Congressional City Conference

Federal Landscape Overview

#NLCDC
2017: A Changing Landscape

1 New Administration
7 New Senators
55 New Members of Congress
1-Party Control
The Congressional Calendar

- President's Budget to be released March 16
- Continuing Resolution through April 28
- Budget Resolution deadline is April 15
- Fiscal Year 2018 begins October 1
“Don’t Cut Cities Out” - An Early Look at the President’s Budget Proposal

• Increase defense spending by $54 Billion to be offset by domestic cuts

• These proposed cuts include:
  • HUD slashed by $6 Billion by eliminating CDBG and HOME Grants
  • EPA cut by 25% across the board putting brownfields redevelopment and the Clean Power Plan in the crosshairs
  • FEMA could lose 11% of the overall disaster assistance budget accounting for $370 million
  • Commerce is set to lose 18% putting Economic Development Grants in jeopardy
Federal Action Agenda

CITIES LEAD 2.0
Public Safety
Infrastructure
Economy

NLC: Building relationships so cities get a seat at the table
Outlook 2017

Focus on the economy
Large infrastructure spending plan
Tax reform
Executive challenges to local authority
Preserve the Tax Exemption for Municipal Bonds

• NLC opposes efforts and proposals to limit or repeal the tax exemption for interest earned on municipal bonds.

• House Republican leadership released a tax reform blueprint in June 2016 that does not specifically call for the preservation of the exemption. Congress is considering tax reform.

• Ask your Representatives to join the Congressional Municipal-Finance Caucus.
Reinvest in Municipal Infrastructure

• The administration has indicated that they are interested in an infrastructure package – though no clear proposal has yet emerged.

• NLC is calling on Congress and the Administration to identify continued funding to:
  • Support America’s transportation, water and broadband infrastructure
  • Increase formula funding levels and provide more direct funding to local leaders
Close the Online Sales Tax Loophole

• Since the 1992 Supreme Court decision in the Quill case, cities and states have been calling on Congress to close the $23 billion on-line sales tax loophole and level the playing field between brick and mortar retailers and online sellers.

• NLC supports a destination-based solution that would base the sales tax owed on the buyer's location. We’re continuing to monitor the House Judiciary Committee’s action on e-fairness legislation.
Protect America’s Health Insurance

• Last week, House Republicans unveiled a plan to replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

• Components of Proposal:
  • Keeps important insurance standards and consumer protections
  • Delays implementation of Cadillac Tax to 2025
  • Effectively ends the Medicaid expansion and caps federal dollars for Medicaid while shifting costs to states
    • Impact to states using expansion money for mental health and substance abuse treatment
  • Repeals the Prevention and Public Health Fund, which supports important funding to the CDC and vaccine and public health funding directly to cities.
Stand with Cities to Act on Climate

• The White House is expected to sign an Executive Order(s) targeting the Clean Power Plan.
• Potential for climate, energy efficiency, renewable energy programs to be zeroed out in President’s budget.

What: #Cities4Climate Photo and Sign on letter
When: Monday, March 13 at 12:20 pm
Where: Staircase inside the Marriott Ballroom Salon 1
Why: Because city leaders are committed to climate action and encourage continued strong national leadership, commitment and partnership.

Join the sign on letter at bit.ly/nlccclimate
Laying Groundwork for CCC
It Takes Cities to Move America Forward

This week, more than 550 local officials will attend more than 250 meetings with Members of Congress on Capitol Hill.
Advocating for City Priorities on Capitol Hill

2017 Congressional City Conference Capitol Hill Advocacy Day

Please provide comments about your meetings.

ISSUE QUESTIONS

Does the member of Congress support the tax exemption for municipal bonds and have they joined the Congressional Municipal-Finance Caucus?

-- Select -- ▼

City growth and prosperity is aided by strong federal partnerships. Does the member of Congress oppose cuts to city priorities, such as CDBG?

-- Select -- ▼

Does the member of Congress support investing in our nation’s infrastructure by providing direct funding to cities in addition to public-private partnerships?

-- Select -- ▼