



From Your Executive Director

Speak up for
townships' fair share

FOR THE PAST 34 YEARS, NATaT (National Association of Towns and Townships) has been the voice of "grassroots government" in Washington, D.C. Many of you have heard me "preach" that it is important for townships to have a presence in Washington, D.C. and it is very important for all Illinois township officials to be involved with the national association (NATaT).

I try as much as possible to remind our members of the importance of educating members of Congress about the realities of township government. Some of our Illinois Congressmen are former township officials themselves, but it never hurts to remind them. This is no different than what we do at the state level when informing members of the Illinois General Assembly about what township government is doing.

NATaT is managed by The Ferguson Group, a Washington, D.C.-based lobbying organization that specializes in local government issues. Currently, there are a couple of very important legislative issues we need to be talking to our Congressmen about.

NATaT supports the Local Fiscal Assistance Act (H.R. 3007), which would establish a Local Fiscal Assistance Trust Fund and make direct payments to units of local government in support of priority community needs. H.R. 3007 would provide townships

with a direct, flexible source of federal assistance to provide essential services, create jobs, and improve infrastructure in their communities. H.R. 3007 is modeled after the successful General Revenue Sharing program established in the early 1970s that ended in the mid 1980s.

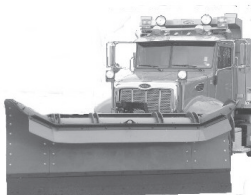
The Local Jobs for America Act (H.R. 4812) that incorporates many of those principles could also be improved by adopting the distribution formula included in H.R. 3007. While H.R. 4812 will provide funding directly to large communities, smaller townships will be forced to apply to state governments for funding, making it difficult for communities with limited staff and resources to access this badly needed funding. Make sure you contact your member of Congress and ask for their support of H.R. 3007 and H.R. 4812, with the distribution formula contained in H.R. 3007, which will provide direct funding to smaller communities, including townships. Following this article is a listing of the names, addresses and emails of the Illinois delegation in Congress. Contact them and tell them townships need their fair share!

Also, later this year, Sept. 15-17, NATaT will hold its annual conference in Washington, D.C. Look for conference information later on in future issues of *Township Perspective*. This will be the perfect oppor-

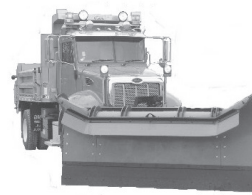
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US Senators and Representatives

<p>Senator Richard J. Durbin 309 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone – 202/224-2152 Fax – 202/228-0400 http://durbin.senate.gov</p>	<p>Senator Roland Burris 523 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Phone – 202/224-2854 Fax – 202/228-3333 senator_rolandburris@burris.senate.gov</p>	<p>Representative Bobby L. Rush 1st Congressional District 2416 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-4372 Fax – 202/226-0333 www.house.gov/rush</p>
<p>Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr. 2nd Congressional District 2419 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-0773 Fax – 202/225-0899 http://www.house.gov/jackson</p>	<p>Representative Daniel Lipinski 3rd Congressional District 1717 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5701 Fax – 202/225-1012 http://lipinski.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Luis V. Gutierrez 4th Congressional District 2266 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-8203 Fax – 202/225-7810 http://luisgutierrez.house.gov</p>
<p>Representative Mike Quigley 5th Congressional District 1319 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-4061 Fax – 202/225-5603 http://quigley.house.gov/</p>	<p>Representative Peter Roskam 6th Congressional District 507 Cannon Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-4561 Fax – 202/225-1166 http://roskam.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Danny K. Davis 7th Congressional District 2159 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5006 Fax – 202/225-5641 http://davis.house.gov</p>
<p>Representative Melissa Bean 8th Congressional District 318 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-3711 Fax – 202/225-7830 www.house.gov/bean</p>	<p>Representative Janice D. Schakowsky 9th Congressional District 2367 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-2111 Fax – 202/226-6890 www.house.gov/schakowsky</p>	<p>Representative Mark Kirk 10th Congressional District 1030 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-4835 Fax – 202/225-0837 www.house.gov/kirk</p>
<p>Representative Deborah Halverson 11th Congressional District 1541 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-3635 Fax – 202/225-3521 http://halvorson.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Jerry Costello 12th Congressional District 2408 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5661 Fax – 202/225-0285 http://costello.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Judy Biggert 13th Congressional District 1034 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-3515 Fax – 202/225-9420 http://judybiggert.house.gov</p>
<p>Representative Bill Foster 14th Congressional District 1339 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-2976 Fax – 202/225-0697 http://foster.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Timothy Johnson 15th Congressional District 1207 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-2371 Fax – 202/226-0791 www.house.gov/timjohnson</p>	<p>Representative Donald Manzullo 16th Congressional District 2228 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5676 Fax – 202/225-5284 http://manzullo.house.gov</p>
<p>Representative Phil Hare 17th Congressional District 428 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5905 Fax – 202/225-5396 http://hare.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative Aaron Schock 18th Congressional District 509 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-6201 Fax – 202/225-9249 http://schock.house.gov</p>	<p>Representative John Shimkus 19th Congressional District 2452 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 Phone – 202/225-5271 Fax – 202/225-5880 www.house.gov/shimkus</p>

tunity for us to remind members of Congress of the importance of township government in this country. Stay tuned for further details, but put the event on your calendar and in your budget now.

Township officials must recognize that decisions made every day in Washington, D.C. affect people in every township in Illinois. NATaT is going to con-

tinue to be our township voice in Washington, D.C., but we all must do our part to protect and strengthen township government!

