

NADO LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

Rep. Pompeo to Reintroduce EDA Elimination Act

BACKGROUND: Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-KS) introduced the EDA Elimination Act in the U.S. House of Representatives, which would eliminate all funding for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). Rep. Pompeo offered a similar bill in the previous session of Congress and was able to garner the support of 18 House members. While Rep. Pompeo's bill never made it out of committee, he offered the same text as an amendment to one of the annual appropriations bill. Thanks to the outstanding work of NADO members and the many members of Congress who support the EDA, Rep. Pompeo's amendment was defeated. It is critically important for NADO members to contact their members of Congress and share with them the many EDA-funded projects that are providing tangible benefits to their constituents. This type of support from a members' home district is invaluable.

WE NEED YOUR HELP:

Immediately call your members of the House of Representatives today, share with them your concerns about Rep. Pompeo's bill, and ask that they not cosponsor this legislation. This is especially important for new members of Congress, as they may be totally unfamiliar with functions of the EDA and the importance of EDA-funded projects in their congressional districts. Talking points about EDA are below. On your calls, please be sure to mention your organization's name and location, personalize your comments, and include a brief, yet detailed overview of EDA investments in your region. **Please be sure to provide any updates to NADO. If you would like any additional help contacting your member of Congress, please do not hesitate to contact our Legislative Department at 202.624.8467.**

EDA Talking Points:

- EDA does not distribute earmarks. EDA's grants are awarded on a competitive basis based on regional comprehensive economic development strategies and are developed and prioritized by the local communities.
- EDA does not fund private companies directly. EDA projects are funded with local matching funds and contain aggressive private sector leveraging requirements.
- EDA only funds local governments, nonprofits, and other intermediaries that may assist private sector companies in job creation and retention efforts. By rule, EDA investments must be for the public good and benefit multiple companies.
- Under federal law, EDA projects typically require a 50 percent local cost share and significant private sector investment, ensuring that local leaders and businesses are committed to the project's success. EDA investments are focused on high quality jobs, especially in advanced manufacturing, science and technology, and emerging knowledge-based industries and sectors.
- Under federal law, EDA project investments must be tied into a regional Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) developed and vetted by local officials and their communities. This helps ensure projects have significant local support and are part of a broader regional plan, rather than just isolated, uncoordinated local projects.