



Florida Resolutions Adopted by NACo (2022- 2023)

Telecommunications & Technology Resolutions

- *Resolution to Support Federal Solutions to the “Homework Gap,” Commissioner Terry Burroughs of Okeechobee County, Florida.*

Resolution to Support Federal Solutions to the “Homework Gap”

Issue: Given the ever-increasing need for digital connectivity for children to successfully complete their schoolwork, the “homework gap” is leading to inequities in education in counties across America, which negatively impacts child development, the success of our economies and the quality of living in our communities.

Adopted Policy: To address internet affordability and adoption issues in K-12 education known as the “homework gap,” the National Association of Counties (NACo) urges Congress to provide additional resources to extend the Emergency Connectivity Fund while exploring permanent solutions to provide high quality, subsidized and discounted internet and computer access to low-income K-12 students through a shared cost formula spread between providers, families, and the federal government.

- *Resolution to Support a Permanent Federal Broadband Assistance Program, Commissioner Terry Burroughs of Okeechobee County, Florida.*

Resolution to Support a Permanent Federal Broadband Assistance Program

Issue: Congress authorized the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) as part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021 to subsidize monthly internet access and one-time equipment purchases for eligible low-income households. However, resources for the ACP are temporary, meaning families currently benefitting from this service will lose access once funds are exhausted.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) urges Congress to permanently authorize and fund the ACP to ensure that low-income county residents can continue to afford internet service while holding participating Internet Service Providers accountable for providing appropriate levels of quality, affordable service to eligible households. Any new resources for the should incorporate substantial outreach and education efforts, in partnership with local governments, to ensure eligible residents are taking advantage of the program.



Health Resolutions

- *Resolution Urging the Federal Government to Suspend, Instead of Terminate, Medicaid Coverage for Incarcerated Individuals, Sally Heyman, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County, Fla.*

Resolution Urging the Federal Government to Suspend, Instead of Terminate, Medicaid Coverage for Incarcerated Individuals

Issue: Medicaid benefits may be withdrawn when an individual is incarcerated as opposed to convicted.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) urges Congress to pass legislation that: a) amends federal law to prohibit states from terminating eligibility for individuals who are inmates of public institutions or residents of Institutes for Mental Disease (IMD) based solely on their status as inmates or residents; and b) requires states to establish a process under which an inmate or resident of an IMD facility, who continues to meet all applicable eligibility requirements, is placed in a suspended status so that the state does not claim Federal Financial Participation (FFP) for services the individual receives, but the person remains on the state's rolls as being eligible for Medicaid; and c) once release or discharge from the facility is anticipated, require states to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that an eligible individual is placed in payment status so that he or she can begin receiving Medicaid covered services immediately upon leaving the facility.

Environment, Energy and Land Use Resolutions

- *Proposed Resolution on the Inclusion of Waste-to-Energy, Melissa McKinlay, Commissioner, Palm Beach County, Fla.*

Proposed Resolution on the Inclusion of Waste-to-Energy

Issue: Local governments have invested billions of dollars in waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities as an environmentally conscientious alternative to landfilling. Unfavorable treatment of WTE by the federal government in upcoming legislation could be detrimental to the financial viability of WTE and hinder the expansion of WTE, and its benefits, in the United States.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) supports the inclusion of WTE in the Production Tax Credit, the Clean Energy Standard, climate programs, and other related policies without any unnecessary restrictions or hurdles.



- *Proposed Resolution Supporting the Reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act, Doug Smith, Commissioner, Martin County, Fla*

Proposed Resolution Supporting the Reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Act

Issue: Coral reefs in Florida and throughout the United States and its territories are critically threatened due to increasing global and local stressors. In particular, the Florida Reef Tract, North America's only coral barrier reef, is currently facing an unprecedented coral disease outbreak.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) supports the State of Florida delegation working with the State of Hawaii delegation, and other delegations represented on the U.S. All Islands Coral Reef Committee and NOAA's Coral Reef Conservation Program, to hold a Congressional hearing on the status, trends, and urgent issues facing the U.S.'s coral reefs. NACo also supports reauthorization of the Coral Reef Conservation Reauthorization Act of 2000, and additional recurring funding dedicated to improving the health of the nation's coral reefs.

- *Proposed Resolution Supporting Affordable Beach Renourishment Projects, Doug Smith, Commissioner, Martin County, Fla.; Sally Heyman, Commissioner, Miami-Dade County, Fla.*

Supporting Affordable Beach Renourishment Projects

Issue: Allowing local governments to purchase sand from countries outside of the U.S. to replenish shorelines due to beach erosion.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) supports enabling the Secretary of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allow counties to acquire sand by purchase, exchange or otherwise from non-domestic sources for the purpose of beach renourishment.

- *Proposed Resolution on National Estuary Program Designation, Robert "Bob" Cole, Commissioner, Santa Rosa County, Fla.*

Proposed Resolution on National Estuary Program Designation

Issue: Designating the Pensacola Bay System and Perdido Bay System as estuaries of national significance and the Pensacola & Perdido Bays Estuary Program as a National Estuary



Program.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) urges Congress and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator to designate the Pensacola Bay System and Perdido Bay System as estuaries of national significance, and by extension, recognize the Pensacola & Perdido Bays Estuary Program as a National Estuary Program, per Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. Furthermore, NACo urges the federal government to achieve a funding level to continue the NEP to all counties that meet the requirements of a locally-significant start up program.