THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS BRINGS SEQUESTRATION FIGHT TO CAPITOL HILL

Mayors to Meet with Congressional Members, Explain Local Impact

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Conference of Mayors President Philadelphia Michael A. Nutter, along with a delegation of bipartisan mayors from a cross-section of the country will travel to Washington, D.C. on Thursday, November 15th to express to Members of Congress the organization’s strong opposition to sequestration cuts.

Mayors will meet with lawmakers, specifically House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), House Democratic Whip Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee Chair Mark Begich (D-AK), and others to explain the devastating impact that sequestration cuts would have on local communities and their residents. Mayors also recently released a letter – now signed by 163 mayors – calling on Congress to work together to find a bi-partisan and balanced solution to achieve deficit reduction that facilitates, not undermines, economic growth in the nation’s cities and metropolitan areas (http://usmayors.org/pressreleases/uploads/2012/0920-letter-sequestration.pdf).

As cities and their suburbs represent nearly 90 percent of the nation’s wage and salary income, 86 percent of the nation’s employment, and are where the majority of people in this country live, mayors maintain that cities and their metro areas – which drive the national economy -- will unfairly bear the impact of automatic, across-the-board cuts.

WHO: Philadelphia (PA) Mayor Michael Nutter, USCM President
Scott Smith of Mesa, AZ, Vice President
Joseph P. Riley, Jr. of Charleston, SC, Past President
Don Plusquellic of Akron, OH, Past President
Michael Hancock of Denver, CO
Stephanie Rawlings-Blake of Baltimore, MD
Stephen Benjamin of Columbia, SC
Patrick Henry Hays of North Little Rock, AR
Michael Bissonnette of Chicopee, MA
Setti Warren of Newton, MA
Paul Soglin of Madison, WI
Alvin Brown of Jacksonville, FL
R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis, MN
Tom Cochran, USCM CEO and Executive Director

WHAT: CLOSED Meetings with Congressional Members to Express Opposition to Sequestration Cuts & Urge a Balanced Approach

WHEN: Thursday, November 15th

WHERE: Capitol Hill – ALL MEETINGS ARE CLOSED TO PRESS -- Mayors are AVAILABLE for interview upon request

The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,295 such cities in the country today, and each city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/usmayors, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/usmayors.