

**ALAMEDA COUNTY
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS'
PERSONNEL/ADMINISTRATION/LEGISLATION
COMMITTEE**

Monday, July 13, 2020

1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair
Supervisor Wilma Chan
Administration Building

Location: *Board of Supervisors Chambers – Room 512 5th floor*

County

1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

Congressional Schedule

The House continues committee work this week including appropriations markups, with no floor votes expected until the week of July 20, 2020. The Senate is in recess and will return on Monday, July 20, 2020.

Additional Funding Assistance

The House passed the HEROES Act in May and has been urging the Senate to begin negotiations. Leader McConnell stated that Senate Republicans would have a draft ready to go when they return to Washington next week.

Appropriations

Schedule

Today, the House Appropriations Committee marked up the fiscal 2021 Energy and Water Development and Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bills today. Tomorrow the committee is scheduled to mark up the fiscal 2021 Defense, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transportation-HUD appropriations bills. House Democrats have stated their goal is to hold floor votes on their bills by late July or early August.

The bills include a total of \$247.4 billion in FY21 emergency spending (meaning the funding does not count against the spending caps already agreed to in last year's budget deal) to address the COVID-19 pandemic. This was done to continue to keep pressure on the Senate, since they have not yet begun negotiation on the House-passed HEROES Act. House Republicans have said Democrats are not following the agreement they reached last year by including so much emergency spending.

Senate appropriators have not released any of their bills, and Republicans and Democrats continue to disagree over whether it is appropriate to offer amendments on coronavirus aid and police reform.

Primary Elections

Elections for Congressional seats in Maine, Texas, and Alabama are set for tomorrow. The Maine primary and the primary runoff in Alabama and Texas were rescheduled from earlier in the year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Immigration Customs & Enforcement (ICE) - Foreign Student Visa Issue

The Department of Homeland Security announced last Monday that foreign students would not be issued visas if their college or university went to an online-only program. Active students already in the United States would need to transfer from a school offering online-only classes to one offering either in-person-only or at least a “hybrid” of in-person and online classes or face possible removal proceedings.

If a student completes their program of study, they generally have sixty (60) days to leave the U.S.; but where a student is “terminated” by the school, a shorter period of time may apply. ICE has not indicated how long students would have to find a new school or leave the country if their current school went online-only.

ICE has asked colleges and universities to indicate by Wednesday, July 15, 2020 if they intend to offer in-person classes for the upcoming fall semester, and to notify ICE in the future if they are forced to switch to online-only courses. Harvard and MIT filed a lawsuit on July 8th, challenging the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) policy and seeking injunctive relief against it taking effect in the future. An additional 59 universities from 24 states and the District of Columbia filed a brief on Sunday backing Harvard and MIT’s suit. No formal notice beyond that July 6th press release has been written or issued by DHS.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: Federal Update**

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

The Legislature adjourned for Summer Recess and due to COVID-19 cases spreading through the Capital community both houses have delayed their return to Sacramento until July 27, 2020. Governor Newsom continues to hold daily noon briefings to update on COVID-19 response. The PS team continues to screen bills as they are amended and make additions to the County's bill lists by issue area.

Monday July 6, 2020 – Friday July 24, 2020

Legislature on Summer Recess

Budget

Governor Newsom signed the 2020 Budget Act on Monday, June 29th, 2020 – a \$202.1 billion spending plan. The Governor stated that the Budget makes critical investments to save lives and promote economic recovery by continuing critical purchases of personal protective equipment and other safeguards necessary to safely reopen the economy during the COVID-19 pandemic. It protects public education and supports Californians facing the greatest hardships.

Governor Gavin Newsom

Governor Newsom issued a proclamation declaring July 2020, as “California for All Small Business Month” as the Governor’s Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery launches a new campaign encouraging Californians to help small businesses in their communities operate safely during the pandemic. The state’s new campaign, Calling All Californians, #ShopSafeShopLocal partners with industry-leading companies, such as NextDoor, Google, and UPS, to connect California’s small business owners with critical tools and resources to help them adapt to new consumer and market demands and create safer shopping experiences by improving their online presence.

Additionally, Governor Gavin Newsom visited McClellan Air Force Base last week to highlight the state's wildfire mitigation capabilities and discuss new efforts to protect emergency personnel and evacuees from COVID-19 during wildfires. The Governor announced the state would hire 858 more firefighters and six California Conservation Corps (CCC) crews through October because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor was joined at McClellan by CAL FIRE Chief Thom Porter and CAL OES Director Mark Ghilarducci.

Monday, July 13, 2020

Today Governor Newsom announced he was activating the 'dimmer switch' and announced the closure of certain indoor operations and activities in all counties across the state (restaurants, wineries/tasting rooms, movie theaters, zoos, museums, card rooms, bars, and family entertainment).

Additionally, the Governor said that for those counties on the monitoring list, they must close operations in additional sectors: fitness centers, worship services, offices for non-critical sectors, personal care services, hair salons and barbershops, and malls.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State update**

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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