



## PARTNERING TO BUILD A STRONGER OHIO

SMART TAX POLICY • ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT • STRONGER COMMUNITIES

**SUPPORT Marketplace Fairness** - Sales tax is the largest revenue source to fund county services in Ohio. Legislation should be authorized to permit the collection of existing sales and use taxes from remote internet sellers. The issue of taxing remote sales has escalated in recent years due to the internet's growth as a retail marketplace. As a result, state and local governments have lost billions in uncollected sales taxes and Main Street businesses find themselves at a significant competitive disadvantage to online merchants.

**OPPOSE Efforts to Eliminate or Limit the Tax-Exempt Status of Municipal Bonds** – Tax-exempt bonds are a critical tool for counties to finance the construction of infrastructure and facilities necessary to meet public demand for government services in Ohio. Provisions like the tax exemption for municipal bond interest have been part of the federal tax code for over 100 years.

**SUPPORT Treatment of Mental Illness and Substance Abuse & Help Us Combat Opiate Epidemic** – Ohio's counties are on the front lines of the opiate epidemic and our jails continue to inappropriately house the mentally ill. Please support federal funding streams that help us to better respond to our citizens' needs, such as SAMHSA block grant dollars, easing the Medicaid Institute of Mental Disease (IMD) exclusion, and other programs that allow us to provide appropriate treatment programs and support to those in our criminal justice and child protective systems.

**Preserve County Interests in "Waters of the U.S." Regulations** – CCAO and NACo believe that local streets, gutters and human made ditches should be excluded from the definition of "Waters of the U.S." under the federal Clean Water Act. We appreciate previous Congressional attempts to block the rules from moving forward and ask that Congress continue exploring strategies to require the U.S. EPA and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to withdraw the new WOTUS rule and rewrite it in consultation and collaboration with state and local governments.

**Promote County Priorities in Surface Transportation Implementation** - THANK YOU for passing a surface transportation bill! Please work with NACo and CCAO to ensure that the new surface transportation law is implemented to reflect county priorities, including allocating more funding for locally owned infrastructure, as well as continuing efforts to resolve the long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO OHIO.** Please remember that we are here as a resource for you if you have questions about how proposed federal legislation would impact our county.

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