

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

**Monday, October 13, 2025
1:30 p.m.**

**Supervisor Lena Tam, Chair
Supervisor Nikki Fortunato Bas**

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

The Senate is scheduled to return to Washington tomorrow, while the House will remain out of session. House Democrats plan to return to Washington tomorrow, October 14, 2025.

Government Shutdown Update

The federal government shutdown enters its third week, with efforts to resolve the funding standoff stalled in the U.S. Senate. After failing to pass either of the proposed CRs Thursday morning, the Senate recessed for the weekend. Senate Democrats blocked the House passed November 21 CR for the seventh time on Thursday. Senate Majority Leader John Thune has since blocked further votes on the Democrats' October 31 CR alternative, further narrowing legislative maneuvering room. The Senate will return tomorrow and is scheduled to take its eighth vote on the House-passed CR. Democrats are expected to not support the bill.

Talks between congressional leaders have mostly been informal. Senate Republicans have discussed advancing a vote on enhanced Affordable Care Act premium subsidies in exchange for Democratic support on a continuing resolution (CR), but Democrats have said they need a broader guarantee on the legislative path forward. GOP leadership reiterated that they will not begin negotiations on those health care provisions until after the government is reopened.

Federal employees began missing paychecks on Friday. Active-duty troops and other military personnel were expected to miss their October 15th paychecks, however, over the weekend President Trump directed the Department of War to find funds to pay troops. The Department stated that it will utilize unspent FY25 research, development, testing, and evaluation funding to ensure that troops are paid.

Additionally, President Trump and OMB Director Russ Vought announced that the administration began to send reduction in force (RIF) notices to federal workers on Friday. Some agencies were particularly hard hit, including Treasury and Health & Human Services.

Senate Approves NDAA

The Senate passed its version of the FY26 National Defense Authorization Act on Thursday. The House passed its version earlier this summer. With both chambers now having advanced their respective NDAA bills, the legislation heads to conference committee to reconcile differences between the two versions.

Senate Committee on Armed Services (SASC) Chair Wicker locked in agreement for 17 stand-alone amendments and a managers package of about 50 amendments.

Leaders of the House and Senate Armed Services panels aim to negotiate a compromise defense bill by Thanksgiving. A major obstacle was resolved recently when Sen. Ruben Gallego dropped his push for a vote on his amendment to label Ashli Babbitt ineligible for military funeral honors after the Air Force announced in August it will provide them.

One of the amendments that received a vote is a Van Hollen amendment requiring consent of the chief executive officer for certain full-time national guard duty performed in a state, territory, or the District of Columbia. The Senate also voted on an amendment introduced by Sen. Duckworth limiting support of the armed forces to local law enforcement only after the White House submits to Congress a notification and written justification for the support. A third amendment offered by Sen. Merkley would require law enforcement officers to display at all times identifying information in a clearly visible fashion. These amendments failed.

Democrats Urge DOE to Reinstate Terminated DOE Grants

Reps. Mike Levin and Sean Casten, co-chairs of the House Sustainable Energy and Environment Coalition (SEEC) Clean Energy Deployment Task Force, led 163 House Democrats in a letter to Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Chris Wright condemning the termination of \$8 billion for projects that were set to lower electricity costs for Americans and increase grid reliability. The entire Alameda Congressional Delegation signed the letter: Representatives Simon, Khanna, Swalwell and DeSaulnier.

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL_Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: Federal Legislative Update**

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. State Legislative Update

Today marks Governor Gavin Newsom's final day to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature this session. As of this morning, roughly 175 measures remain pending gubernatorial action, concluding a final rush of decisions on hundreds of measures.

Fiscal discipline remained a defining theme throughout Newsom's actions, with legislative analyst Chris Micheli noting that roughly 40 percent of the Governor's past vetoes have cited unbudgeted costs. Approximately twenty percent (20%) of this year's vetoes have referenced budget concerns, a number expected to rise. California faces a projected \$12 billion deficit next fiscal year.

Over his tenure, Newsom has acted on more than 5,700 bills, vetoing about 14.6%, consistent with historic averages. With both legislative houses limiting members to 35 bills per two-year session, fewer measures are expected to reach Newsom's desk in his final year. The Governor's Office noted that each decision will reflect his and the Legislature's funding priorities amid California's roughly \$300 billion budget.

Proposition 50

Billionaire Tom Steyer announced Thursday he will spend \$12 million to support California Democrats' redistricting referendum, a major late-stage boost for the November ballot measure. The proposal would temporarily replace the state's independent congressional maps to give Democrats a better chance at winning five additional U.S. House seats, echoing Republican map maneuvers in Texas and other states.

Governor Gavin Newsom has endorsed the measure, arguing California must "fight fire with fire" in response to Republican redistricting nationwide. This late infusion of cash by Steyer had some pundits wondering if he was positioning himself to run for Governor.

Purpose:

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- Other: State Legislative Update**

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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