

2012-2013 CCAWV Legislative Committee

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(788-5921)

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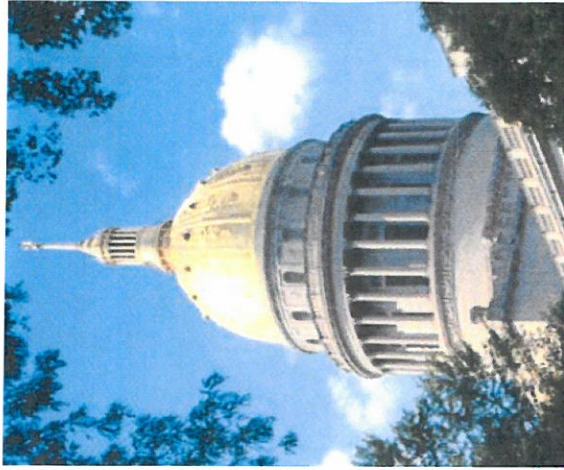
Nancy Cartmill, Cabell County (526-8634)

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OUR MISSION.....

Is to "maintain a statewide agency for the purpose of promoting the interest and general welfare of local county government through a variety of communication tools; to represent county government before the West Virginia Legislature, administrative agencies, and the federal government; to educate the public about the value and need for county programs and services; and to facilitate the exchange of problems, ideas and solutions among county officials."

County Commissioners' Association of West Virginia Legislative Platform 2013



"County Government Works"

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At the County Commissioners' Association of WV, we are dedicated to increasing communication among our membership, sister organiza-

tions, state agencies, and the legislature. It is our goal to use this communication to accomplish the stated mission of the organization and to assure that.....*County Government Works!*"

CCAWW adopted the following policy statements for 2013:

Fiscal Issues

CCAWW is supportive of initiatives that have a positive effect on county funding, allowing counties to generate their own funding needs and oppose those initiatives that take funding away from county programs and services.

Responsibility Issues

CCAWW is supportive of initiatives that have a positive effect on county commission authority or responsibility and oppose those that attempt to usurp the duties of county commissioners as outlined by the WV Constitution and the WV Code.

Regional Jail Costs

CCAWW will continue to work with the WV Legislature and the WV Regional Jail Authority to identify additional revenue sources and jail population reduction methods in a unified effort to maximize the efficient use of tax dollars for incarceration of regional jail inmates.

Unfunded Mandates

In these challenging economic times, CCAWW will defend against unfunded mandates legislatively or administratively passed on to local governments. CCAWW will evaluate and determine our position on any legislation that affects county finances.

Marcellus Shale Drilling

CCAWW supports the development of rules governing horizontal well drilling that will maintain communication and coordination between the industry, state, and county governments, continuing to allow local flexibility to deal with local issues.

Substance Abuse Treatment

In recognition of the scourge on our society that substance abuse has become, the CCAWW commits to supporting efforts to increase and enhance available treatment. Substance abuse is an extremely critical problem and impediment to the workforce in WV and a major factor in the escalating burden on our criminal justice system.

Priority Jail Cost Issues for 2013

1. Method for collecting outstanding court costs:

- Checking for nonpayment at the time of vehicle registration/license renewals
- Withholding income tax refunds for outstanding court costs in magistrate and circuit courts (copied from municipal statute 2005)

2. Sharing of Jail costs among all arresting entities (Requiring "Skin-in-the-Game," the arresting officers' entity pays first day's per diem)

3. Support proposed changes to statute regarding RJA's personnel budgeting requirements and limited latitude in calculating per diem formula.

4. Support P B & J (Probation before Judgment) a pre-trial diversion program used in Baltimore MD

5. Encouraging County public education awareness programs regarding jail costs and the resulting effect on other county services.

Further, the CCAWW committed to regional training efforts to share jail cost containment "Best Practices" among the Association membership.

County Commissioners' Association of West Virginia

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CCAWW Supports:

- County Officials Compensation legislation – supports initial bump up with future review mechanism
- supports Simple Majority Amendment ("The Silenced Majority") simple majority for passage of local levies.
- supports legislation that would redistribute the real property transfer tax, collected by the state, back to the county of collection, over a 5-yr. incremental phase-in.
- supports granting bonding authority to CFIA.
- supports eliminating exemption from paying Hotel/Motel Tax on 30 day or more stay.
- supports elimination of Annexation by Petition Program.
- Favors sunseting Municipal Home Rule Pilot Program.
- supports 911 fees staying in county at local discretion
- supports VFD "volunteer and funding mechanisms" when revenue neutral to counties
- supports more accountability of developers for addressing homeowners/sub-division issues
- supports funding for MARC Train in eastern panhandle from both state & federal sources

CCAWW Opposes:

- TIF authority for Class III & IV Cities independent of county commissions
- 2012 HJR 113 "County Option" Homestead Exemption Amendment
- Tangible Personal Property Tax Exemption & Rate Reduction amendment

Please Note: These legislative positions are generally stated and do not preclude CCAWW from re-evaluating each proposed legislative bill for "Support" or "Opposition" based on the bill's actual language and its resulting affect on county government.