

November 22, 2024



The Ninety-Three

Inheritance Tax and Unfunded Mandates Interim Studies Today

Today, the Legislature's Revenue Committee will hear testimony about revenue to replace inheritance taxes and unfunded mandates imposed on counties. [LR314](#), introduced by Senator Rob Clements, will examine potential adjustments to county revenue sources and elimination of unnecessary county expenses to compensate for a phaseout of inheritance taxes by 2029. [LR435](#), by Senator Jane Raybould, will also assess the loss of funding to counties and identify potential state funding sources for counties if inheritance taxes are eliminated.

The hearing will begin at 1:30 p.m. (Central) in Room 1524 of the State Capitol and will be livestreamed on [Nebraska Public Media](#). In-person testimony is limited to invited speakers. Written comments can be submitted through each resolution's link on the Legislature's website.

Upcoming hearings will focus on other health and human services, education, retirement, and transportation issues. A full list of hearing dates can be found [here](#).

Interim study resolutions are introduced during the regular legislative session to study issues following the adjournment of the legislative session. Ideas generated from the studies are often introduced as legislation in the following session.

Annual Conference Pre-Registration Closes TODAY

Online pre-registration for the NACO Annual Conference closes today, November 22nd at 11:59 pm CST. The cost is \$160.00 per attendee and \$100.00 per guest. A spouse is considered a guest.

Registrations received after 11/22/2024 deadline will be considered as on-site, walk-in registrations: \$175

All cancellations after November 22, 2024 are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee.

Annual Conference Agenda

Please note that the agenda is subject to change. Final hard copies of the agenda will be available at the Eakes booth at conference.

[Full Agenda Available](#)

Wednesday, December 18th

- Registration Opens at 7:00 A.M.
- Exhibit Hall Opens at 7:00 A.M.
- Affiliate Group Sessions may start as early as 8:00 A.M. and end as late as 4:00 P.M.
- Sponsored Dinner and Hospitality Suites will be at Younes South in the evening.
- Shuttle will be available for pick up and drop off at hotels on and around the Younes campus from 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 P.M.

Thursday, December 19th

- Registration Opens at 7:00 A.M.
- Breakfast Buffet at 7:30 A.M.
- Exhibit Hall Opens at 7:00 A.M.
- Opening Session starts at 8:00 A.M.
- Breakout Sessions #1 - 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
 - DOT Revenue Flow Charts
 - Unite Us: Connect Health and Social Care
 - County Process for Mobile Homes and Where Can We Go From Here
 - HR Best Practices
 - Nebraska Branding Committee
- All Conference Lunch with Nebraska State Senators (Pending Availability)
- Breakout Session #2 - 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.
 - County Strategies for Fostering Community Engagement: Online and On the Ground
 - Opioid Settlement Panel Discussion
 - Data Drive Alternative Energy
 - Connecting Counties: Broadband Expansion for Rural Nebraska
 - County Improvement Plans
- NACO Business Meeting following breakout sessions (**New this year! Moved from Friday**)
- Door Prizes before Business Meeting 2:45 p.m.
- Sponsored Dinner and Hospitality Suites will be at Younes Center South in the evening.
- Shuttle will be available for pick up and drop off at hotels on and around the Younes campus from 8:00 A.M. to 11:30 P.M.

Friday, December 20th

- Breakfast & NACO Legislative Forum (**New this year!**) from 7:00-9:00 AM
-

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Ryan Campbell

**Keynote Speaker on Mental
Health and Resilience**

Thursday, December 19th



**December 2024
Leadership Book Club**

Born to Fly by Ryan Campbell



Get into the Spirit!



Wear your favorite
holiday-themed sweater
on Thursday, December 19.

Annual Conference Hotel Reservations

Rooming lists with guest names and stay dates were due to hotels on the Younes campus on

October 11. Any unclaimed rooms after October 11th were placed back into the general NACO block for other attendees/counties to reserve.

If you have questions about hotel reservations, please call 308-237-8813 or email youneshotels@gmail.com

Off Campus Hotel Options

More Information on Hotel Reservation Process

Spirit of Service Fundraiser

Spirit of Service Fundraiser

This holiday season, NACO is hosting a fundraiser to support Children's Nebraska. Join us in the spirit of service to make this season brighter for children and families in Nebraska!

DECEMBER 18-20, 2024

DONATE NOW

www.nebraskacounties.org/conferencefundraiser/donate.html

This holiday season, NACO is hosting a fundraiser to support Children's Nebraska. You can donate through our online payment portal for a convenient way to contribute, or in person at our 130th Annual Conference in December.

At the Annual Conference, all donors, whether online or in person, will receive a special ornament from our holiday tree.

Nebraska Broadband Office Initial Proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Agency Volume II

[Click Here to View](#)

Applauding Your Commitment to Growth: Leadership Development with the National Association of Counties

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the November NACo Leadership Academy graduates from Nebraska. They join over 10,000 graduates and current participants from across the country benefitting from the 12-week online program enabling existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potential.

