

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

Monday, December 11, 2017
1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair
Supervisor Wilma Chan

Location: *Board of Supervisors Chambers – Room 512 5th floor*
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

The House and Senate are in session this week. The action will be primarily behind the scenes as Congress tries to make progress on reconciling the differences in the House and Senate tax bills as well as negotiating a deal to increase the budget caps and a government funding bill prior to the December 22, 2017 deadline.

Budget/Appropriations/CR

House and Senate leadership met with President Trump on Thursday at the White House to discuss year-end priorities to include a potential deal to raise defense and non-defense budget caps. Also on the agenda were other outstanding issues including, DACA, a disaster aid package, and an extension of the expired Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

The House and Senate passed a two-week continuing resolution (CR) through December 22 on Thursday afternoon. The CR includes some additional money for states that are running out of funds for CHIP. The hope is that a two-week CR will allow the House and Senate enough time to reach an agreement to raise the budget caps. They would then pass another short-term CR on December 22, which would give appropriators time to write their bills once they know top-line spending numbers. The two-part plan is meant to appease defense hawks who have said they will not support a CR into January without at least a promise of elevated funding for the military. Congress could then pass an omnibus bill in the January/February timeframe.

However, Republicans will still need at least 8 Senate Democrats to support any deal and may need House Democrats as well depending on whether the House Freedom Caucus ultimately supports the next CR that will need to pass by December 22, 2017.

Tax Reform

Both the House and Senate have passed their versions of tax reform, the next step is to reconcile the differences into a single bill that can pass with majorities in both chambers. House and Senate leadership have now named their respective conferees to serve on the committee. The conference committee is scheduled to hold its only public hearing on H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, on Wednesday, December 13. President Trump is also planning to give a speech on Wednesday advocating for passage of the tax reform bill.

The final conference report must be signed by a majority of House conferees and a majority of Senate conferees. The resulting final bill will then be subject to votes in the House and Senate. It is unlikely that the Democrats would sign off on a final conference report.

In terms of timing, the conferees are now hoping to finalize a conference report and vote on the final bill prior to the continuing resolution expiring on December 22nd. The CR deadline and forthcoming government funding bill is the only issue keeping Congress in DC prior to the holiday recess.

There is talk that Senator Susan Collins (whose vote was critical in stopping the ACA repeal/replace legislation) could potentially vote against the tax reform legislation unless her demands on health care are met. Senate Republicans can lose two votes and still pass the bill. Leadership is expecting Senator Bob Corker to vote against the final tax reform bill as he did not support the legislation the first time on the Senate floor. Additionally, if Senator Collins does not support the legislation, Republicans will still have enough votes for final passage.

Safety Net

The Trump Administration and Congressional Republicans are planning to make significant changes to federal safety net programs using legislation and executive actions. As discussed on previous calls related to a potential executive order that would curtail safety net programs, we are now expecting President Trump to sign the executive order as soon as January. The executive order could make changes to Medicaid, SNAP benefits, housing and veterans programs, among various others.

The executive order would mandate a top-to-bottom review of federal safety net programs while at the same time Republicans in Congress are in the early stages of crafting legislation that could make it more difficult to qualify for those programs. The Administration has already begun making policy shifts that could have major implications including, allowing work requirements for able-bodied adults on Medicaid and drug testing or stricter work requirements for SNAP recipients.

The White House Domestic Policy Council staff is expected to meet this week with House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee staff. The exact provisions of the pending legislation are still being worked out, but we are hearing that the bill will be broad and “all-encompassing.”

One of the main programs that the Administration could target is the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Last Tuesday, USDA issued an announcement related to SNAP beneficiaries highlighting principles encouraging “self-sufficiency” while pledging to give more flexibility and local control to states. USDA has also stated that it's developing a policy that could make it easier for states to impose stricter work requirements or drug testing on SNAP recipients.

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Last Thursday, Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León announced that Senator Toni Atkins is the consensus pick of the Senate Democratic Caucus to be the next Senate leader. Senator Atkins will succeed de León in January in 2018 and a formal transition will happen later in the year. Senator Atkins, a Democrat from San Diego, will be the first woman to serve as Senate President pro Tempore in California. The Legislature remains on Interim Recess until January 3, 2018.

Important upcoming dates in early 2018:

- January 3 – Legislature reconvenes.
- January 10 – Budget must be submitted by Governor.
- January 12 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees fiscal bills introduced in their house in 2017.
- January 19 – Last day for any committee to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in that house in 2017.

- January 19 – Last day to submit bill request to the Office of Legislative Counsel for new bills.
- January 31 – Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house in 2017.
- February 16 – Last day for new bills to be introduced.
- March 22 – Spring Recess begins upon adjournment of session.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment allegations have taken over the Legislature and capitol community. Early last week, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon announced that he will be temporarily removing Assemblymember Matthew Dababneh from his Chairmanship of the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee, following his alleged misconduct. Taking his place as acting Chair will be Assemblymember Monique Limón. Gubernatorial candidates, Treasurer John Chiang and Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom are now chiming in on the allegations as part of their election campaigns, calling for the Assemblymember to resign from the Legislature entirely. On December 8, 2017 Assemblymember Dababneh submitted his resignation.

SB 1 Projects Underway

The Metropolitan Transportation Commission recently highlighted numerous transportation improvement and roadway repair projects that have already begun, following the implementation of SB 1. Some of the key projects in the Bay Area that are now underway using SB 1 funds include the following:

- Berkeley: \$677,000 to reconstruct portions of Panoramic Way and Prospect Street.
- Concord: \$732,000 to resurface key arterials.
- Napa: \$455,000 for roadway maintenance treatment in six areas of the city.
- Oakland: \$2.4 million to resurface 19 priority streets, fill potholes, patch pavement and repair concrete citywide.
- San Francisco: \$7.7 million to renovate 28 street segments and 13 intersections and upgrade 38 curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards.
- San Jose: \$7.2 million for pavement resurfacing and street sealing.
- San Mateo: \$580,000 for pavement rehabilitation.
- Santa Clara: \$699,000 to resurface 1.2 miles of city streets.
- Marin County: \$1.4 million to resurface nine road segments in unincorporated portions of the county.
- Sonoma County: \$3.9 million, with roughly half going toward the annual Pavement Preservation Program and the other half toward road maintenance and operations.

Cannabis Working Group

In mid-November, California’s three state cannabis licensing authorities – the Bureau of Cannabis Control, the Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Department of Public Health – publicly noticed proposed emergency regulations for commercial, medicinal and adult-use cannabis to implement the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act, which goes into effect on January 1, 2018. On Friday, December 22, the California State Association of Counties Cannabis Working Group will host a call to discuss the cannabis emergency regulations.

Purpose:

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

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

III. 2018 Alameda County Legislative Platform – Action item

*Recommendation: **Support and recommend to the full Board for adoption:*** Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, County Administrator's Office

[Attachment 3](#)

Myrna Lopez, Principal Analyst, County Administrator's Office presented the 2018 Alameda County Legislative Platform to the PAL Committee. The Platform will guide the County's legislative advocacy activities during the forthcoming sessions of the State Legislature and the Congress. The 2018 was developed by the CAO's office over the past several months in collaboration with Board offices, representatives from participating County agencies and departments and our State and federal legislative advocates.

Purpose:

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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