

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

Monday, March 19, 2018
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. Congress will focus on passing the FY18 omnibus appropriations bill prior to the continuing resolution deadline of March 23, 2018.

Appropriations

The House and Senate are working this week to keep the government open as the continuing resolution (CR) deadline approaches this Friday. House Republican leaders are expected to present details of the \$1.3 trillion FY18 omnibus bill to the Republican Conference tonight at 5:45 p.m. The full text of the legislation is expected to be released afterward. It is unclear when the House will vote on the measure, but it could come as early as Wednesday giving the Senate only a few days to pass the final deal. House and Senate leadership and the Administration are continue to negotiate final policy issues to include, funding for the Gateway Rail Tunnel project, border wall funding, and ACA stabilization measures. However, many of these contentious policy riders may not be included. Once the bill is released, we will put together a memo to share with the County.

Hearings

President Trump's cabinet will continue to testify before Congress this week on the FY19 budget request. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Ben Carson, will testify before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development on Tuesday and the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee on Thursday. Other Secretaries set to testify include, Energy Secretary Rick Perry, Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, and Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue.

Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act

The Senate will also take up H.R. 1865, the Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act of 2017, which passed the House on February 27, 2018. Updates will be provided for the DA's office.

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

On March 21, current Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León will pass along his title to his colleague Senator Toni Atkins, a Democrat from San Diego, who will take over as California's new Senate Leader. Senator Atkins will be the first female in California's history to serve in this role. In January, when announced as the Senate Democratic Caucus designee for President pro Tempore, Senator Atkins stated the following: "I'm honored and profoundly humbled by the trust placed in me today by my esteemed colleagues. I have devoted my life to public service and the promise of equity, justice, and respect for everyone." Senator de León is currently running for U.S. Senate against incumbent Senator Dianne Feinstein. On March 22, the Legislature will adjourn for Spring Recess. When they return on April 2, policy committees will make the mad dash to hear and report bills to fiscal committees and to the floor prior to the April 27 and respective May 11 deadlines. Budget subcommittees will also continue to hear items from the Governor's proposed budget as well as advocates proposals, as we move into the days before the May Revision and onward to the enactment of the 2018-2019 budget.

Update on County Sponsored Bills

AB 2111 (Quirk), Alameda County's sponsored bill, which will align CalWORKs sponsor deeming provisions with those used for CalFresh for sponsored non-citizens indigence determinations, will be heard in the Assembly Human Services Committee on April 24.

SB 2 Homelessness Funding

On March 15, the Senate Budget Subcommittee 4 on State Administration and General Government, heard the Statewide Housing Package budget proposal, including a conversation on the funding that would be generated by SB 2 (Atkins), which creates a permanent source of funding for affordable housing – half of which will be allocated for housing the homeless. The other half will go towards planning and zoning grants and technical assistance programs within the first year.

The proposed trailer bill language allocates about half of the homelessness funds in a specified manner – \$5 million to Orange County for an identified shelter project; \$10 million (or eight percent of available funds) to Los Angeles County; and smaller specified amounts to each county depending on population and estimated homeless population. The subcommittee and many members of the public expressed concern that the Department of Housing and Community Development has not fully composed a program to support this effort, and although there is discussion of potentially putting the funds into existing well-run programs, the idea has not been fully thought out and will need more consideration.

There is an ongoing dialogue taking place on which local entities – cities or counties or both – should be front runners for the homelessness funding. In a comment made by Senator Wiener during his presentation of his youth homelessness bill, SB 912, he noted that cities "bear the brunt" of the homelessness problem and should be funded accordingly. Nonetheless, the California State Association of Counties is requesting that \$1 billion of the state's projected budget surplus be given directly to counties to take on California's homelessness and affordable housing crises.

Universal Health Care in California

Universal Health Care in California was recently put on hold by the Assembly. Just last week, Assemblymembers Jim Wood and Dr. Joaquin Arambula, Chairs of the Assembly Select Committee on Health Care Delivery Systems and Universal Coverage, stated that they are looking to legislation this year that seeks to improve the quality of and expand access to health care in California, based on recommendations received by a panel of experts – however, both expressed sincere doubt that such a bill could move forward this year. The California State Assembly recently contracted with the University of California San Francisco, including the afore mentioned experts, to compile a report that summarizes the findings and available options that were presented during the course of the past hearings of the Assembly Select Committee on Health Care Delivery Systems and Universal Coverage.

The report outlines short-term and long-term ways that the Legislature can improve health care in the state, including imposing a state individual mandate and issuing penalties for Californians without coverage and capping payments to medical providers to help control costs.

Department of Finance Bulletin

The most recent cash flow report by the Department of Finance finds February cash receipts below 2018-19 proposed budget projections by 5.7 percent, or \$297 million. Additionally, the report also highlights that California's unemployment rate fell in January to a historical low of 4.4 percent, while the nation's unemployment rate remains at 4.1 percent.

State Controller's February Cash Report

The State Controller reports slightly low February revenues of \$6.51 billion – falling short of estimates in the Governor's 2018-2019 proposed budget by 6.3 percent. February revenues also fall short of 2017-2018 budget projections by 8.7 percent.

Purpose:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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