



West Virginia Wins in FY 2020

Transportation & Housing; Agriculture & Rural Development; Commerce, Justice & Science; and Interior Appropriations Bills

Senator Manchin's Top Priorities for West Virginia

- **Opioids (\$624M):** \$505 million within DOJ for fighting the Heroin and Opioid epidemic, including \$80 million for drug courts, \$90 million for Second Chance Act Programs, and significant funding targeting fentanyl detection; \$94 million for the FDA to continue enforcement activities related to opioids, and \$25 million for HUD opioid and recovery housing assistance through programs authorized by the SUPPORT Act.
- **Youth Homelessness (\$80M):** West Virginia has experienced a large increase in the number of children and families experiencing homelessness as a result of the opioid crisis and other factors. This bill includes \$2 billion for programs to stop homelessness, including \$80 million specifically to stop youth homelessness and language directing HUD to assist homeless children with school enrollment and other critical services.
- **Corridor H (\$13.2M):** For the first time since 2012, the bill includes dedicated funding for Corridor H, also known as U.S. Route 48, which connects I-79 in Weston to I-81 in Strasburg, VA.
- **Bridge Repair (\$81.2M):** Given the poor condition of our bridges and roads, Senator Manchin helped secure these funds to repair bridges in the state, the third highest state allocation behind Texas & California.
- **NASA IV&V (\$39.1M):** As a member of the CJS Subcommittee, which oversees NASA's budget, Senator Manchin secured funds for NASA's Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V) facility located in Fairmont.
- **NOAA (\$5.3B) & NWS (\$1.06B):** The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) & the National Weather Service (NWS) have facilities in Fairmont supporting national weather forecasting efforts.
- **National Conservation Training Center (\$26M):** As Ranking Member of the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee, Senator Manchin fought to protect funding for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife National Conservation Training Center (NCTC), located in Shepherdstown, WV.
- **Monongahela National Forest (\$750k):** Funding through the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for Forest Service Land Acquisition within the Monongahela National Forest.
- **Essential Air Service (\$162M):** \$162 million to fully fund EAS, which assists rural airports like those in Parkersburg, Morgantown, Clarksburg, Beckley, and Lewisburg.
- **Amtrak Ticket Agents:** Following the removal of the last ticket agent in West Virginia last year, this bill directs Amtrak to re-staff stations around the country, restoring the ticket agent in Charleston.
- **MARC Train:** The bill requires GAO to report on funding gaps for federal assistance for operating costs to commuter rail systems that serve rural areas, like the MARC train.

Rural Connectivity

Rural Connectivity: As a result of our state's beautiful mountains, deep valleys, and hollers, broadband deployment costs in West Virginia are much more expensive, which is why Senator Manchin included language directing both the USDA, which has provided over a billion dollars in assistance for the deployment of broadband and wireless technologies, to prioritize rural areas like West Virginia with challenging, mountainous terrain, including:

- Urging USDA to prioritize funding within the ReConnect and Community Connect rural broadband deployment programs to areas like West Virginia with mountainous terrain, and directing a review of the program with 6 months to ensure the program reaches underserved and unserved communities.
- Directing USDA to make the ReConnect application process easier and to provide assistance to applicants
- Language encouraging EDA to consider grants to regional planning and development organizations for GIS mapping of critical infrastructure such as broadband coverage or water and sewage lines.

NTIA: \$42.4 million for the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA), including \$7.5 million to enhance the National Broadband Map, as well as language directing NTIA to study the benefits of using crowd-sourced data to ensure better coverage maps.

Country Roads and Infrastructure

Roads & Highways: 30% of West Virginia's 38,770 miles of public roads are considered to be in poor condition, while 19% of our 1,247 bridges are considered structurally deficient, the second highest total in the U.S. This costs West Virginia drivers around \$723 per year, the 8th highest cost in the country. That's why Senator Manchin has prioritized funding for the Federal Highway Administration, including \$49.8 billion (+\$546 million above FY19), including:

- \$1.25 billion for Surface Transportation Block Grants (STBG)
- \$1 billion for the BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) Grants, which provided \$40 million for two projects in WV in 2018.
- \$100 million for the Nationally Significant Federal and Tribal Lands Program (NSFTLP), which recently awarded \$100 million for the completion of a section of Corridor H from Parsons halfway to Davis.
- \$100 million for the Appalachian Development Highway System (ADHS), including language directing FHWA to consider the expansion of the 3,090 mile cap on the ADHS, which would include roads like King Coal Highway and Coalfields Expressway.

Other Transportation:

- Airports—\$3.8 billion for the Airport Improvement Program, which provides grants to airports to assist in runway rehabilitation, repairs, and other projects critical to airports in West Virginia.
- Railroads—\$2 billion for Amtrak, \$58.4 million above FY19, including language opposing Amtrak's proposal to eliminate its long-distance routes on the national network. Two of these routes traverse WV, including the Capitol Limited (DC to Chicago) and the Cardinal (from NY to Chicago through southern WV).

