



The Permanently Authorizing PILT Act

116th Congress – Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick

"We appreciate Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's efforts to ensure that the PILT program is permanently funded and not subject to the uncertainty of the appropriations cycle. We urge Congress to fulfill its promise to public lands counties and pass this legislation swiftly."

- **Matthew Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Counties (NACo)**

"PILT is an obligation of the federal government and county taxpayers directly depend on these resources; however, the U.S. Congress has been treating PILT funding as a discretionary program, subjecting it to the uncertainty of the annual appropriations process...[The Permanently Authorizing PILT Act] is a top priority for Arizona counties and the more than 1,850 public lands counties across the country."

- **Russell McCloud & Craig A. Sullivan, President & Executive Director, County Supervisors Association of Arizona**

The PILT Program is Essential

- The PILT Program helps counties and local governments offset losses in tax revenue due to tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdictions.
- Over **1,900 local governments** in over **60% of America's counties** received PILT payments in 2018, totaling \$552.8 million.
- These payments help local governments **provide essential services** to residents and public lands visitors, including law enforcement, education, infrastructure maintenance, search and rescue operations, environmental compliance, and waste disposal.
- The **federal government owns around 28% of all land** in the United States, including over **90% of land** in many counties.
- PILT payments can comprise a significant chunk of a local government's budget – in Arizona, PILT payments make up over **10% of the budget in several counties**.

Congress Must Make PILT Permanent & Mandatory

- The Permanently Authorizing PILT Act is a simple fix that would authorize PILT as mandatory spending and provide for the **full formula amount** annually.
- Congress made PILT funding mandatory for five years from FY 2008 to FY 2012. This provided **stability for counties and local governments** across the country.
- In FY 2014, once PILT funding was no longer mandatory, PILT funding was left out of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, leaving counties and local governments **uncertain about their financial future**. Funding was eventually included in the 2014 Farm Bill, but this uncertainty is exactly why we must permanently reauthorize PILT.
- The National Association of Counties (NACo), as well as state county and county supervisor associations across the country, have made it clear that Permanently Reauthorizing PILT at the formula level is a **top priority**.

Please Contact Ben Owens (Ben.Owens@mail.house.gov) in Congresswoman Kirkpatrick's office with questions or to sign on as a cosponsor of the Permanently Authorizing PILT Act.