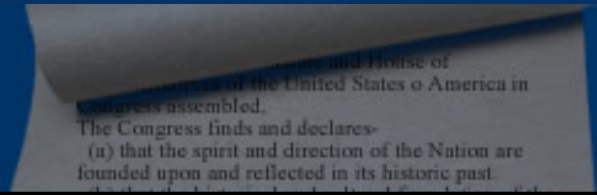


# News!

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## SENATE DEAR COLLEAGUE UPDATE

Thank you to all SHPOs for reaching out to your Senate offices to secure signatures on the Senate appropriations support letter. With only three and half days to collect signatures we successfully secured support from the following 16 Senators including several members of the full Appropriations Committee and the Chairman of the Senate National Park Services Subcommittee.

- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Begich (D-AK)  | Levin (D-MI)      |
| Lincoln (D-AR) | Gillibrand (D-NY) |
| Akaka (D-HI)   | Schmuer (D-NY)    |
| Durbin (D-IL)  | Brown (D-OH)      |
| Burriss (D-IL) | Reed (D-RI)       |
| Maine (R-ME)   | Whitehouse (D-RI) |
| Cardin (D-MD)  | Johnson (D-SD)    |
| Kerry (D-MA)   | Udall (D-NM)      |



### TRACKING STIMULUS SPENDING

Wondering where to go to find information on stimulus spending? The federal government created website, [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov), to track stimulus spending. However, there are concerns over the federal government's ability to meet the transparency requirements promised by the Administration. Currently the Office of Management and Budget requires stimulus spending to be reported by primary and secondary recipients, in many instances falling short of the contractor and subcontractor levels. For example, if a State allocates housing money to a local housing authority, that authority would not necessarily have to disclose what contractors were hired.

Onvia, a Seattle based company has also created a website [www.recovery.org](http://www.recovery.org). Onvia compiles bid solicitations from all levels of government to sell to vendors and contractors for a subscription fee. However, the company is pulling all the stimulus related contracts it finds and is posting them on [recovery.org](http://recovery.org), where they can be searched for free on a map, state by state and county by county.



### ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF INTERIOR CONFIRMED

Sens. Bob Bennett (R-Utah) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) agreed to stop blocking David Hayes nomination to the Assistant Secretary position after receiving promises from Interior Secretary Ken Salazar that he would respond to their concerns. Hayes was then confirmed on Wednesday by a voice vote. Negotiations to resolve the hold intensified after Senate Democrats last week fell three votes shy of the 60 needed to overcome the hold.

Bennett had been holding up a vote on Hayes because of concerns about Utah oil and gas leases that the Obama administration canceled in February, demanding a review and explanation of the decision. Murkowski, the ranking member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, joined in the hold three weeks ago over a variety of Interior actions she said would hurt domestic energy production.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS



July 8-12, 2009 –  
NCSHPO Summer Board Meeting  
Big Bend, Texas

