

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

Monday, October 13, 2014
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

The House and Senate stand adjourned until November 12, 2014, after the midterm elections.

Attorney General

Attorney General Eric Holder announced on September 25, 2014, he plans to resign his post as Attorney General. He will remain in his post until a successor is nominated and confirmed by the Senate. Because Republicans hope to gain a Senate majority in the elections, President Obama is expected to send up a nomination before a new Congress convenes in January. The Senate will likely take up a nomination in the lame-duck session scheduled after the November 4th midterm elections. Labor Secretary Tom Perez and former White House Counsel Kathryn Ruemmler continue to be mentioned as potential nominees.

Surface Transportation Authorization

Last week, Senate Environment and Public Works Chair Barbara Boxer sent a letter to the House Ways and Means Committee leadership regarding the Committee's work to find long-term solutions to funding the Highway Trust Fund. Although Congress passed an extension through May 2015, Senator Boxer is committed to finding a long-term solution this year. She urged the Committee to respond with potential funding options shortly.

U.S. Response to Ebola

The House Energy and Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations will hold a hearing on Thursday, October 16, 2014, on "Examining the U.S. Public Health Response to the Ebola Outbreak." Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease at the National Institutes of Health, will testify with additional witnesses to be announced. Committee leaders sent a letter to Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell last month seeking more information about the outbreak and the government's preparedness and response efforts.

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update

Finance Report

The State Controller released his revenue report for September which is very positive. As compared to the 2014-15 budget projections, total revenues were up \$671.4 million (7.4%), with sales tax up by \$228.6 million, personal income tax up by \$350.6 million, and corporate tax up by \$173.7 million. Overall fiscal year-to-date revenues are up 3% - \$645 million.

Covered California

November 15, 2014 begins the second open enrollment period for Covered California. David Lee, Executive Director of California's Health Exchange stated that he expects the enrollment period ending February 15, 2015, will be more challenging than the first. During the first enrollment period about 42% of the estimated eligible population was enrolled. However, the process was complicated by computer glitches, long call center wait times, coverage gaps, coverage delays, as well as trouble finding a doctor. Ten thousand of the enrollees in Covered California were eligible for Medi-Cal and experienced gaps in care moving from the exchange to Medi-Cal. Twenty thousand new members' coverage was delayed because their applications weren't sent to insurers in a timely manner. During the new open enrollment period, Covered California hopes to enroll 500,000 new members, and will be reaching out to consumers using more ethnic specific media. The same ten (10) insurers will continue to offer coverage with premiums increasing an average of 4.2%, while subsidies will remain level or increase slightly.

LAO Report

The Legislative Analyst's Office released its report on the 2014-15 budget including actions into October 2014 the report can be found at the following link: <http://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Detail/3049>.

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PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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