



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Kristi Kelly, [kkelly@shelbyco.net](mailto:kkelly@shelbyco.net)

**Ehemann Advocates for County Priorities in Washington, D.C. at National Association of Counties Legislative Conference**

*Events included policy sessions on pressing issues, federal agency expo, advocacy on Capitol Hill, and an address from President Biden*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Shelby County Commissioner Julie Ehemann joined nearly 2,000 county leaders from across the country for the National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference February 10-13. Conference attendees shaped NACo's legislative agenda, received updates on key federal policies, and advocated for county priorities on Capitol Hill.

“I serve on the Rural Action Caucus and the Ag & Rural Affairs Policy Steering Committee as a Vice-Chair. I believe my involvement helps me to advocate for rural Shelby County and for the rural areas of our great State. While at the conference I presented a resolution “Securing Reimbursement for Rural Emergency Medical Services.” Small steps taken on this issue can have huge impacts throughout the country”, stated Ehemann.

Issues covered during sessions included disaster preparedness and management, administering the 2024 election, artificial intelligence (AI), housing affordability, behavioral health and justice, and more.

Attendees also participated in a Federal Agency Expo, with nearly 100 federal offices joining the conference to build relationships with county leaders and share information about partnership opportunities.

“I was especially interested in hearing Tom Visack, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, speak of the nation’s agriculture priorities and how work on the Farm Bill can address the changing landscape of agriculture”, stated Ehemann.

In addition, Julie Ehemann is a member of the International Economic Development Taskforce where members shared ideas on how to attract foreign investment, and how to engage their foreign partners in the community.

Over the course of the four-day conference, attendees heard from speakers including:

- **President Joe Biden**
- **Hon. Xavier Becerra**, U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services
- **Hon. Tom Vilsack**, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture
- **Hon. Adrianne Todman**, Deputy Secretary U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- **Hon. Don Graves**, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce
- **Hon. Marc Molinaro**, U.S. Representative (R-N.Y.)
- **Hon. Bryan Steil**, U.S. Representative, (R-Wis.)

“Federal policies often have direct and long-lasting impacts on county governments and our residents,” said NACo President Mary Jo McGuire. “NACo’s Legislative Conference is an essential opportunity to advocate for county priorities and strengthen intergovernmental partnerships that help our communities move forward together.”

“We’re never finished! I look forward to seeing where these collaborative efforts can bear fruit in the future,” concluded Commissioner Ehemann.

For more details about the 2024 Legislative Conference, [click here](#).

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*The National Association of Counties (NACo) strengthens America’s counties, including nearly 40,000 county elected officials and 3.6 million county employees. Founded in 1935, NACo unites county officials to advocate for county government priorities in federal policymaking; promote exemplary county policies and practices; nurture leadership skills and expand knowledge networks; optimize county and taxpayer resources and cost savings; and enrich the public’s understanding of county government. [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org)*