

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

Monday, July 7, 2014
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

The House and Senate are both in session this week following the July 4th recess. The House plans to take up its FY15 Energy and Water Development appropriations bill as well other legislation including the WIA reauthorization bill. The Senate will take up an omnibus package that includes a number of outdoor-related bills including the reauthorization of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act.

FY15 Appropriations

House

The full House will begin debate on its FY15 Energy and Water appropriations bill this week. The House Appropriations Interior Subcommittee will mark up its FY15 bill this Wednesday. The Rules Committee will hold a meeting this week to determine the rules for floor debate for the FY15 Financial Services appropriations bill; the bill will be considered by the full House next week.

Senate

The Senate Appropriations Committee may markup its FY15 Financial Services, Energy and Water, Interior-EPA, and Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bills this Wednesday. All of these bills will likely face politically charged amendments by Senate Republicans in the hopes of putting vulnerable Democrats in a tough spot ahead of November elections. It is unlikely any of these bills will be debated on the full Senate floor.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid and Senate Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski will continue to negotiate with Senate Republicans on moving forward with its first package of appropriations bills that includes funding for THUD, CJS, and Agriculture-FDA. There is a rumor that Senate Democrats may attach the FY15 Mil-Con-VA funding bill to the minibus in the hopes the veterans' funding piece will move the entire package.

Surface Transportation Bill

The Senate Finance Committee could meet this week to consider its draft legislation that would provide at least \$8.1 billion for the Highway Trust Fund over the next six months. The original mark-up scheduled for June 26, was delayed to give Democrats and Republicans time to work out a deal.

The House Ways and Means Committee could unveil its proposal this week as well if Chairman Camp and Senate Finance Ranking Member Hatch have worked out proposed offsets.

Child Immigration

The Senate Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing this Thursday on President Obama's \$2 billion emergency supplemental funding request to address the influx of unaccompanied immigrant children from Central America to the United States. Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, HHS Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell, and counselor of the State Department Thomas Shannon will testify on behalf of the administration.

WIA Reauthorization

The full House plans to take up and pass the WIA Reauthorization bill by suspension later this week. This means no amendments will be offered and two-thirds vote is needed for passage. The Senate passed the bipartisan legislation prior to the July 4th recess.

Agency Nominations

Later this week, we expect the Senate to consider and vote on the nominations of San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro to be the next HUD secretary and Shaun Donovan to be the next director at the Office of Management and Budget.

Veterans Affairs Reform

House and Senate conferees will continue working to resolve their differences over their respective Veterans Affairs (VA) reform bills. One of the biggest challenges will be how to pay for the additional costs that allow veterans to receive their medical care from private doctors rather than from the VA.

Both bills grant new powers to the VA secretary to fire senior executives, though the Senate version includes an appeal process for dismissed employees. Both bills also eliminate bonuses for managers, incentives Congress believe led to widespread manipulation of patient waiting times and other data. The Senate version of the bill called for the construction of 26 new VA facilities across the country. It also contains a two-year pilot program that allows veterans to see private providers if they live more than 40 miles from an agency clinic.

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update

The Legislature has adjourned for Summer Recess, allowing policy and fiscal staff time to prepare for the final rush to move legislation to the Governor. They will return August 4, 2014 and will adjourn the 2013-14 season on August 31, 2014.

Medi-Cal Backlog

Due to high demand, computer glitches and trouble verifying applicants' residency, Medi-Cal has an application backlog of 900,000. Since fall, 2 million new enrollees- 1.4 million who are newly eligible due to the Affordable Care Act and 600,000 who simply hadn't enrolled, have signed up for the program. The Department of Health Care Services has not yet released an estimate of when the backlog will be processed, but providers are concerned about the delay.

Coordinated Care Initiative

About 50,000 beneficiaries are now enrolled in Cal MediConnect, a three-year demonstration project for individuals eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare. Cal MediConnect allows those dual eligibles to receive coordinated medical, behavioral health, long-term institutional and home and community based services. The demonstration began in San Mateo County in April of this year and was expanded to Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego counties in May. Passive enrollment in L.A. County began on July 1, 2014. The remaining three counties expected to participate in the demonstration – Alameda, Orange and Santa Clara will not begin enrollment until January 1, 2015, with the goal of enrolling up to 456,000 into the program. It is estimated that there are 1.1 million people statewide who will be eligible with 374,000 of them living in LA County.

Purpose:

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

Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

B. Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

i. SB 785 (Wolk) Design-Build

Recommendation: Support: Jim Kachik, Deputy Director, Technical Services Department, General Services Agency

ii. AB 1705 (Williams) Public Contracts: payment

Recommendation: Oppose unless amended: Jim Kachik, Deputy Director, Technical Services Department, General Services Agency

Purpose:

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- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

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