

Legislative Bulletin

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE VOICE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES

IN THIS EDITION

- **Supreme Court Ruling on Mail-In Ballots**
- **Meta Settlement: Youth Mental Health Funding**
- **Center for Rural Pennsylvania Releases First Responder Broadband Report**
- **Congress Passes Short-Term Funding Resolution**
- **IFO Issues August Revenue Update**
- **CCAP In the News**

SUPREME COURT RULING ON MAIL-IN BALLOTS

On August 24, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a 6-3 decision allowing the Trump administration to move forward with certain provisions of [Executive Order 14399](#). The order directs the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to compile information for use in voter citizenship verification and directs the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to pursue new requirements for mail-in ballots.

The ruling does not currently require changes to mail-in ballot procedures. A federal court issued a temporary restraining order on August 27 blocking implementation of the USPS requirements while litigation continues. Counties should continue following existing procedures and guidance from state election officials.

Counties should continue to monitor the ongoing litigation and any developments related to DHS citizenship verification lists and USPS requirements. CCAP will also continue to actively track these developments and provide timely updates to counties as additional information and guidance become available.

For more information on the Executive Order and the Supreme Court ruling, please refer to the [National Association of Counties \(NACo\)](#).

META SETTLEMENT: YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FUNDING

On August 26, Pennsylvania Attorney General Dave Sunday [announced](#) that Pennsylvania, as part of a multistate coalition, reached a settlement with Meta regarding allegations that the company failed to adequately protect young users. The settlement involves up to \$17.1 billion in national remediation payments. Pennsylvania is expected to receive \$516 million over a period of years, with the potential to receive up to \$729 million. The settlement terms remain subject to court approval.

The settlement outlines eligible uses for the funding, including a range of programs and services that could benefit county human services, such as:

- Crisis intervention services, including the expansion and operation of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline and text-based youth crisis lines
- Youth mental health programming
- Grants to school districts or other local government entities for remedial purposes outlined in the settlement

The settlement presents potential opportunities for counties and other local government entities to invest in mental health programs and services for youth. Counties look forward to working with the Commonwealth as the settlement moves forward and funding opportunities are developed to address this critical issue.

For more information on the settlement and eligible funding uses, please refer to the settlement agreement [here](#).

CENTER FOR RURAL PENNSYLVANIA RELEASES FIRST RESPONDER BROADBAND REPORT

The Center for Rural Pennsylvania released a report on September 1, 2026, on [Broadband Connectivity Among Rural First Responders in Pennsylvania](#). The report examines the communication challenges facing rural first responders,

including law enforcement, fire, EMS, and 911 personnel, and identifies technology, interoperability, staffing, and funding as key concerns.

For counties, the report highlights that while all 67 counties transitioned to NextGen 911 by the end of 2025, significant challenges remain with reliable connectivity, interoperability and the cost of maintaining and upgrading emergency communications systems. Rural dead zones can prevent residents from reaching 911, while incompatible radio systems can hinder communication between counties and responding agencies.

The report's findings further demonstrate the need for a sustainable funding structure for Pennsylvania's 911 system and support **CCAP's priority to increase the 911 surcharge from \$1.95 to \$2.20 per month**. With the current surcharge covering only about 80% of 911 costs, counties continue to face growing expenses associated with NextGen 911, communications equipment, infrastructure and PSAP operations. The report also points to staffing challenges among 911 personnel, reinforcing the need for reliable funding to ensure counties can maintain the technology, infrastructure and personnel necessary to provide effective emergency response.

For more information on CCAP's 911 priority, refer to [CCAP's priorities webpage](#).

CONGRESS PASSES SHORT-TERM FUNDING RESOLUTION

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Senate's Continuing Resolution ([CR/H.R. 6500](#)) on Tuesday, September 1. The Senate's CR would fund the government until December 11 or until applicable appropriations acts are passed. This CR will continue to fund the 12 major appropriations divisions and include a series of targeted funding allocations, rescissions and program-specific provisions.

The legislation also delays implementation of a proposed Office of Management and Budget (OMB) rule that would overhaul the Uniform Guidance until December 11. This delay is a positive development for counties, as changes to the Uniform Guidance could significantly affect how counties administer and manage federal grant funds.

Among other provisions, the CR includes funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), homelessness assistance, FEMA disaster relief, the National Flood Insurance Program and Census activities.

To read an in-depth analysis on the Senate's CR, visit [NACo's website](#).

IFO ISSUES AUGUST REVENUE UPDATE

The Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) released its monthly revenue update for [August 2026](#), showing that General Fund collections totaled \$3.02 billion, an increase of \$60 million (2.0%) compared to August 2025. Collections were \$22 million (0.7%) below the IFO's official estimate. Fiscal-year-to-date collections totaled \$6.38 billion, which is \$67 million (1.1%) above estimate and \$382 million (6.4%) higher than the same period last year.

Revenue growth was driven primarily by personal income tax, sales and use tax, and inheritance tax collections. Personal income tax collections increased 4.1%, sales and use tax increased 4.6%, and inheritance tax increased 23.7% compared to August 2025. Corporate net income tax collections were essentially unchanged from the prior year but remained 12.2% above the fiscal-year-to-date estimate.

Nontax revenues declined due to delayed interest from tobacco settlement bonds, which the IFO expects to be transferred in September.

CCAP IN THE NEWS

- [CCAP Returning to Valley Forge Casino Resort for 2031 Conference](#)
 - [Harding co-chairs women's leadership caucus; hosts reception featuring first lady of Pa.](#)
 - [CCAP President and Snyder County Commissioner Honors Colleagues](#)
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