

**Subject:** FW: Sen. Eslinger  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 12:33:31 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**To:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png

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**From:** Nickey, Megan <Megan.Nickey@mail.house.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 11:44 AM  
**To:** JaCinda Sutherland <JaCinda.Sutherland@senate.mo.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Sen. Eslinger

Do you know where she is from?

**Megan Nickey**

Office of Congressman Jason Smith  
MO-08  
35 Court Square  
Suite 300  
West Plains, MO 65775  
Office: (417)255-1515  
Fax: (417)255-2009



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**From:** JaCinda Sutherland <[JaCinda.Sutherland@senate.mo.gov](mailto:JaCinda.Sutherland@senate.mo.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 3, 2021 9:38 AM  
**To:** Nickey, Megan <[Megan.Nickey@mail.house.gov](mailto:Megan.Nickey@mail.house.gov)>  
**Subject:** Sen. Eslinger

Megan:

Susan Haller called regarding Tri Care. She told me she reached out to you yesterday but had not heard back from you. I told her I would reach out to you but assured her that you would get back out to her.

Her number is 417-254-0415.

Thank you –

JaCinda

**Subject:** FW: Senate Update: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act & Build Back Better  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 12:32:21 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**To:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**Attachments:** HR 3684.pdf, HR 5376.pdf, S 3011.pdf

**From:** Wheeler, Will (Blunt) <[Will\\_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov](mailto:Will_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 8, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** Wheeler, Will (Blunt) <[Will\\_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov](mailto:Will_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov)>  
**Subject:** Senate Update: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act & Build Back Better

Happy Monday!

I hope everyone enjoyed their weekend and that no one has a case of the “Mondays”. With a lot of action happening late Friday and over the weekend I wanted to provide you with an update on where legislation stands. Hope you find this information beneficial.

#### **HR 3684 – Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act**

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), or also called the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (BIF/BID), passed the House late Friday 228-205. This bill passed in the Senate 69-30 and had no amendments added to it once it got to the House, so the next action will be for President Biden to sign it. The Senate Republican Policy Committee, of which Senator Blunt is the chair, conducted a full analysis of the bill and the summary of it can be found [HERE](#). After the legislation passed the National Association of Counties published a detailed breakdown of the funding that can be found [HERE](#). I highly recommend taking a look at NACOs breakdown, as they breakdown which portions of funding will be distributed by formula and which portions of funding will be distributed by grants. I have also attached to this e-mail a PDF of the full text of the bill.

#### **HR 5376 – Build Back Better Act**

Before the House voted on passing HR 3684, they voted on the rule that established the framework and reconciliation rule for HR 5376 and it passed on a straight party vote 221-213. This was NOT final passage of the bill. It is expected that when the House comes back into session the week of November 15<sup>th</sup> that they will finalize the text and pass it out of the House to send to the Senate. This bill is likely to go through multiple changes in the House and in the Senate, I have attached to this e-mail a PDF of the current full text of the bill.

#### **S 3011 – State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act**

On October 20<sup>th</sup> the Senate passed out this legislation by unanimous consent. This legislation allows states, tribes, territories, and localities to use certain COVID-19 relief funds for new categories of spending, including for natural disasters and infrastructure projects. It would also allow recipients to expend COVID-19 relief funds on these types of infrastructure projects until September 30, 2026, instead of the December 31, 2024 deadline. As this legislation goes through the House I’ll keep you as updated as possible as to its status. I have attached to this e-mail a PDF of the current full text of the bill.

Hopefully this information is of use to you. On top of the information I’ve provided you with today, Congress will also need to pass an annual spending bill that will keep the government open. As everything evolves I hope to keep you as up to date as possible. If you have any questions regarding this information or any other federal action (or inaction) please don’t hesitate to reach out so I can help. Enjoy your week!

Will Wheeler  
Field Representative – Senator Roy Blunt

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**Subject:** FW: USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program - NOFO

**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 12:32:24 PM Eastern Standard Time

**From:** JaCinda Sutherland

**To:** JaCinda Sutherland

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**From:** Dan Engemann <Dan.Engemann@senate.mo.gov>

**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 9:35 AM

**To:** JaCinda Sutherland <JaCinda.Sutherland@senate.mo.gov>

**Subject:** FW: USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program - NOFO

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**From:** Wheeler, Will (Blunt) <[Will\\_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov](mailto:Will_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 25, 2021 2:48 PM

**To:** Wheeler, Will (Blunt) <[Will\\_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov](mailto:Will_Wheeler@blunt.senate.gov)>

**Subject:** USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program - NOFO

Happy Monday!

If you received this e-mail it is because I believe that you, or the stakeholders within the communities you serve would benefit from this information. Today, October 25, 2021, the USDA – Rural Utilities Service published their NOFO in the Federal Register for the USDA ReConnect Loan and Grant Program. Eligible entities can begin to apply for funding on November 24, 2021 and the application process will close on February 22, 2021. Below will be a breakdown of the funding tranches and several URL links with details for the program. Hopefully this information is beneficial for you. If you have any additional questions don't hesitate to reach out.

### Funding Tranches

In total \$1.15 billion will be made available through this round of funding, but that will be broken down into four different categories.

