

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

**Monday, November 3, 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 will be in session this week, while the House will remain in recess.

Government Shutdown

The government shutdown has now entered day 34. Last week, the Senate held its 13th failed procedural vote on the House-passed continuing resolution (CR). Additionally, USDA released a memo stating that it would not tap into a contingency fund or other nutrition programs to cover the cost of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) ahead of the program experiencing a funding lapse on November 1. Democratic attorneys general and governors from 25 states plus D.C. sued the Trump administration over the decision to not release emergency funds for SNAP. However, over the weekend, a Rhode Island-based federal judge ordered the Department of Agriculture to resume distributions. Meanwhile, 23 states have announced that they will increase food bank funding, give direct financial aid to their state SNAP programs, or do a combination of to offset funding losses from the federal government.

USDA announced today that it would pay out partial benefits from the contingency funds in the amount of \$4.6 billion. The question is timing of when individuals could receive the partial benefits. It remains unclear as we wait for further guidance from USDA.

Flight delays tied to air traffic control staffing issues have grown more frequent as the shutdown continues, with the FAA slowing traffic to major airports like Reagan Washington National and Chicago O'Hare International, we are also seeing significant lines at TSA check points.

Government agencies and programs continue to feel growing operational pressure, even as the administration continues to reallocate tariff revenues to cover shortfalls in the USDA Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

Senate Appropriations Committee leaders on both sides continue to work toward a bipartisan, bicameral framework that could also incorporate the previously passed Senate appropriations minibuss covering Agriculture, Military Construction-VA, and the Legislative Branch. These discussions reflect growing interest in establishing a baseline agreement on FY-2026 funding, even as the shutdown remains unresolved.

Appropriators Send Letter on Army Corps Projects

Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Rick Larsen (D-WA), Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Frederica Wilson (D-FL) and every Democratic member of the T&I Committee wrote to officials at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) after the Trump Administration announced it would cut \$11 billion in USACE projects to create jobs and improve infrastructure across 12 Democratic states. Requesting details of the projects under threat and demanding an explanation of the decision to cancel the projects helps USACE achieve its mission.

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

California voters will vote on Proposition 50, which would temporarily redraw California's congressional district lines by ballot rather than the state's Redistricting Commission, on November 4th. Republicans are calling it a Democratic power grab, while Democrats say it's necessary to fight Republican redistricting in Texas. According to a Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) poll published last week, 56% of likely California voters say they will vote for Prop. 50 in the special election next week, and 43% are against it.

On Oct 28, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom and Attorney General Rob Bonta announced that California and 20 other states are suing the Trump administration for unlawfully refusing to fund November Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits during the ongoing federal shutdown. The lawsuit argues that the federal government is legally required to make SNAP payments, and Congress appropriated \$6 billion in contingency funds through 2026 for these situations. Despite having the authority and funds, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) under President Trump has suspended benefits, putting 5.5 million Californians at risk of losing \$1.1 billion in food support. The USDA has kept other programs open, including billions in farmer aid and temporary Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) funding, while not continuing SNAP for veterans, children, and seniors. In response, California is fast-tracking \$80 million to stabilize food banks and deploying the National Guard and California Volunteers to distribute meals statewide.

As previously reported, the Governor has deployed California National Guard troops to assist the food banks. The previous Trump threat to deploy the National Guard to San Francisco is raising questions about what could happen if troops receive conflicting orders from state and federal authorities. It's worth noting that deploying the National Guard to assist food banks is not a new practice in California. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Guard members filled in for volunteers who were unable to work due to social distancing restrictions.

Two federal judges ruled late last week that the Federal administration must provide funding using its contingency funds to support SNAP. The ruling provided the Administration with some discretion on whether the Administration would provide partial or full funding for November SNAP payments.

Earlier today, the Trump Administration responded to the recent rulings. The Administration will utilize one emergency funding source to pay for SNAP benefits with a \$4.65B payment; however, this will not provide the full funding of \$8B for the program. The Administration also told the court that providing this funding would take "a few weeks to up to several months." The State is awaiting federal guidelines to understand how to implement the partial reinstatement of SNAP benefits.

Purpose:

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

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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