- Arjun Basnet, Admin Support Specialist, Douglas County
- Colby Barak, Administrative Receptionist, Douglas County
- Diane Carlson, Deputy Administrator, Douglas County
- Kyle Kramer, Technical Manager, Douglas County - *Cybersecurity*
- Lisa Daubman, Grant Coordinator, Douglas County

Start the new year with Leadership Development

Our January Cohort is right around the corner. Join us in investing in the workforce – empowering them to become better leaders today and into the future. **10th Anniversary scholarships available through December 31.**

[Click Here to Learn More and Enroll](#)

Developed by General Colin Powell, the Professional Development Academy and NACo, the High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that helps your workforce develop fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and our residents.

Savi Student Loan Borrower Workshop



FREE WEBINAR

Student Loan Borrower Workshop

Join this session to understand the latest policy changes, and what actions you need to make before the end of 2024.



Jobe McDermott

Marketing &
Education at Savi



December 4th



4:00 PM ET



Zoom Webinar

The Nebraska Association of Counties is working with Savi, a social impact company, to help student loan borrowers better understand and manage their student loans. Savi is a free, online tool that allows borrowers to discover eligibility for reduced monthly loan payments and loan forgiveness options.

On December 4th, Savi is hosting a free webinar that will help borrowers get started with the tool and learn more about student loans and policy updates.

[Register in advance here](#)

FY 2026 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid Enhancement (EB) Request for Application (RFA) Announcement

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is pleased to announce the availability of the **2026 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid - Enhancement [EB]**. The Request for Application [RFA] outlines general guidelines, eligibility, funding requirements, and application instructions. You are encouraged to distribute and post the announcement. Please read the RFA thoroughly to ensure all requirements are met in the application. The attached documents are also located at the following website: <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps>

Please note the change to allowable fringe as noted on page 5 of the RFA. Additional information can be found on page 15.

All applicants applying for the 2026 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid - Enhancement [EB] shall submit an application using the below link through Amplifund.

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/e8d016bf-be03-4660-b02a-2cff055ad891>

EMAIL APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

You can find pre-recorded training videos to review the RFA and grant application on the NCC Grant Announcements website under the FY2025 Community-based Juvenile Services Aid (CBA) announcement at the bottom of the page.

An instructional video for how to apply using Amplifund can be found at https://rooms.vidyard.com/rooms/_wEY6z9GESNh2lBhuCwvlw?vy_player_uuid=92KSHRHx8zy5sqiHhGBJNs

Application Deadline: January 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

PSC Issues 2024-2025 Pro-Ag Grant Application and Program Schedule

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC) has approved an Order ([C-5600](#)) issuing the 2024-2025 Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant (PRO-AG) program schedule and application materials.

Created through the Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Act, the PRO-AG program paves the way for awarding grants annually to accelerate rural economic development by helping to provide connectivity and supporting technology to farm sites in rural areas of Nebraska.

“We think there’s immense potential for innovative precision agriculture projects that could benefit from this funding opportunity,” said PSC Chair Dan Watermeier. “With over a million dollars available for the upcoming year, we encourage all eligible and interested parties to participate in the application process.”

The PRO-AG program is divided into two distinct subprograms: Connectivity, and Devices and Technology. Each subprogram is designed to fulfill a specific purpose. Applicants can submit multiple project proposals but must apply separately for each subprogram. Applications will be assessed individually. Each application will be considered on its own merits within the subprogram in which it is filed.

The available funding for the 2024-2025 fiscal year is \$1,129,077.71. The amount will be divided equally among the two subprograms with \$564,538.85 in grant funding available for each. To date, the Commission has awarded over \$678,000 in funding through the PRO-AG grant program.

Commissioner Watermeier said, “The [Precision Agriculture Grant Act](#) allows for a broad range of eligible uses. We encourage prospective applicants to explore new ways that precision agriculture can be used to promote ag productivity In Nebraska.”

Application materials and a detailed program guide can be found on the [Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Program \(PRO-AG\)](#) page of the PSC website.

Applications for the 2024-2025 program year open on December 13 and are **due on or before January 17, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., (CT)**.

Applications should be emailed to < psc.broadband@nebraska.gov >.

Grants will be awarded by the end of April.

National Association of County Officials (NACo) Ex Officio Director Nominations

The NACO Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the NACo Ex Officio Director. This position is the Nebraska Representative of the National Association of County Officials (NACo) Board of Directors and would be responsible for attending NACo Board of Directors meetings, participate in national conferences as well as provide the NACO Board of Directors quarterly reports.

If you are interested in learning more about the NACo Representative for Nebraska please reach out to Candace Meredith at candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org.

Nebraska Association of Emergency Management (NAEM) Award Nominations

The Nebraska Association of Emergency Management is taking nominations to recognize outstanding contributions in emergency management.

Please note the nomination deadline has been changed to **January 3, 2025**.

Please use the following links to access the specific nomination forms or visit the NAEM Website [Award Nominations](#).

[Emergency Manager of the Year](#)

[New Emergency Manager of the Year](#)

[Deputy Director or Administrative Assistant of the Year](#)

[Emergency Management Support Nomination](#)

[Lifetime Achievement Award Nomination](#)

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 NACO BUSINESS MEMBERS

ELITE



PREMIUM



NACO Business Members

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2024 Election Calendar](#)



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