1. \$350 million for a 100% grant for Tribal Governments and Socially Vulnerable Communities. Maximum award amount of \$35 million with no match required. Must meet a 100Mbps symmetrical minimum service requirement in all proposed service areas
  - a. Areas of note in the South Central/South West Missouri area that qualify as Socially Vulnerable Communities that would be eligible for this would include Northwest Polk County, Northern Dallas County, Northern Taney County, Central Wright County, West Texas County, and Southern Shannon County.
2. \$350 million for a 100% grant in eligible program areas. Maximum award amount is \$35 million with a 25% match required. Must meet a 100Mbps symmetrical minimum service requirement in all proposed service areas
3. \$250 million for combo grant/loan in eligible program areas. Maximum award amount is \$25 million for the loan and \$25 million for the grant, the interest rate is set at the US Treasury Rate. Must meet a 100Mbps symmetrical minimum service requirement in all proposed service areas
4. \$200 million for a 100% loan in eligible program areas. Maximum award amount is \$50 million and the interest rate is set at a fixed 2%. Must meet a 100Mbps symmetrical minimum service requirement in all proposed service areas. This is the only tranche that is not evaluated competitively and are reviewed on a rolling basis.

**Eligibility Requirements:** <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/service-area-eligibility-requirements>

**ReConnect Program Service Area Map:**

<https://ruraldevelopment.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=1e82a64056fc46e4a28361c5e9447246>

**Federal Register NOFO:** <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/10/25/2021-23128/rural-econnectivity-program>

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**Subject:** FW: Workers Vanish in Biden's America  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 at 12:33:12 PM Eastern Standard Time  
**From:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**To:** JaCinda Sutherland  
**Attachments:** ~WRD000.jpg, image009.jpg, image010.jpg, image011.jpg, image012.jpg

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**From:** Dan Engemann <Dan.Engemann@senate.mo.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 15, 2021 9:35 AM  
**To:** JaCinda Sutherland <JaCinda.Sutherland@senate.mo.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Workers Vanish in Biden's America

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**From:** Congressman Jason Smith <[JasonSmithNewsletter@mail.house.gov](mailto:JasonSmithNewsletter@mail.house.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 14, 2021 9:19 PM  
**To:** Dan Engemann <[Dan.Engemann@senate.mo.gov](mailto:Dan.Engemann@senate.mo.gov)>  
**Subject:** Workers Vanish in Biden's America

[View this email in your browser](#)

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Get Connected



President Joe Biden should put the shovel down on his Build Back Better agenda as the hole is deep enough. In fact, you can draw a direct line from the policies the Biden administration has pursued and is threatening to pursue to the economic turmoil they have created. As the White House continues its efforts to expand government, these policies, as implemented, will not only make it harder for employers to find employees but distort labor markets by keeping otherwise able-bodied workers on the sidelines.

**...KEEP READING HERE**

**IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**

President Biden's proposal to empower the IRS to spy on Americans' bank accounts is grossly inappropriate. This week, I sent a letter demanding that the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) analyze just how far-reaching the Biden Administration's proposal will be so that hardworking Americans can see for themselves all of the harmful impacts. READ: My letter to the JCT.

The St. Francois County Courthouse held a Veterans Day celebration where children got to show off flags they colored themselves to honor our nation's heroes.

Rolla High School and Success Elementary school got to hear stories and experiences from retired Veterans. Patriotism and love for this country was felt wide and far.

The Poplar Bluff Veterans' Council put on a ceremony that recognized and honored Veterans who were killed in the line of duty and those who are still missing. We must

NEVER forget those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to defend our freedom and way of life.

Washington Democrats are using tricky budget gimmicks to deceive the American people about the cost of their agenda, claiming it will cost “zero” or be “paid for.” House Budget Committee analyses shows it will spend \$4.5 trillion while adding \$3 trillion to the deficit. This week, I sent a joint letter with Senate Budget Ranking Member Lindsey Graham to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) calling on them to reveal what the true cost would be to the American people of this tax-and-spend bill.

READ: Our letter to the CBO.

## **WHAT'S GREAT IN THE 8TH**

The West Plains Sunrise Rotary Club has made a \$500 donation to the Ozarks Healthcare Foundation. This donation will be put toward the purchase of their Mobile

## Mammography Unit.

When Chairman Chris Landrum and her Help the Hungry Bake Sale Committee describe the annual event as a "God thing" - they aren't kidding. Celebrating its 16th year of raising funds for Farmington's two food pantries - St. Vincent de Paul and Ministerial Alliance - Saturday's event held in the St. Joseph Catholic Church gymnasium took things to a record-breaking, heavenly level.

Every year, Salem Public Library collects food to donate to a charitable organization in the Salem area. "Every year we pick somewhere different," said Lisa Lewis who works at the Salem Public Library. This year they selected Grace Harbor to be the recipient of their drive.

More than 800 flags lined the roadway into Cape County Park North after the rain stopped on Veterans Day. According to organizers, volunteers began installing the American Flags at 1pm. Each flag placed represents a veteran who served in the United States military in wars ranging from World War I to The Global War on Terror.

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