

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

**Monday, March 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 is currently recessed for the week and will be back on Monday, March 16, 2015. The Senate is in session this week and will look to pass human trafficking legislation.

Human Trafficking Bills

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has said the Senate could vote as early as tomorrow afternoon on the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 (S. 178) sponsored by Senator John Cornyn. The comprehensive proposal has bipartisan support and will likely pass the Senate with very little objection. Senator Feinstein is a cosponsor of the legislation.

Among other provisions, the legislation would take the following steps to curb human trafficking:

- Create a “Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund,” financed through fines on related crimes, which the Attorney General can use to enhance support programs for victims of human trafficking and child pornography. This fund is deficit neutral and will increase federal resources available for domestic human trafficking victim support by up to \$30 million.
- Create a new grant program to help states and local governments develop victim-centered programs to rescue victims, prosecute human traffickers, and restore the lives of victims. This grant program will be funded entirely through the “Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund” created by the bill.
- Prioritizes victim restoration and witness assistance for trafficking survivors by directing the proceeds of forfeited criminal assets to pay victim restitution orders and fund financial awards for witnesses who come forward and assist law enforcement.
- Allow for the use of cutting-edge investigative tools in state and local human trafficking investigations.
- Protects victims and witnesses by requiring human traffickers to be treated as violent criminals for purposes of pre-trial release and detention pending judicial proceedings.
- Reduces demand for human trafficking by clarifying current law encouraging law enforcement, prosecutors, judges, and juries to target and punish the buyers and purchasers of trafficking victims the same as all other human traffickers.

The House passed its respective version of the human trafficking bill (H.R. 296) a few weeks ago and will need to work out the differences between its bill and the Senate bill before it goes to the President.

Immigration Judiciary Markup

The House Judiciary Committee held a two-day markup last week on bills related to immigration. 2 of the 3 bills that were being considered were approved on a party-line vote with all Republicans supporting the measures. Democrats provided multiple amendments, but none were added to the original bills.

The two bills that were approved include, the Legal Workforce Act (H.R. 1147) which would make electronic employment verification or “E-Verify” mandatory for all employers within a certain period of time and the Protection of Children Act (H.R. 1149) which is targeted at the unaccompanied alien minors situation on the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Asylum Reform bill (H.R. 1153) was considered, but will be addressed in a follow-up Judiciary Committee markup which will be held sometime in the near future. The Asylum bill would tighten the process by which the Administration approves asylum and parole claims by aliens.

The fourth bill titled The Michael Davis, Jr. Act (H.R. 1148) was not considered, but will also be addressed in the next Judiciary Committee markup. The bill is named for a Placer County Sheriff’s Deputy killed in the line of duty in 2014 and addresses the issue of criminal aliens by: (1) expressly authorizing state and local governments to assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law, including authorizing them to enact and enforce their own immigration laws (reversing Supreme Court precedent in a case involving Arizona’s immigration laws) and providing grants for local law enforcement; (2) expediting the deportation of criminal aliens, including those convicted of DUI offenses; (3) improving visa security; (4) increasing the ability of ICE officers to make arrests; (5) requiring the Administration to report to Congress each year on the use of prosecutorial discretion; (6) barring the Administration from modifying enforcement priorities; and (7) defunding President Obama’s administrative actions on immigration – whether through appropriations or agency-collected fees.

House/Senate Budgets

House Budget Chairman Tom Price plans to release his budget on March 17 and Senate Budget Chairman Mike Enzi has scheduled a two-day markup of the budget starting on March 18, 2015.

The budget will be particularly interesting this year because Republicans will look to use reconciliation practices to move legislation through the Senate, making partisan bills free of filibuster threats.

Upcoming Dates to Watch

March 15—Debt Limit

The current debt limit will expire after March 15, 2015 but the Treasury department will employ what are known as “extraordinary measures” to manage the government’s cash flow until October or November. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has stated that the debt limit will be addressed over a period of months to come and he has no intention of shutting down the government or having the US default on the national debt.

March 31—‘Doc Fix’

The delay in reductions of pay for the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate or the “Doc Fix” will expire on March 31. Congress has blocked the reductions required by the formula 17 times since 2002. Congress will most likely pass another temporary patch this month and attempt to replace the formula by the fall.

THUD Hearing

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development will hold a hearing on Surface Transportation Programs budget. Administrators Rosekind (NHTSA) and Jaenichen (Maritime Administration) as well as Acting Administrators McMillan (FTA), Nadeau (FHWA) will all testify on each department's budget.

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.

Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

- i. **AB 201 (Brough) Registered sex offenders: Local ordinances – continued from PAL 3/2/15**
Recommendation: Oppose: Brendon D. Woods, Public Defender, Alameda County
- ii. **SB 267 (Levy) Registered sex offenders: Local ordinances**
Recommendation: Oppose: Brendon D. Woods, Public Defender, Alameda County
- iii. **AB 319 (Rodriguez) Pupil instruction: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation**
Recommendation: Support: Alex Briscoe, Director, Health Care Services Agency
- iv. **SB 203 (Monning) Sugar-sweetened beverages: Safety warnings**
Recommendation: Support: Alex Briscoe, Director, Health Care Services Agency
- v. **SB 277 (Pan) Public health: Vaccinations**
Recommendation: Support: Alex Briscoe, Director, Health Care Services Agency

Purpose:

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- Other:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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