



July 21, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
House Majority Leader  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
2469 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy,

On behalf of the National Association of Counties (NACo) and America's 3,069 counties, we urge you to provide additional federal funding to strengthen the integrity and safety of our nation's election system during this uncertain time. As members of NACo's Elections Subcommittee, we understand the importance of this critical funding, which ensures that county governments can run safe and secure elections in our communities.

The unprecedented nature of the rapid spread of COVID-19 has fundamentally altered the landscape of the 2020 election cycle. America's counties traditionally administer and fund elections at the local level, overseeing more than 109,000 polling places and coordinating more than 694,000 poll workers every two years.

Along with administering elections, county officials work tirelessly to preserve the integrity and security of America's elections. Local governments protect against hacks to voter rolls to alter data and attempts to remove election information from county websites. Counties hire and train poll workers to ensure they are well equipped to assist voters and protect against voter fraud or other security risks. Additionally, election officials are prepared for a wide range of "hard security" challenges at polling locations, including mitigating natural disasters, following protocols for an active shooter or fire and other emergencies.

Voter fraud in America is essentially non-existent due in large part to the efforts and actions taken by county election officials every single day.

Beyond these traditional requirements, counties are now grappling with even more costly election-related challenges from providing additional voting options, keeping polling locations clean and complying with social distancing mandates. With concerns over transmission of the virus, counties are working closely with federal, state and local election officials to ensure the highest level of voter access and election security, while also protecting the health and safety of our residents.

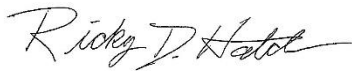
We thank you for your bipartisan cooperation in delivering critical resources through the CARES Act. However, some of these resources remain at the state level and therefore have not assisted county security and administration efforts. Counties agree that these dollars are needed at all levels, and they are especially vital to county governments who oversee and administer safe and secure elections.

Therefore, we strongly urge Congress to allocate additional funding to help assist counties continue to administer and protect our nation's elections, and we request that any new funds be administered either in coordination and in consultation with local governments, or are made directly available to local governments.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to working with you to ensure adequate funding to strengthen the integrity and safety of our nation's elections.

Sincerely,

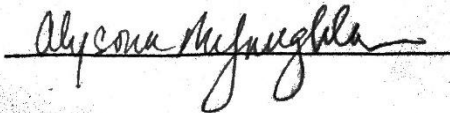
Members of NACo's Elections Subcommittee:



Ricky Hatch, Clerk/Auditor, Weber County, Utah  
Elections Subcommittee Chairman



Batina Dodge, Clerk, Scotland County, Mo.  
Elections Subcommittee Vice Chair



Alysoun McLaughlin, Deputy Election Director,  
Montgomery County, Md.  
Elections Subcommittee Vice Chair



Tonia Tunnell, Director of Government  
Relations, Maricopa County, Ariz.  
Elections Subcommittee Vice Chair



Brian Kruse, Election Commissioner,  
Douglas County, Neb.  
Elections Subcommittee Vice Chair

Cc: U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee; U.S.  
House Appropriations Committee