



# The Ninety-Three

Special Edition  
April 19, 2023



## Contact Your U.S. Senators *Immediately* and Urge a NO Vote on Amendment to Claw Back ARPA Funding

For your immediate attention, the National Association of Counties issued the following action alert:

*This week, the U.S. Senate is expected to vote on the [Fire Grants and Safety Act, S. 870](#). The National Association of Counties (NACo) supports the passage of S. 870 as originally written, which would reauthorize the Assistance to Firefighters Grants and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants.*

*During the consideration of this bill, Senator Rick Scott (R-Fla.) offered an amendment that would require the U.S. Treasury Secretary to identify and transfer unobligated funds from the American Rescue Plan Act's (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) to the administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.*

*In sum, this amendment – Amendment 81 – would attempt to claw back “unobligated” state and local funding provided under ARPA. However, the U.S. Treasury has already obligated nearly 100 percent of the \$65.1 billion to America’s counties, parishes and boroughs.*

*Counties are thoughtfully considering, including through deliberative public engagement, how to invest these funds before the December 2024 deadline.*

*The U.S. Senate could vote on this amendment as early as THIS AFTERNOON, Wednesday, April 19. Please contact your Senators and urge them to reject the Scott Amendment (Amendment 81).*

*American Rescue Plan resources have been impactful to the response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic as county governments thoughtfully address local priorities.*

*Counties received the first tranche of funds beginning in May 2021 and received the second tranche approximately one year later, around May 2022. **Simply put, the U.S. Treasury has already obligated all of these funds to county governments.***

*As intergovernmental partners, counties trust the federal government to fulfill its commitments in legislation like the American Rescue Plan. In turn, counties are fulfilling our own responsibilities as intergovernmental partners by complying with the law and Treasury’s guidance to meet the December 31, 2024, obligation and December 31, 2026 expenditure deadlines. Amendment 81 would undermine the intergovernmental partnership and hinder our ability to fulfill our mandated responsibilities.*

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