

Chris Taggart

From: Shantil Siaperas <shantil@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Monday, January 13, 2020 9:44 AM
To: Shantil Siaperas
Subject: FY 2020 Federal Spending Agreement: SRS Reauthorized & Additional Election Security Funding

County Commissioners, Treasurers, Clerk and Recorders, School Superintendents, and Road Supervisors,

On December 20, 2019, the President signed the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94), which reauthorized SRS payments for FY19 (payment year FY20) and for FY20 (payment year FY21). The Forest Service is in the process of calculating the projected payments for FY19 , and they anticipate funds will be electronically transferred to states in spring 2020.

The spending package also provided for additional election security funding: \$425 million (\$3.1 million available for Montana) to be distributed through the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) to states for election security improvements including to implement established cybersecurity best practices for election systems. The spending agreement requires a 20-cents-on-the-dollar match by states that receive election security money. This is a significant shift from the original five percent match required under the FY 2019 omnibus. The legislation also directs how states can use this funding:

- Replace voting equipment that only records a voter's intent electronically with equipment that utilizes a voter-verified paper record
- Implement a post-election audit system that provides a high-level of confidence in the accuracy of the final vote tally
- Upgrade election-related computer systems to address cyber vulnerabilities identified through DHS or similar scans or assessments of existing election systems
- Facilitate cybersecurity training for the state chief election official's office and local election officials
- Implement established cybersecurity best practices for election systems

To read more about what was included in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, [click here and read NACo's County Highlights in the FY 2020 Federal Spending Agreement.](#)

More to come!

SHANTIL M. SIAPERAS
Communications Director
Montana Association of Counties
2715 Skyway Drive
Helena, MT 59602

(406) 449-4360 (Office)
(406) 925-1134 (Mobile)
shantil@mtcounties.org
www.mtcounties.org

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JAN 13 2020

Ravalli County Commissioners

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