



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

eREGIONS

Highlight Your Region – Host NARC’s Annual Conference in 2017!

NARC seeks regions to host our Annual Conference in 2017, 2018, 2019, and beyond. Host regions are asked to partner with NARC staff on agenda development, mobile workshops, and fundraising for the conference. This is an excellent opportunity to highlight your regional successes before a national audience! Please fill out our *Host Region Worksheet* and submit it to Leslie Wollack (leslie@narc.org) for further consideration. Help us fill our calendar and celebrate your region!

NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

Senate is in session. House returns Wednesday.

Overview

The Senate meets today to begin consideration of a procedural motion for a **bill** that would ban most abortions after 20 weeks, which some Senate Republicans would like to tie to the must-pass Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the federal government beyond September 30, when current funding expires.

In observance of Yom Kippur, the House is not in session until Thursday, when both chambers will convene to receive Pope Francis in a joint meeting of Congress. Following the joint session, the House will consider the *Responsibly And Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2015* (the RAPID Act, **HR 348**), which aims to encourage interagency coordination on environmental permitting. Although reports indicate that no decisions have been made on how to fund the federal government past September 30, the House agreed last week to allow consideration of a CR under a **rule**, known as “martial law,” which allows for same-day consideration of legislation. Leadership frequently relies on this tool when faced with tight deadlines. NARC hopes that this indicates urgency from lawmakers to pass a CR before the deadline, although a shutdown is still possible.

House Committee Delays Markup of Bipartisan Energy Bill

Due to a lack of bipartisan consensus on amendments, the House Energy and Commerce Committee delayed a scheduled markup last week of the *North American Energy Security and Infrastructure Act of 2015*. The bipartisan bill, which was negotiated by Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and Ranking Member Frank Pallone (D-NJ), modernizes the electric grid, expands energy and workforce development, and promotes grid modernization and energy efficiency. The markup has not been rescheduled. In July, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted 19-4 to pass its comprehensive energy package, the *Energy Policy Modernization Act of 2015*, which includes sections on efficiency, infrastructure, supply, accountability and conservation, and reauthorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The **Senate bill** is pending floor consideration.

FEMA Seeks Comments on Draft FEMA Damage Assessment Manual

Comments Due: November 14

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is seeking comments from state, local, tribal, and territorial emergency management practitioners on the **draft *FEMA Damage Assessment Operating Manual***. The manual establishes national damage assessment standards developed from lessons learned and best practices already in use by state, local, tribal, and federal emergency management agencies. Comments should be added to the comment matrix and submitted to Mr. Ryan Buras, Senior Program Advisor, Public Assistance, Recovery Directorate and be sent via email to **PDAManual@fema.dhs.gov**. If you have any questions, please contact FEMA's Intergovernmental Affairs Division at (202) 646-3444 or **FEMA-IGA@fema.dhs.gov**.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Want your organization featured here? Send details to anna@narc.org.

Council of State Governments *Pathways to Prosperity*

Despite many states seeing signs of economic growth (e.g. increase in job creation, decrease in unemployment, etc.), there is still a gap between workers' technical skills and workforce demands. The ***Pathways to Prosperity Initiative*** is a framework for state policymakers to aid in the development of a skilled workforce. CSG's Task Force on Workforce Development and Education researched some of the major obstacles to prosperity, such as child poverty, hunger and nutrition, veterans concerns, and criminal issues. Representing over a year's worth of work from state officials, the recommendations outline state policies that will cultivate the skills and knowledge necessary for the jobs of the future.

MEMBER REQUESTS

Email responses to anna@narc.org.

NARC Membership Survey: Requests on the NARC Website

When NARC issues a membership request, we compile the responses in a MEMO with responses attributed to the organization. We would like to post most of these MEMORANDA online so that ALL MEMBERS can benefit from them. Please email **anna@narc.org** to tell us what you think.

FEATURED JOBS

View full list of jobs!

Benefits Outreach and Intake Specialist

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

HCS Team Leader

Alamo Area Council of Governments, San Antonio, TX

Executive Director

New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, New York, NY

Executive Director

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District, Taunton, MA

Transportation Planner III

Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, Colorado Springs, CO

Chief Executive Officer

Newark Alliance, Newark, NJ

FUNDING

View full list of grants!

EVENTS

View full list of events!

Save the date! 2016 National Conference of Regions

February 7-9, 2016 – Washington, DC*

The National Conference of Regions is NARC's forum to determine key policy issues and a legislative agenda for the year ahead, targeting topics central to our members' missions and their local elected officials' focus. Additional information will be available later this year. **Note: Capitol Hill Day is February 10. Please make room in your travel plans to meet with your representatives.*

CONTACT US

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