

APPROPRIATIONS

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Regions supply varied services to cities, counties, and localities:

Regional councils, councils of governments, metropolitan planning organizations, and other regional planning organizations supply varied services to member city and county residents. These services are fully or in part funded by the federal government. Each year's appropriation is of concern to cities, counties, and regions. Regions oppose short or long-term continuing resolutions, and support annual funding for all federal departments, agencies, and programs, and congratulates Congress on reaching an agreement that funds the federal government through the end of fiscal year 2023.

Specific appropriations categories that are of concern to regional organizations include:

- Affordable housing and homelessness
- Aging services
- Behavioral health and substance misuse
- Broadband and digital equity
- Cybersecurity and data concerns
- Economic and community development
- Electric vehicles, electric vehicle infrastructure, and alternative fuels
- Environmental protection including water infrastructure and clean air
- Law enforcement and public safety including local disaster preparedness
- Public transit and infrastructure
- Mitigation and sustainable and resilient infrastructure
- Roads, highways, and bridges
- Workforce readiness and development

SUPPORT ANNUAL FUNDING FOR ALL FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS

Each of these appropriation categories, which are designed to ensure a high quality of life within regions, receive discretionary funding and should be funded at a level that ensures that cities, counties and regions can provide the services residents need.

Regional organizations, along with their member counties and cities, ask that Congress and the Administration consider appropriations within the following contexts:



- Restore the balance of federalism and optimize intergovernmental partnerships
- Adopt legislation that improves the implementation of the American Rescue Plan Act's fiscal recovery funds
- Implement city and county-related provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Inflation Reduction Act and the CHIPS and Science Act
- Promote health equity by mental health, substance use treatment legislation, and consideration of other public safety reforms
- Address food security and similar issues through the 2023 Farm Bill reauthorization
- Boost advanced broadband deployment and accessibility while preserving local decision-making
- Promote city, county and regional decision-making in future federal rulemaking
- Maintain election integrity and strengthen election worker safety
- Enhance community resilience through regional and local disaster preparedness
- Promote workforce and housing opportunities and supportive services for city, county, and region residents to support economic recovery.

In all instances, regions seek funding levels that ensure all residents' needs are met, regardless of race, income, gender and similar attributes.

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