

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

Monday, May 5, 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 House and Senate are both in session this week. Legislative activity is ramping up across both chambers as the focus continues to be on negotiations regarding the reconciliation package.

#### **Reconciliation**

Congressional Republicans are adjusting the reconciliation timeline as negotiations continue on key provisions. House leadership is aiming to bring the full package to the floor before the July 4th recess, moving away from the original Memorial Day target. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent confirmed this updated timeline following a meeting with top Congressional tax writers, calling the Independence Day window essential to meeting the administration's economic policy objectives on trade, tax, and deregulation. Republican leaders now plan to call the reconciliation bill the "One Big Beautiful Bill" Act.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee postponed its previously scheduled May 7<sup>th</sup> markup by at least one week and is now expected to convene for markup during the week of May 12<sup>th</sup>. Speaker Mike Johnson, Chairman Brett Guthrie, and GOP leaders met with President Trump last week to review the party's Medicaid proposals and broader domestic priorities. The White House has also presented its own policy to ask for inclusion in the final package.

The Ways and Means Committee is also expected to begin its markup the week of May 12<sup>th</sup>. Broader discussions on revenue offsets and the extension of expiring tax cuts are ongoing.

#### **FY26 Presidential Budget Request**

President Trump released a "skinny" version of his FY26 budget proposal last week, outlining a \$163 billion reduction in non-defense discretionary spending and increased funding for national security. The proposal identifies reductions across a range of domestic programs, including environmental initiatives. Additional details such as revenue projections and deficit estimates—are still forthcoming. Cabinet officials will begin presenting their budget priorities to Congress as the appropriations process progresses. As of today, the schedule for these hearings is as follows:

House Appropriations Committee

- May 6, 2025 – U.S. Department of Treasury; U.S. Department of Homeland Security; U.S. Air Force and Space Force

- May 7, 2025 – U.S. Department of Energy; U.S. Army; U.S. Department of Agriculture; FEMA; FBI
- May 8, 2025 – CISA
- Senate Appropriations Committee
- May 6, 2025 – U.S. Department of Agriculture
- May 8, 2025 - FBI; U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The presidential budget request serves as an outline of an administration's top policy recommendations, it is mostly a messaging tool with final funding decisions being made by Congress.

**Purpose:**

- ☐ Report progress
- ☐ Advocacy or Education
- ☐ Request PAL\_Committee Recommendation or Position
- ☒ **Other: Federal Legislative Update**

## II. State Legislative Update

### Legislative Deadlines

Last week marked the final opportunity for policy committees to hear and report on fiscal bills introduced in their respective houses, with the deadline on May 2nd. Fiscal bills that successfully passed their assigned policy committees have been referred to the Appropriations Committee, where their associated costs will be considered. Meanwhile, this is the last week for policy committees to hear and report on non-fiscal bills, which must be passed by the committees by May 9th. Alameda County Sponsored Bill, SB 617 (Arreguin): California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Act.

Last week, the Alameda County-sponsored legislation, SB 617 by Senator Arreguin, was heard in the Senate Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement, where it passed unanimously 5-0. Representatives from Alameda County traveled to the Capitol to serve as the lead witnesses on the bill. Latoya Reed-Adjei, Interim Assistant Director, and Javier Contreras, Rapid Response Coordinator, of the Alameda County Workforce Development Board, stated the bill is a key step in helping workers impacted by mass layoffs receive greater assistance in their career transition. The bill is now headed to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### California Assembly Floor Debate on Prostitution Bill

A contentious vote on the California Assembly floor last Thursday saw Republican lawmakers try to approve amendments to a bill regarding penalties for soliciting 16 and 17-year-olds for prostitution. The bill's author, Assemblymember Krell (Sacramento) joined Republicans and other moderate Democrats in supporting the amendments. The Governor preemptively released a statement in support of making solicitation of 16 and 17 year-olds a felony. A fiery debate took place before the vote, with Republicans accusing Democrats of being soft on sex crimes and Democrats criticizing Republican tactics. In the aftermath, Democrats have committed to further addressing the issue this year. Assemblymember Schultz, the Chair of Assembly Public Safety, said he plans to hold informational hearings on the issue and hopes to see the bill pass in an amended form this fall. The bill is now headed to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

### Hearings

#### *Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 6 on Public Safety*

At the April 28, 2025, hearing of Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 6 on Public Safety, Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) Director Catherine Lucero presented updates on the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant. She emphasized OYCR's focus on youth rehabilitation and noted that youth

crime remains below pre-COVID levels, with a 38.5% drop in sustained juvenile petitions since 2019. Lucero outlined a new funding formula that supports community-based alternatives to incarceration, aligned with Senate Bill 823. OYCR has awarded \$15 million to 11 counties to develop such programs. Assemblymember Ramos raised concerns about the lack of disaggregated data for Native American youth and urged better data collection and equitable support for Native communities.

#### *Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2 on Human Services*

At the April 30, 2025, hearing of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2 on Human Services, various items were discussed that impact the California Health and Human Services Agency and the California Community Services and Development Department (CSD). Notable issues included efforts to facilitate automatic enrollment in public benefit programs. CDSS highlighted challenges such as data alignment, legal limitations, and technology barriers. A pilot "in-reach" analysis revealed that 1.2 million individuals eligible for both CalFresh and CalWORKs were not enrolled, with outreach through text messaging increasing enrollment likelihood. Additionally, the Subcommittee reviewed ongoing proposals like establishing a Foster Care Multiagency Office to improve placement stability and restoring funding to the Employment First Office, a key legislative priority. They also discussed expanding Guaranteed Income programs and the impact of federal budget changes on the Community Services and Development Department, particularly concerning low-income energy assistance.

#### *Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services*

At the May 2, 2025, hearing of the Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services, there was a multitude of items covered under the departments of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) and Health Care Services, as well as the Covered California program. Most notably, they discussed the Diaper Access Initiative, which is a new proposal put forward in the Governor's January Budget Proposal to provide up to three months of free diapers to all California families to be administered through hospitals.

The critiques of the proposal include that the program does not target individuals with the highest financial need and that it only has two years of funding with no oversight. The Legislative Analysts' Office suggests the Legislature could instead: Increase subsidies in existing programs, provide additional funding to diaper banks, or direct HCAI to study such market interventions and return next year with recommendations. Committee members believe this is a great initiative and would like to see it come to fruition with some necessary changes. Changes the members would like to see include the program being targeted to specific income levels and being administered through existing infrastructure, such as CalWORKs or possibly diaper banks.

#### **Recent & Upcoming Legislative Deadlines**

- The policy committee deadline to hear and report on non-fiscal bills is May 9, 2025.
- The fiscal committee deadline for Appropriations Committees to hear and report on bills assigned to their committee is May 23, 2025.

#### **Purpose:**

- ☐ Report progress
- ☐ Advocacy or Education
- ☐ Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- ☒ **Other: State Legislative Update**

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

#### **Request for Legislation position – Action items**

- i. **AB 864 (Ward) Hazardous waste: Solar photovoltaic modules**  
**Recommendation: Support:** Nate Miley, Board of Supervisors, District 4

ii. **AB 1242** (Nguyen) Language access

***Recommendation: Support:*** Lena Tam, Vice President, Board of Supervisors, District 3

**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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