



**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **RCAP Endorses Investing in Opportunity Act**

*Washington, DC –*

The Rural Community Assistance Partnership, Inc. (RCAP) officially endorses the *Investing in Opportunity Act 2017*, which will incentivize investment in economically distressed communities across the United States. Introduced by Senators Tim Scott (R-SC) and Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Congressmen Pat Tiberi (R-OH) and Ron Kind (D-WI), the bipartisan bill will help revitalize economically distressed communities suffering from a lack of investment and new business growth.

The *Investing in Opportunity Act* facilitates private investment in the following ways:

- Removes barriers to investment through a temporary capital gains deferral in exchange for reinvesting them in distressed communities
- Provides a new way for investors across the nation to pool resources through newly-created “Opportunity Funds,” established specifically for making investments in distressed communities
- Concentrates capital by establishing “Opportunity Zones,” geographically targeted low-income areas that will be designated by governors
- Encourages investors to make long-term commitments to these communities by tying incentives to longevity

RCAP Executive Director, Nathan Ohle, issues the following statement:

“Today more than ever, your zip code often defines your ability to succeed more than any other factor. In rural communities across the country, there is an opportunity gap that continues to widen, and the Investing in Opportunity Act would help address some of the fundamental issues they are confronting. Innovation can be found in every rural community, and helping entrepreneurs in those communities gain access to capital will be a huge step in helping those innovators drive opportunity in some of the most distressed rural regions of the country.”

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Rural Community Assistance Partnership is a national network of six regional non-profit organizations working to ensure that rural and small communities throughout the country have access to safe drinking water and sanitary wastewater disposal. The RCAP network provides a variety of programs to accomplish this goal, including direct training and on the ground technical assistance. For more information, visit [www.rcap.org](http://www.rcap.org)