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



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## **New Senate President Karen Fann Talks 2019 Session**



On Thursday, Senate President-elect Karen Fann joined the CSA Board of Directors to express her appreciation for the hard work of county officials and to share her perspective on the upcoming 2019 legislative session.

As the new senate president, Senator Fann expressed optimism about the year ahead, noting the fact that all but one legislator in the Senate chamber has previous legislative experience. She went on to highlight that the House chamber will be facing additional challenges with a very small margin between the caucuses (31 Republicans to 29 Democrats). Senator Fann stated her "Number one goal is to instill some sanity down at the Capitol. We need good policy, not politics."

President-elect Fann explained that the state budget will again be a big issue this year, noting that additional one time revenues totaling approximately \$1 billion will require a cautious approach, because "there will be a recession again."

CSA President Russell McCloud thanked Senator Fann, stating "We appreciate your partnership with counties on vital issues and look forward to working with you in your new capacity as Senate President."

President-elect Fann fielded questions from the CSA Board, sharing her perspective on a variety of issues including proposed legislation on transportation funding, water policy, and election reform.

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## **County Supervisors Urge Regulation of Driving & Texting**

On Thursday, county supervisors voted to pass [Resolution 3-18](#) urging the Governor and the Legislature to establish state laws regulating the use of portable communication devices and texting while operating a motor vehicle.

Supervisors discussed the importance of establishing statewide rules to address distracted driving to protect Arizonans, noting that studies have shown reading a text can take a driver's eyes off of the road for five seconds, but at 55 miles per hour is equivalent to driving the entire length of a football field with your eyes closed. The growing patchwork of local ordinances regulating the use of portable communication devices and texting may create confusion for constituents and visitors. Supervisors also noted that people who are reporting a crime should be exempted from any enacted ban.

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## **ECO Hosts Legislative Briefing**

In preparation for the 2019 Legislative Session, the Eastern Arizona Counties Organization (ECO) hosted a Legislative Briefing for state legislators. ECO Chair and Graham County Supervisor Jason Whiting kicked off the meeting with a discussion of "fire and water" partnerships and why they are vital to Arizona.

A number of state legislators were in attendance, including House Speaker-elect Rusty Bowers who shared his legislative priorities on water and land management. He stated, "These important issues require the legislature, ECO, and others to work together in order to find practicable solutions that will benefit Arizona for decades to come."

Presentations from a variety of eastern county and rural land management individuals addressed multiple topics including, public land management, protecting Arizona's environment, the cost of forest fires, and natural resources.

CSA Executive Director Craig Sullivan shared, "It is important to recognize Arizona is a public lands state, with just over 17 percent of land privately held. There are a whole host of issues that arise on our public lands. ECO does great work on these important issues."

Created in October 1993, ECO's mission has been to plan and implement specific environmental programs impacting economic development in the Counties. Such programs include forest restoration, watershed restoration, energy, water, recreation, threatened and endangered species, infrastructures, public lands and natural resources planning.



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## Civil Deputies Meet



On Friday, the State Civil Deputies met to discuss topics impacting counties including ethics issues in conflicts of interest representation, providing meaningful access to the courts for inmates, accommodating service animals in jail, distracted driving ordinances and proposed revisions to retention schedules for certain records.

They will meet next in February 2019.

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## Congress Passes Bipartisan Farm Bill

This week, the National Association of Counties (NACo) applauded the bipartisan passage of the Farm Bill, a five-year, \$867 billion reauthorization that will help support local economies and provide critical investments in rural and underserved communities.

"The Farm Bill passage represents several key victories for America's counties," said NACo Executive Director Matthew Chase. "This legislation provides investments in our communities that will help to foster economic growth promote nutrition for underserved populations and facilitate broadband deployment, especially in rural areas."

NACo worked with partners on Capitol Hill to preserve and promote county priorities. The final package creates a new Rural Innovation Stronger Economy grant program, reinstates an Undersecretary for Rural Development position and codifies the Interagency Council on Rural Community Innovation and Economic Development. The package also includes language to help counties address the crippling opioid epidemic through USDA's Distance Learning and Telemedicine Program.

