

Gayle Conelly Manchin was sworn in as the Appalachian Regional Commission's thirteenth federal co-chair on May 6, 2021, becoming the first ARC federal co-chair from West Virginia. Nominated by President Biden, Manchin works directly with ARC's 13 member governors, their state alternates and program managers, and a network of local development districts to continue to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth throughout Appalachia. Manchin's top priorities as ARC Federal Co-Chair are to work collaboratively across Appalachia's 13 states to support the creation of greater economic opportunities in the region, increase broadband access and critical infrastructure in all Appalachian communities, and restore hope and purpose to lives upended by the opioid crisis.