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



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## NACo PILT Fly-In



CSA President and Yuma County Supervisor Russell McCloud, Greenlee County Supervisor Richard Lunt and Gila County Supervisor Woody Cline participated in the annual NACo Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) Fly-in. The fly-in took place this week in Washington, D.C. with county officials from across the country visiting Capitol Hill to advocate for fully funding the PILT and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs in FY 2020 and beyond.

Counties stand to lose more than \$39.9 million if Congress does not act to meet its commitment to public lands counties in the 2020 budget. PILT funds support mandated essential county services associated with public lands, including law enforcement, road maintenance and search and rescue services.

A House Appropriations Act ([H.R. 3055](#)) fully funds the FY 2020 Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT). The bill has passed the United States House of Representatives and awaits action by the United States Senate.

To help stop the annual uncertainty of whether the federal government will meet its PILT funding commitment, U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ District 2) introduced [H.R. 3043](#) on May 30<sup>th</sup>. The bipartisan legislation would permanently authorize the PILT program. H.R. 3043 would help bring assurance to local governments, eliminating the uncertainty of the annual budget appropriation process. The bill has not had any additional action since being introduced May 30, 2019.

In 1976, Congress enacted the PILT Act, acknowledging the county role in the stewardship of public lands – and the federal government’s responsibility to compensate counties for the cost. PILT funding is critical to Arizona’s counties and only partially compensates for the fact that counties cannot collect property taxes from federally owned lands, yet still must provide basic government services.

To learn more about NACo’s advocacy efforts and the importance of the PILT program please, click [here](#).

**Image Source:** [@NACo Tweets](#)

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## County Supervisors Attend White House Regional Conference



On Thursday, September 12, 2019 the White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs hosted a regional State Leadership Day event for local elected officials from Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, and Utah.

The event kicked off with a Land Management Panel focused on shared stewardship with leaders from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior and Bureau of Land Management.

Participants also took part in a Community Revitalization Panel focused on opportunities to empower local communities and to address national issues with the Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Office of American Innovation and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

CSA staff would like to thank the National Association of Counties (NACo) for coordinating a briefing for county supervisors and commissioners prior to the event!

**Image Source:** [@NACo Tweets](#)



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## County Managers & Administrators Honor Retiring Pinal County Manager Greg Stanley



The County Managers & Administrators Association recognized Pinal County Manager Mr. Greg Stanley who plans to retire in October.

Mr. Stanley has been with the county since his appointment as the County Engineer in 2004. During his tenure, he served as the Director of Public Works and the Assistant County Manager before his appointment as the Pinal County Manager in 2014.

Prior to his work with Pinal County, Mr. Stanley had a distinguished career in the United States Army. He is a West Point graduate and served 26 years and retired as a Colonel.

His colleagues noted their appreciation for his partnership over the years, his willingness to help other counties, and that his calm demeanor has made him a great mentor for new managers.

Thank you for your service, Greg! CMA and CSA staff wish you a wonderful retirement.

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## County Managers Meet



Today, at the County Managers and Administrators monthly meeting, Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts Dave Byers provided a briefing on the recent probation officer salary increases and general court funding. In addition, Byers provided a summary of some of the legislative proposals that the courts will be pushing at the Capitol next session.

The managers also received an update from CSA staff regarding ongoing analysis and conversations with the PSPRS Board of Trustees about the actuarial assumptions used by the plan. The group discussed the on-going funding problems associated with PSPRS/CORP/EORP as well as how to better educate policy makers about the problem. Staff also briefed the group on two resolutions that will be brought to the CSA Board of Directors next week—one dealing with increased investment in Arizona fish hatcheries and another opposing the transfer of Colorado River water allocated to river communities away from those communities.

Other topics of discussion included potential issues surrounding the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act, PTSD and workers' compensation issues, the prospect of finding an alternative funding source for Interstate 15 in northeast Arizona, abandonment of state roads and highways to the counties, and the CSA legislative proposals.

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## House Ad Hoc Committee on Earned Release Credits for Prisoners



On Monday, August 9, 2019 the nine-member House Ad Hoc Committee on Earned Release Credits for Prisoners (Committee) met. The Committee is charged with studying, gathering input and establishing recommendations regarding the earned release credit system for prisoners.

The Committee heard testimony from a variety of stakeholders including the Arizona Justice Project, Maricopa County Attorney's Office, Pinal County Attorney's Office, the Arizona Board of Executive Clemency, Arizonans for Rational Sex Offense Laws and FWD.us.

The Chairman indicated that there will be a total of seven bills drafted for the Committee to review. He is also recommending the creation of a criminal justice task force that is not part of the legislative body to look at the criminal justice system and an independent audit of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 23, 2019; it will be an open meeting for individuals or family members of individuals who have been in the criminal justice system and victims to share their perspectives.

Committee members include: Representative Walt Blackman, Chairman; along with Representatives Reginald Bolding; Shawna Bolick; Domingo DeGrazia; Diego Espinoza; Tony Rivero; Bret Roberts; and Diego Rodriguez.

To view an archived recording of the meeting please, click [here](#).

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## Wildfire Update

County leaders continue to work hard to ensure that proper resources are deployed to protect public safety during a fire. There are currently three wildfires burning in Arizona, including:

- Sheridan Fire – The Prescott and Tri-City area fire is currently 21,510 acres. The fire is reported as being 60 percent contained, but decreased fire activity has reduced updates on the overall fire operations.
- Eden Fire – The lightning caused wildfire is burning northeast of Clints Well. The 1,750 acre fire is being used to clean up forest fuel and is about 30 percent contained.
- Whiskey Fire – The 140 acre fire burning east of Turkey Butte Lookout in Coconino County is within the 2014 Slide Fire burn area. Forest roads near the fire are expected to be closed through the end of the week to allow firefighters access to complete their operations safely.

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](#)

[Fire Restrictions](#)

[National Weather Service](#)

Image Source: [@PrescottNF](#)

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## CSA on the Road



As the summer comes to a close CSA staff is looking forward to traveling to the last (but not least) counties on our summer tour. CSA staff will be visiting Yavapai County next week on September 18<sup>th</sup> and Maricopa County on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for the warm hospitality, we have enjoyed visiting all of the counties over the over the summer and we are looking forward to seeing everyone at the CSA Board meeting next week!

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## Flu Season is Here: Get Your Flu Shot!

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends a yearly flu vaccination as the first and most important step in protecting against flu viruses. It is strongly recommended that everyone 6 months old and older get a flu shot each year.

The following groups should get a flu vaccination because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for people at high risk for developing flu-related complications, including:

- Pregnant women
- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old
- Children with special healthcare needs
- People 50 years of age and older
- People of any age with certain chronic medical conditions
- People who live in nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, including:
  - Health care workers
  - Household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu
  - Household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than 6 months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated)



Flu symptoms include fever, chills, muscle aches, cough, congestion, runny nose, headaches and fatigue. Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes and can cause death.

For more information on where to get your flu shot, please [click here](#).

**Sources:** [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

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## NACo Webinar: Test-Drive County Explorer

On Wednesday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 AM- 12:00 PM MST, NACo will be hosting the webinar "Test-Drive County Explorer: A Demo of NACo's Interactive Mapping Tool." The NACo County Explorer tool provides easy access to the latest available data, with hundreds of indicators across categories ranging from county administration to policy issues, including transportation, infrastructure, health and public safety, each telling a unique county story. During the webinar NACo will highlight new functionality and participants will learn how to compare counties across multiple data points, access pre-packaged advocacy materials, and leverage the power of county-level data.

For more information and to register for this webinar, please click [here](#).



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