Additional provisions allow counties with regional jails to exclude incarcerated individuals from population caps for funding eligibility under USDA Rural Development programs and enable counties to use USDA broadband loans and grants for so-called middle-mile projects, which are prohibited under current law.

The nutrition provision, which accounts for roughly 75 percent of overall spending within the package, preserved the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Cuts to this program could have resulted in more than two million individuals losing or seeing a reduction in their benefits.

The bill has been sent to the President and awaits a signature. For more information, please [click here](#).

**Source:** [NACo.org](http://NACo.org)

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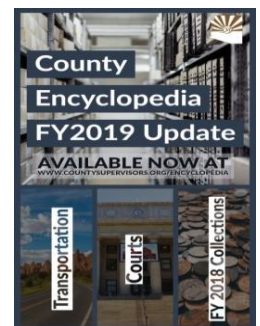
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## What do you want most for the holidays? An updated County Encyclopedia of course!

CSA's County Encyclopedia, an interactive online tool to explore information on Arizona's counties, has been updated for 2019. In this update, the encyclopedia has been expanded to include information on county transportation funds, existing data mapped across the state and an entirely new section on Arizona's courts that are funded by counties. You can now examine caseloads across all of Arizona's justice courts, see how criminal dispositions vary across superior courts in each county and compare how a county's share of juveniles sent to state department of juvenile corrections compares to the county's share of the population.

Additionally, the existing data points on county officers, revenues, and demographics have all been updated with the most up-to-date information available.

You can access CSA's County Encyclopedia by clicking [here](#); it is also available at [www.countysupervisors.org/encyclopedia](http://www.countysupervisors.org/encyclopedia). Happy exploring!



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## Key Legislative Dates

The 2019 Legislative Session will begin on January 14, 2019, with the State Inauguration taking place the week prior on January 7, 2019.

To view key legislative and CSA event dates, please [click here](#).

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2019 LEGISLATIVE TIMELINE

Arizona State Legislature

January 7, 2019: State Inauguration

January 14, 2019: Legislative Session Begins

February 1, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

February 19, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

February 26, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

March 5, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

March 12, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

March 19, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

March 26, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

April 2, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

April 9, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

April 16, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

April 23, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

April 30, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

May 7, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

May 14, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

May 21, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

May 28, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

June 4, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

June 11, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

June 18, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

June 25, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

July 2, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

July 9, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

July 16, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

July 23, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

July 30, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

August 6, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

August 13, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

August 20, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

August 27, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

September 3, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

September 10, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

September 17, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

September 24, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

October 1, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

October 8, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

October 15, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

October 22, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

October 29, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

November 5, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

November 12, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

November 19, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

November 26, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

December 3, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

December 10, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

December 17, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

December 24, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

December 31, 2019: Legislative Session Ends

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## NACo High Performance Leadership Academy Open Enrollment

The National Associations of Counties (NACo) in association with the Professional Development Academy created a 12-week mentorship-based leadership program to empower frontline county government professionals. Participants spend 3-5 hours a week engaged in an online, interactive learning platform to engage in live events, video sessions and breakout group discussions.



The curriculum developed by the Professional Development Academy in a partnership with Fortune 1000 executives, public sector leaders, world-renowned academics and thought leaders, including General Colin Powell and Dr. Marshall Goldsmith, focuses on five essential skills:

- LEAD: Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations
- ORGANIZE: Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently
- COLLABORATE: Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships
- COMMUNICATE: Create clarity, confidence and community
- DELIVER: Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities

NACo secured a discounted rate of \$1,495 per enrollee for members; additionally NACo will provide a \$1,000 one-time stipend for the first participant in each county to subsidize the discounted rate. The next course will start on January 7, 2019 with subsequent classes planned for April and August of 2019.

To learn more about the program or to sign-up, please [click here](#).

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## County Supervisors Association of Arizona

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