

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

**Monday, June 13, 2016
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. The House will focus on FY17 appropriations while the Senate will finish the FY17 National Defense Authorization bill before turning to appropriations later in the week.

Appropriations

Last week, House Republican leaders enacted a structured rule limiting open debate of all relevant amendments on appropriations bills. House Speaker Paul Ryan informed Members that the Rules Committee had been authorized to block potential “poison pill” amendments on future spending bills. The House will consider the \$517.1 billion Defense Appropriations bill this week, which will put Speaker Ryan’s strategy to limit these “poison-pill” amendments to the test. In the past, the Defense spending bill has spurred debate over combating terrorism and the rights of LGBT service members – two areas that may enflame tensions and derail the appropriations process in the House after the shooting in Orlando over the weekend.

The full House Appropriations Committee is scheduled to markup the Homeland Security spending bill tomorrow and also plans to schedule a mark-up on the Interior & Environment spending bill on Wednesday.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell filed a procedural motion on Thursday to proceed to H.R. 2578, the vehicle for the \$56.3 billion FY17 Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) Appropriations bill. The Senate will turn to the CJS Appropriations bill after they vote on the FY17 National Defense Authorization bill. This could also be an area of contention as the CJS spending bill typically includes debate on amendments related to gun control.

The Senate Appropriations Financial Services and Interior-Environment Subcommittees will markup their FY17 spending bills next on Tuesday and Wednesday, with full committee markup scheduled for both bills on Thursday.

Mental Health Reform

The House Energy and Commerce Committee has scheduled a two-day markup of HR 2646, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2015. As previously reported, Committee Democrats were opposing the legislation that was passed at the Subcommittee level in the fall. However in hopes of garnering Democratic support, Health Subcommittee Chairman Tim Murphy and Chairman of the full Committee, Fred Upton, worked with Democratic leaders to make changes to the bill that addressed their concerns, regarding potential changes to HIPAA laws, the potential dismantling of SAMHSA, and increased funding for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment laws.

The previous version of the bill would have changed health privacy laws to make it easier for caregivers to acquire information about mentally ill people. Democrats warned this would loosen privacy protections for patients. The new version of the bill leaves out these changes and instead shifts the responsibility to the Department of Health and Human Services to address problems with HIPAA.

Democrats also had concerns that the bill would dismantle the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The new bill leaves the agency's administrator in place, and creates a new HHS assistant secretary on top of that.

Democrats also disapproved of increased funding for state Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) laws, which allow judges to order mentally ill people to follow a treatment plan. The new bill eliminates a 2 percent funding increase to states to incentivize AOT laws and instead authorizes new funding that will have to be appropriated separately.

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 – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

County Sponsored Legislation

AB 1702 (Stone), regarding commercially sexually exploited children, has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee and will be heard tomorrow, June 14th at 1:30 p.m.

AB 2471 (Quirk), regarding health care districts, has been referred to the Senate Governance and Finance Committee and has been set to be heard on Wednesday, June 22nd.

Budget Update

The Budget Conference Committee completed their work on Thursday night around 11pm. Below is a list of the final actions taken by the Conference Committee last week and included in the 2016-17 budget agreement on items that the County has a position on.

The Legislature is expected to pass the budget either tomorrow or Wednesday, at the latest, as that is the Constitutional deadline to do so without the Legislature forfeiting their pay.

- Repeal of the Maximum Family Grant Rule
- An augmentation of \$12 million to the CalWORKs Housing Support Program, the request was for \$15 million
- \$5 million for the Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) program to aid child welfare agencies to meet their mandate to serve these children, the request was for \$19.7 million
- \$1 million for a Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, the request was for \$3.6 million
- \$4 million for reproductive health education for foster youth, the request was for \$10 million
- \$3 million to provide for Adult Protective Services training, request was for \$5 million
- \$1.7 million provided for public health nursing and monitoring of psychotropic medication for foster children, request was for \$1.65 million
- \$10 million provided for the Bringing Families Home Program, a county matching grant program to reduce homelessness among families that are part of the child welfare system, included as part of the No Place Like Home package

- No funding provided for the child care bridge program, emergency vouchers for newly placed foster children, request was for \$22 million

Housing Proposals

Senate – No Place Like Home Proposal

The budget agreement included \$45 million for the Senate’s “No Place Like Home” proposal, \$10 million of that is for the Brining Families Home Program, one of the County’s budget asks. The details of the proposal are still being worked out and the bond language has yet to be released.

Governor’s By-Right Proposal

The budget agreement sets aside \$400 million for affordable housing that is contingent on the passage of the Governor’s by-right proposal with negotiations continuing.

Special Session Bills Take Effect

On Thursday, June 9th the End of Life Act, as well as all the tobacco bills passed during the Healthcare Special Session, took effect. Therefore, you must now be 21 years old to buy tobacco products in California.

Undocumented Immigrants Purchase of Healthcare

On Friday, Governor Brown signed a bill to ask federal officials to allow undocumented immigrants to buy insurance through the state health exchange, Covered California. California will be the first state to seek this authority from the federal government.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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