FINANCE, PENSIONS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Resolution Supporting the Reauthorization of the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act

Issue: Tax protections of incentives for volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel expired in 2010 and must be reauthorized.

Adopted Policy: The National Association of Counties (NACo) urges Congress to reauthorize the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (VRIPA), which would waive federal income taxes on nominal recruitment and retention incentives provided by local jurisdictions to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel.

Approved | February 27, 2017

Resolution Supporting the U.S. Election Assistance Commission

Issue: H.R. 634 has been proposed to terminate the U.S. Election Assistance Commission, which provides assistance to state and local jurisdictions with the administration of federal election laws and programs. The legislation would transfer certain functions of the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to the Federal Election Commission (FEC).

Adopted Policy: NACo opposes the termination of the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. NACo recognizes the importance of rigorous testing of voting equipment and appreciates the efficiencies and cost savings of voluntary federal certification. NACo appreciates the important role that the EAC plays in coordinating collaborative efforts among local, state and federal government officials in addressing issues from the accessibility of polling places to the cybersecurity of voting equipment and voter registration databases.

NACo urges the Department of Homeland Security, in light of its recent designation of election systems as critical infrastructure, to work in partnership with the EAC and its trusted and supportive relationships with election officials rather than creating new and duplicative programs to impose federal policy.

Approved | February 27, 2017