

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

Monday, February 9, 2015
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. They will adjourn for the Presidents' Day Recess this Friday, February 13, 2015 and will not return to Washington until February 24, 2015.

DHS Appropriations

The current Continuing Resolution funding the Department of Homeland Security runs through February 27. Last week, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell attempted to start debate three times on the House passed bill. However, Senate Democrats the filibustered the legislation due to the language included that would block the White House from moving forward with the executive order authorized that would give some unauthorized immigrants a temporary reprieve from removal or deportation proceedings. House and Senate Republicans leaders are now trying to find a way forward with a spending bill that can pass both the House and Senate.

Nominations

Department of Defense: Ash Carter

Last week, the Senate Armed Services Committee held a hearing to consider Ashton Carter's nomination to be the next Secretary of Defense. John McCain (R-AZ), Chair of the Armed Services Committee has predicted that the committee will vote to confirm him before the congressional recess scheduled to begin on February 13.

Department of Justice: Loretta Lynch

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Charles Grassley (R-IA) suggested the committee would vote on the nomination of Loretta Lynch when Congress returns from the President's Day recess.

Authorized Use of Military Force

The Obama Administration is expected to send Congress a new Authorization for a Use of Military Force within a matter of days and will likely occur later this week. Since early September when President Obama announced airstrikes against ISIS in Iraq and Syria, Speaker Boehner as well as some Senate Democrats have called on the Administration to send forward a new AUMF to offers a specific plan and time table to combat the terrorist group.

House T&I Hearing

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will meet on Wednesday at to hold a hearing on “Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill: Laying the Foundation for U.S. Economic Growth and Job Creation Part I.” Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx will be the only witness and will address MAP-21 as well as the Administration’s GROW AMERICA Act.

House Republican Energy Plan

Earlier today, House Republicans released a four-part framework titled “The Architecture of Abundance” that outlines the Energy and Commerce Committee’s top goals with regard to energy policy. The Senate will also announce their comprehensive energy package soon.

The plan focuses on four pillars: modernizing energy infrastructure like pipelines and transmission lines, developing a better energy workforce, using energy internationally for diplomatic purposes, and increasing both energy efficiency and government accountability in energy. Not likely to gain bipartisan support on most proposals, but the workforce component could be supported by both Republicans and Democrats

Congress has not passed any substantial energy legislation since 2007.

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 –Platinum Advisors

Senate Pro Tem Priorities

Senate pro Tempore Kevin de León outlined his legislative priorities for the 2015-2016 legislative session on January 29, 2015. The top priorities include: education access and affordability; advancing initiatives to reduce carbon emissions; income inequality; and encouraging greater state oversight and accountability over major state programs.

Speaker’s Transportation Plan

At the California Transportation Foundation forum Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins announced an ambitious proposal to address the funding crisis facing California’s transportation infrastructure. The plan that would be advanced by the Assembly Democratic Caucus would provide \$10 billion for transportation over the next five (5) years.

Affordable Housing and Green House Gas Emissions

Leadership in both houses are expected to unveil major legislative proposals on affordable housing and greenhouse gas emissions. Senate pro Tempore Kevin de León will introduce measure aimed at implementing the Governor’s goals of reducing fuel use by 50% and expanding the State’s renewable energy portfolio from twenty percent (20%) to fifty percent (50%).

Vaccine Legislation

Senator Richard Pan and Senator Ben Allen have announced that they will introduce legislation to reduce the number of vaccination exemptions allowed in California due to nearly 100 cases of measles being diagnosed in the State since January, 2015. Last year 13, 500 exemptions were granted for personal belief and 2,700 exemptions granted for religious objections. The measure will likely eliminate the personal belief exemption.

Household Hazardous Waste

AB 45 is a measure that currently contains intent language establishing curbside household hazardous waste collection. Alameda County is concerned about the effect the legislation may have on Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance. The legislation is still under discussion and Assemblyman Mullin will hold a stakeholder meeting in the near future for input.

Purpose:

- Report progress
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- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State legislative update**

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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