

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

Monday, September 25, 2023

1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair
Supervisor Lena Tam

Location: Board of Supervisors Chamber – 5th Floor
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

**I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake
Schedule**

Both the House and Senate return Tuesday to continue to work to avoid a potential government shutdown in just 6 days. The last time Congress passed full-year funding measures before September 30th was in Fiscal Year 1997.

Government Funding

When lawmakers return, both the House and the Senate will try different tactics to fund the government past the approaching deadline with each chamber trying to pass their preferred legislation. The House GOP majority failed several times last week to reach consensus on a short-term funding bill. Though most Members of the conference appear to want to avoid a shutdown, a small group of far-right members continue to oppose a short-term extension and blocked all attempts to pass one last week. However, over the weekend, the House leadership developed a new strategy to try to pass individual appropriations bills, followed by considering a continuing resolution (CR) this week.

Approximately two dozen Members stayed in Washington, D.C. to try to find a consensus within the right wing faction of the party. Over the weekend, a deal emerged with a revised stopgap spending measure backed by McCarthy and intended to win over holdouts. The House Committee on Rules met for a rare Saturday session and voted 9-2 to tee up four appropriations bills for debate on the full House floor (Defense, Agriculture, State and Homeland Security).

House leaders are hoping to persuade GOP holdouts to support these four full-year bills and a short-term CR. Speaker Kevin McCarthy continues to reiterate that a shutdown can still be averted, but it remains unclear whether he will have enough votes to move forward with this new plan. Regarding a CR, McCarthy is expected to focus on a short-term spending deal ranging from two weeks to two months to keep the government funded while negotiations continue on a full year spending plan.

The Senate will begin work on its own short-term spending bill on Tuesday, aiming to send it to the House by the weekend with hours to go before a shutdown starts — where it might garner enough votes to pass, but only with support from Democrats, a red line for many in the GOP. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has moved forward with a shell bill that could be used as a legislative vehicle for a stopgap spending patch this week if needed. Senate Majority Leader Schumer filed cloture to move the FAA Reauthorization bill forward. This vehicle will be used to attach a stopgap funding measure and then sent back to the House for consideration.

SAFER Banking Act

Last week, a bipartisan group of Senators released the latest version of their cannabis banking reform, the Secure and Fair Enforcement Regulation Banking Act.

The name of the legislation has changed by adding an R to the end and will now be referred to as the SAFER Banking Act. The bill will provide protections for banks to work with cannabis businesses where it is legal and in turn give businesses access to traditional financial firms for accounts and business loans.

On Wednesday, the Senate Banking Committee will markup the bill. Currently, there is a bipartisan group of Senators cosponsoring the bill - Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Steve Daines (R-MT), Kyrsten Sinema (I-AZ), Cynthia Lummis (R-WY), Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), Cory Booker (D-N.J.), Dan Sullivan (R-AK) and Bob Menendez (D-N.J.).

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

With Governor Gavin Newsom back in California, we expect bill signings to start ramping up. The Governor has twenty days left to act on bills that made it to his desk. In the Legislature, members continue to be in their districts. Although on recess, Committees have begun to schedule informational hearings to take place over the fall.

AB 592 (Wilson) - Signed by the Governor

AB 592 (Wilson) Vehicles: commercial nonfranchise solid waste haulers: pilot program, was signed by the Governor on Friday. The bill would allow the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, and Solano to adopt an ordinance as part of a three-year pilot program to regulate commercial nonfranchise solid waste haulers that haul solid waste on public roads in unincorporated areas of each county. The Political Solutions Team has been working closely with the County to get this bill through the legislative process and passed.

Alameda County Sponsored Bills

- AB 922 (Wicks) Prepared Meals Delivery Program. - Status: Two-Year Bill. Eligible to move next year.
- AB 592 (Wilson) Vehicles: commercial nonfranchise solid waste haulers: pilot program. - Alameda County Pilot Program - Status: Signed by the Governor.

Key Dates & Deadlines

- Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills – October 14, 2023

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation position – Action Items

- i. **AB 1207 (Irwin) Cannabis: labeling and advertising**
Recommendation: Support: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency
- ii. **AB 1645 (Zbur) Health care coverage: cost sharing**
Recommendation: Support: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency
- iii. **SB 348 (Skinner) Pupil meals**
Recommendation: Support: Andrea Ford, Director, Social Services Agency

Purpose:

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

Recommendation from the PAL Committee: Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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