



DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY MAINTAIN FUNDING IN THE FY2014 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS

ACTION NEEDED: Urge your Senators and Representatives to actively support \$11.7 million for the Delta Regional Authority's (DRA) community and economic development programs as part of a final FY2014 appropriations measure. DRA 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 Delta Regional Authority is a regional economic development agency that represents a partnership between federal, state, and local government. Established in 2000, the DRA works to improve life for the 10 million people who reside in the 252 Delta counties and parishes in eight Delta states (Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Tennessee). DRA is composed of the Governors of the eight Delta states 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.

The 252 counties and parishes served by the Delta Regional Authority make up one of the most distressed areas of the country. The disparities between the Delta region and the nation as a whole are stark. As defined by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), virtually all the counties and parishes in the region are distressed. The Delta region encompasses 111 of the 386 counties listed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as suffering from "persistent poverty."

On March 21, Congress approved a six-month Continuing Resolution or "CR" (H. R. 933), which sets DRA funding at \$11 million through September 30, 2013. DRA 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 \$11.3 million for DRA in FY2014. Additionally, the President's budget recommends eliminating the \$3 million dollar transfer from USDA-Rural Development to DRA.

TALKING POINTS

- Since its creation, the Delta Regional Authority has worked to improve the lives of the 10 million people who live in the Delta. Targeted investments in each of the eight states have helped create more than 9,000 jobs and retain more than 7,500 jobs. **With an overall leverage ratio of 22 to 1, the DRA has leveraged \$1.7 billion in private investment with DRA projects and helped 25,500 families gain access to clean water and sewer service.**
- **Through its 11 annual investment cycles, DRA has invested \$108 million into 718 projects in the Delta region, leveraging \$632.6 million in other public funds and attracting \$1.7 billion in private-sector funds, for investments totaling \$2.4 billion.**
- DRA's strategic investments are currently helping to create and retain 23,292 jobs, provide clean water and working sewer to 35,236 families, and deliver job training or employment-related education to 24,750 people for jobs in their areas, all within a highly distressed part of the nation.

For more information contact Ted Stiger at 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*
Richard Durbin (D-IL)*
Tim Johnson (D-SD)*
Mary Landrieu (D-LA)*
Jack Reed (D-RI)
Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ)*
Mark Pryor (D-AR)
Jon Tester (D-MT)*
Tom Udall (D-NM)*
Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
Mark Begich (D-AK)

Minority:

Richard Shelby (R-AL), Full Ranking*
Thad Cochran (R-MS)*
Mitch McConnell (R-KY)*
Lamar Alexander (R-TN), Subcommittee Ranking*
Susan Collins (R-ME)*
Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)*
Lindsey Graham (R-SC)*
Mark Kirk (R-IL)
Dan Coats (R-IN)
Roy Blunt (R-MO)
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 DRA.*

U.S. House Appropriations Committee

Majority:

Harold Rogers (R-KY), Full Chair
C.W. Bill Young (R-FL)
Frank R. Wolf (R-VA)
Jack Kingston (R-GA)
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)*
Tom Latham (R-IA)
Robert B. Aderholt (R-AL)
Jo Ann Emerson (R-MO)
Kay Granger (R-TX)
Michael K. Simpson (R-ID)*
John Abney Culberson, (R-TX)
Ander Crenshaw, (R-FL)
John R. Carter (R-TX)*
Rodney Alexander (R-LA)*
Ken Calvert (R-CA)*
Jo Bonner (R-AL)
Tom Cole (R-OK)
Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL)
Charles Dent (R-PA)
Tom Graves (R-GA)
Kevin Yoder (R-KS)
Steve Womack (R-AR)
Alan Nunnelee (R-MS)*
Jeff Fortenberry (R-NE)
Tom Rooney (R-FL)
Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN)*
Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)
David Joyce (R-OH)
David Valadao (R-CA)
Andy Harris (R-MD)

Minority:

Nita Lowey (D-NY), Full Ranking
Marcy Kaptur (D-OH)*
Pete Visclosky (D-IN)*
José Serrano (D-NY)
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Jim Moran (D-VA)
John Olver (D-MA)
Ed Pastor (D-AZ)*
David Price (D-NC)
Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)
Sam Farr (D-CA)
Chaka Fattah (D-PA)*
Sanford Bishop (D-GA)
Barbara Lee (D-CA)
Adam Schiff (D-CA)
Mike Honda (D-CA)
Betty McCollum (D-MN)
Tim Ryan (D-OH)
Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL)
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 DRA.*