and accurate. For more information please, click [here](#).

[Top](#)

Stepping Up - Month of Action

May is Stepping Up's month of action. Stepping up is a national initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails. There are millions of people with serious mental illness admitted into jails across the United States each year, many with drug and alcohol use problems. Individuals with mental illness have longer jail stays and higher recidivism rates than individuals without mental illness. The Stepping Up Initiative focuses on solutions that provide training to criminal justice professionals, enabling them to identify individuals with mental illness, designing programs to redirect people to treatment and connecting people in jail to services focused on reducing recidivism rates.

Arizona is the only state in the nation to have 100 percent of the counties pass resolutions in support of the Stepping Up initiative.

To view more on the Stepping Up Month of Action please, click [here](#). To visit the Stepping Up Initiative website please, click [here](#).

[Top](#)

CSA Legislative Update

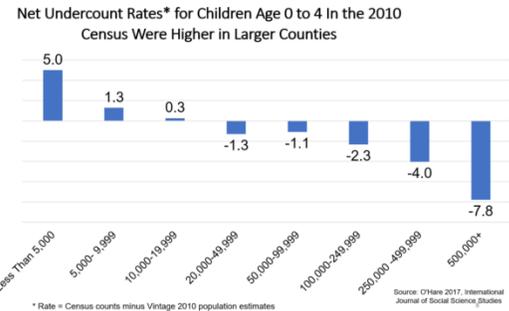
Today, May 17th marks the 124th day of session. This week, the House and Senate passed an additional 13 bills to the Governor, to reach a total of 257, with a total of 19 memorials/resolutions as well, and a total of 7 vetoed bills.

On Thursday, the House held a Rules Committee meeting to allow for the late introduction of a bill relating to the limitation of actions, bill language was not dropped, but we expect it to be a version of [SB 1255 civil action; assault; reporting; limitation](#) (Boyer). Last week Senators Boyer, Carter and Steele said they would not vote for a budget unless the issue of expanding the available options for victims of childhood rape and sexual abuse to sue their abuser.

The status of CSA's legislative agenda package is as follows:

- 1) CSA Legislative Budget Priorities
 - [SB 1140 county contributions; committed youth; repeal](#) (Leach), is waiting in Rules as the budget is negotiated.
 - [SB 1293 appropriations; EORP contributions; counties](#) (Gowan), is waiting in Rules as the budget is negotiated.
 - [HB 2702 TPT; marketplace facilitators; nexus](#) (Toma), pending action by the House Rules Committee, but is not expected to move forward and will need to be part of budget negotiations or part of a comprehensive tax package.
- 2) [HB 2467 NOW: committees; west basin water users](#) (Cobb), passed the senate with a vote of 22 ayes, 4 nays and 4 not voting and was transmitted to the Governor on Thursday.
- 3) [SB 1084 funeral; last illness; expenses; lien](#) (Borrelli), was signed by the Governor, Laws 2019, Chapter 193.

[Top](#)



Next Week: Committee Agendas

- The Senate Rules Committee will meet on Monday, May 20th, at 1:00 pm in Senate Caucus Room 1

[Top](#)

NACo Webinar: Making the most of the 2019 County Health Rankings

On June 4th, NACo will be hosting the webinar "Making the Most of the 2019 Rankings: Key Takeaways for Counties" This webinar will focus on how to use the 2019 Rankings as a resource tool for improving health and well-being in your county. Experts from the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute, the developers of the rankings will discuss new 2019 findings, data measures and website features. They will also provide evidence-based resources and a new action learning guide for building a culture of health.

To view the 2019 County Health Rankings please, click [here](#). For more information and to register for this webinar, please click [here](#).

[Top](#)



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