Rural Water: West Virginia has an estimated \$1.16 billion in drinking water needs and \$3.26 billion in wastewater needs. This bill includes:

- \$1.638 billion for the EPA's Clean Water and \$1.126 billion for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds programs. Investments in these funds return \$0.93 to the Treasury for every \$1 invested.
- \$3 billion for USDA Rural Economic and Community Development Programs, including \$484.98 million for the Rural Water and Wastewater Disposal Program, \$68 million for Waste and Disposal System Grants, \$19.57 million for the Circuit Rider Program, and \$400 million for Water and Waste Grants.

Defining Appalachian Rural Areas: As a result of the state's mountainous terrain, some federal agencies misclassify WV counties as "urban" instead of "rural", denying rural communities, hospitals, & health care centers eligibility for rural grants. This is why Senator Manchin included language directing the Economic Research Service to conduct a study on including a rural exception for mountainous and difficult terrain states, such as WV.

Appalachian Foodways & Nutrition

Agricultural Research in West Virginia

- Appalachian Honeybees—\$1.5 million for the creation of a Pollinator Recovery, Education & Research Center in Central Appalachia, focusing on the decline of pollinator populations while creating jobs and economic revitalization in former coal mining towns.
- Precision Aquaculture—\$1 million for the National Center for Cool & Cold Water Aquaculture in Leetown, WV to study sustainable domestic aquaculture production.
- Small Orchard Production—\$1 million for low-cost technology and innovative production strategies for small farm fruit growers through the Appalachian Fruit Research Station in Kearneysville, WV.

Chronic Wasting Disease: \$9 million through the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for continued research. \$5 million will be distributed to states meeting the criteria for continued study.

Nutrition: \$69.16 billion for SNAP, \$23.6 billion for Child Nutrition Programs, \$6 billion for Women, Infant, Children (WIC), & fully funds the Commodity Assistance Program which includes the Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) & the Farmers Market Nutrition Program. Senator Manchin also worked with Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) to direct USDA to include the impact of changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program on children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, & rural and poor communities.

Moving WV Forward

Economic & Community Development:

- EDA: West Virginia is the largest per capita recipient of funds from the Economic Development Administration (EDA), which is funded at \$319.5 million (\$15.5 million more than FY19). EDA provides critical funding to help foster innovation in small, rural communities, including \$30 million in assistance to coal communities.
- Housing: \$3.325 billion for Community Development Block Grants, \$152 million for NeighborWorks, a nonprofit organization that supports community development and affordable housing around the country, including West Virginia, \$1.25 billion for HOME Investment Partnership Program, and \$1.375 billion for the Rental Assistance Program, which helps reduce rents paid by low-income families.

West Virginia Contributions to Science & Space:

- Green Bank: Ensures full funding and continued National Science Foundation (NSF) support for operations at the Green Bank Observatory (GBO), as well as additional capabilities for use in near earth orbit object detection and planetary defense. Senator Manchin helped save GBO earlier this year by successfully encouraging NSF to continue to fund the facility, after it was proposed for divestment.
- WV Robotics: Senator Manchin helped secure \$180 million for the RESTORE-L satellite servicing program, which had been slated for closure once again by the administration. The West Virginia Robotics Technology Center (WVRTC) is the lead academic institution supporting this program and has been working to ensure that the proposed 2021 launch to capture and refuel the Landsat-7 satellite remains on schedule.
- NOAA Weather Forecasting: \$166 million for the Office of Satellite & Product Operations, which supports the NOAA Environmental Security Computing Center (NESCC) located in Fairmont, WV. NESCC is a key high-performance computing center & is collocated with the backup ground stations for the GOES-R and JPSS weather satellites, as well as security operations centers for NOAA & the Dept. of Commerce.
- Research: WV benefits from key science and space-related educational research programs, including:
 - \$735 million for the NASA Heliophysics Program, which supports basic research at universities in West Virginia and contributes to the workforce development pipeline in the state.
 - \$47 million for NASA Space Grants
 - \$22 million for NASA EPSCoR
 - \$190 million for NSF EPSCoR (a \$14 million increase from FY19)

Relief for the Timber Industry: Urges USDA to provide relief from Chinese tariffs for the timber industry.

Keeping America Safe

FBI: \$9.953 billion for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) salaries and expenses and construction, a \$376 million increase above the FY2019 enacted level. This funding will enable the FBI to continue protecting and defending against terrorist, criminal, and foreign intelligence threats, both at home and abroad, including:

- \$91.6 million for the Innocent Images National Initiative to target and investigate sexual predators on the Internet, and increases funding for cybersecurity activities to neutralize, mitigate, and disrupt illegal computer-supported operations.

BOP: \$7.47 billion for the Bureau of Prisons (BOP), including language directing BOP to curtail its overreliance on augmentation, which impacts a number of prison facilities in West Virginia, such as USP Hazelton in Preston County. It also requires the staffing ratios of correctional officers to inmates be made available to the public on the BOP website and that the correctional complex data be further broken down.

Public Safety Grants:

- \$545 million for the Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
- \$245 million for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring Program
- \$136 million for the DNA Initiative, which helps speed up delays in sexual assault kits processing.
- \$38 million for Regional Information Sharing Systems (RISS)
- \$30 million for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement
- \$14 million for Economic, High-tech, Cyber Crime and White Collar Prevention