



APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION MAINTAIN FUNDING IN THE FY2014 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

ACTION NEEDED: Urge your Senators and Representatives to actively support funding the Appalachian Regional Commission's (ARC) community and economic development programs at \$68 million as part of a final FY2014 appropriations measure, which contains ARC's non-highway program funding. ARC resources are used for basic infrastructure improvements, job creation initiatives, leadership development, and other essential community and economic development investments in one of the most distressed regions of the nation.

BACKGROUND: The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is a regional economic development agency that represents a partnership of federal, state, and local government officials. ARC is governed by the Governors of the 13 Appalachian states (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia) and a Federal Co-chair, who is appointed by the President and confirmed by the U.S. Senate. Local participation is provided through multi-county local development districts.

On March 21, Congress approved a six-month Continuing Resolution or "CR" (H. R. 933), which sets ARC funding at \$68.25 million through September 30, 2013. ARC was also subject to the 5.3 percent, automatic across-the-board cuts (known as "sequestration"), which occurred on March 1, 2013.

The President's budget requests \$65 million for ARC in FY2014, which is level with FY2013 funding. Additionally, the President recommends \$470 million for the Appalachian Development Highway System in FY2014.

TALKING POINTS

1. **ARC complements the broad national activities of other federal agencies by improving federal coordination with state and local officials in the most challenging and distressed parts of Appalachia.** The Commission makes strategic place-based and regional investments that are used to attract and leverage private and non-profit investment to areas suffering from severe economic distress.
2. **ARC has played an instrumental role in reducing the number of economically distressed counties by nearly 60 percent during the past four decades.** However, far too many of the region's communities remain susceptible to shifts in global markets, advancements in technology, and changes in federal policies, especially major employment industries like manufacturing, mining, tobacco, and steel. During the 2002—2008 economic expansion, Appalachian employment grew more slowly than the nation, averaging 0.8 percent per year, compared to 1.2 percent per year for the nation. The region has been hit harder by the current economic recession and slow recovery.
3. **In FY2011, ARC invested roughly \$75 million in non-highway projects that leveraged over \$449 million in private investment, a ratio of 6:1.** These strategic investments created or retained more than 22,000 jobs, provided water and sewer to 20,986 households, and delivered training to more than 18,000 students/trainees with 55 percent of ARC funds directed to projects that benefit distressed counties and areas.

For additional information, please contact Ted Stiger 202.624.8467 or tstiger@nado.org.

U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee

Majority:

Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Full Chair
Patrick Leahy (D-VT)
Tom Harkin (D-IA)*
Patty Murray (D-WA)*
Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) Subcommittee Chair*
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Tim Johnson (D-SD)*
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Minority:

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Mitch McConnell (R-KY)*
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Mark Kirk (R-IL)
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Jerry Moran (R-KS)
John Hoeven (R-ND)*
Mike Johanns (R-NE)
John Boozman (R-AR)

**Indicates Senator serves on the U.S. Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee which provides annual funding for ARC.*

U.S. House Appropriations Committee

Majority:

Harold Rogers (R-KY), Full Chair
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Frank R. Wolf (R-VA)
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David Joyce (R-OH)
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Minority:

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Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)*
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John Olver (D-MA)
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Mike Honda (D-CA)
Betty McCollum (D-MN)
Tim Ryan (D-OH)
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Henry Cuellar (D-TX)
Chellie Pingree (D-ME)
Mike Quigley (D-IL)
Bill Owens (D-NY)

**Indicates Representative serves on the U.S. House Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee which provides annual funding for ARC.*