

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

Monday, April 13, 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 return this week from the two-week spring recess. The Senate will likely take up the SGR repeal package early this week, which passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support prior to the recess. President Obama has already said he will sign the legislation as soon as it is sent to his desk. The House plans to take up a number of tax-related bills this week to coincide with the tax-filing deadline on Wednesday.

Budget

Last week, House Budget Chairman Tom Price and Senate Budget Chairman Mike Enzi returned to Washington early from the congressional recess to discuss the differences between the two chambers' budget resolutions prior to the April 15, 2015 deadline.

Both proposals balance the budget in a decade by cutting about \$5 trillion, without raising taxes, and add nearly \$96 billion to the Pentagon's budget through a war-funding account not subject to current spending caps. The chairmen both said they want a final budget agreement approved by April 15. However, Members of Congress returned to town today, leaving them just two days to nominate conferees, hold a public hearing on the agreement and passage by both chambers. The more realistic goal is to name conferees by the end of this week.

MAP-21 Extension

House Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman, Bill Shuster stated he will make a decision soon after returning from the Congressional recess on whether to push for a long-term surface transportation reauthorization or pass another short-term extension to fund transportation projects through the summer. Chairman Shuster will soon meet with House Ways & Means Chairman, Paul Ryan, to decide which route to take. We expect they will announce a decision to move forward with a short-term extension. The current MAP-21 authorization is set to expire on May 31, 2015.

Human Trafficking Update

Senate leadership is still trying to find a way to move forward with the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. The legislation has drawn a filibuster threat from Democrats who insist on removing language that would prohibit money in the restitution fund from being spent on abortions. Democrats admitted they overlooked the language when the bill was first reintroduced.

Senators Heidi Heitkamp and Susan Collins are working together to remove the reference to the Hyde Amendment that is currently in the bill and route the legislation through the appropriations process. The move would still require the money funneled through the appropriations process subject to Hyde rules, which prohibit federal funding for abortions except in instances of rape or incest, or if the mother's life is in danger, but the direct reference in the trafficking bill would be changed.

Attorney General Confirmation

Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell, indicated that Loretta Lynch would not get a confirmation vote until mid-April, following the April recess. Senator McConnell stated that the Senate will not take up her nomination until the Senate is able to reach a deal on human trafficking legislation that stalled in mid-March.

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

Revenue

The Controller's Office released its estimated receipts for March showing continued gains over the budget estimate. Total receipts were \$547 million above the January budget projections for March. Personal income tax receipts beat projections by \$498 million and corporation taxes were \$77 million higher. Sales tax receipts dropped below estimates, missing projections by \$96 million. For the fiscal year-to-date, general fund receipts are running at \$75 billion, 2.1% higher than January projections.

The Controller has posted a daily tracker showing income tax revenue received. Collections in April are expected to reach \$12.2 billion.

Proposition 47

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) plans to hold a series of meetings around the State to help fulfill its responsibilities under Proposition 47. The meetings will begin later this year to outreach to local communities in response to reduce recidivism through funds reinvested in programs from the State's savings from fewer incarcerations.

Proposition 47 allocates the BSCC sixty-five percent (65%) of annual; state savings to fund grants that provide mental health, diversion and drug abuse treatment services. The funding will be administered by public agencies and must be directed towards programs to help reduce recidivism. Proposition 47 requires that the Department of Finance to calculate the anticipated savings by July 2016 and by August 1, 2016 the DOF must certify its results to the State Controller.

Household Hazardous Waste

AB 1159 (Gordon) which would establish ten year product stewardship pilot programs for sharps and batteries will be heard in the Assembly Natural Resources Committee today. The measure would require producers of batteries and sharps to create and fund a program for the disposal of the used batteries and needles.

AB 45 (Mullin) which is opposed in concept by the County has gathered several new opponents with amendment introduced in March. The measure would require local governments to increase the collection and diversion of household hazardous waste. CSAC, the League of California Cities and several cities and counties have objected to the new requirement, as well as not requiring the manufacturers of products to financially or otherwise participate in the collection and disposal of them. The bill will be heard in the Assembly Local Government Committee on April 22, 2015.

Hearings

Several controversial measures supported by the County were discussed in committee hearings last week. SB 277 (Pan), which would eliminate the personal belief exemption for children's vaccinations and SB 140 (Leno), which would treat electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) the same as a tobacco product, were heard in the Senate Health Committee on Wednesday, April 8, 2015.

SB 277 was passed and will be heard in the Senate Education Committee on Wednesday, April 15, 2015. SB 140 was passed and will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 128 (Wolk, Monning) the End of Life Option Act was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee and passed, it will now be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee. SB 608 (Liu) the Right to Rest Act for homeless individuals to use public space without discrimination was not voted on in the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee.

Senate Transportation Plan

The Senate's transportation funding proposal is expected to be unveiled on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 and the following elements are under discussion:

- 10 cent increase in the excise tax for gasoline and diesel
- Phase in over five years the return of truck weight fees to transportation accounts
- Repay existing loans made from transportation account over three (3) years
- Increase the Vehicle License Fee (VLF) by .35% for five (5) years and use the revenue to backfill General Fund for Transportation payments
- Increase the base vehicle registration fee by \$35
- Increase the vehicle registration fee for zero emission vehicles by \$100

Immigrants Shape California

Legislative leadership announced a full package of legislation to provide opportunities and protect the State's undocumented immigrants, which compose almost ten (10%) percent of the State's workforce. The legislation includes SB 4, containing language supported by the County to expand Medi-Cal to cover the undocumented population.

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- Other: State legislative update**

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

i. [AB 775](#) (Chiu) Reproductive FACT Act

Recommendation: Support: Alex Briscoe, Director, Health Care Services Agency

ii. **AB 971** (Chang) Payment of expenses

Recommendation: Support: Keith Carson, District 5, Board of Supervisors

iii. **AB 1062** (Bonta) Environmental Justice Small Grant Program

Recommendation: Support: Alex Briscoe, Director, Health Care Services Agency

iv. **SB 591** (Pan) Cigarette and tobacco product taxes: California Tobacco Tax Act of 2015

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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