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

Monday, October 18, 2021 1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair Supervisor Wilma Chan Location: <u>County Administration Building Room 255</u> 1221 Oak Street, 2nd floor Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

Schedule

The House and Senate are in session this week and are scheduled to hold votes. The House is scheduled to vote on bills to address domestic violence (H.R. 2119, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act of 2021) and nursing mothers in the workplace (H.R. 3110, Nursing Mother Job Accommodations). In the Senate, Democrats plan to vote on a bill to overhaul voting rights.

Reconciliation

Senators Manchin and Sinema have continued to dominate the reconciliation process and news cycle. This weekend, Senator Manchin publicly objected to the \$150 billion clean electricity program which converts utilities from burning fossil fuels to using renewable energy sources. Senator Manchin also said that the child tax credit must include a work requirement and a family income cap of \$60,000. Negotiations are ongoing. President Biden has offered a compromise topline number of around \$2 trillion. Neither Senator Manchin nor Senator Sinema has accepted that figure, according to reports. After an agreement with the Moderate Senators is reached, Speaker Pelosi will have to convince Progressive Democrats that the bill is big enough. Senator Schumer has said that he wants to complete negotiations and get the bill passed by the end of the month.

Infrastructure

After delaying a vote at the end of September, Speaker Pelosi set a new deadline of October 31st, for the House to vote on the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Congress passed a surface transportation reauthorization extension at the beginning of this month which expires on October 31, 2021.

Senate Appropriations

The current continuing resolution (CR) runs through December 3. The Senate released their 9 remaining appropriations bills today. The Senate had previously released the text of 3 appropriations bills (Military Construction-Veterans Affairs, Energy-Water, Agriculture-FDA) in August. We do not expect these bills to receive floor consideration, but instead they will be conferenced with the House-passed bills. We have included summaries of relevant Senate-proposed bills here: Commerce-Justice-Science, Labor-HHS-Education, Transportation-Housing & Urban Development.

Senate Voting Rights Bill

Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is moving today to set up a vote on the Freedom to Vote Act, which is likely to take place Wednesday. Schumer has said the bill has the support of all 50 Democratic senators. The bill does not have the 60 votes it needs to overcome a guaranteed Republican filibuster, meaning it will not progress to a floor vote. The bill would set minimum standards for voting access in all states, including automatic and same-day voter registration, two weeks of early voting, and the establishment of Election Day as a public holiday. It also seeks to protect election officials from interference. The Freedom to Vote Act is a pared-back version of the For the People Act. In order to get the vote of West Virginia Senator Joe Manchin, the bill gives states more flexibility on some policies, allows state-based voter ID laws, and does not include language on public financing of elections, which Manchin opposed when part of the For the People Act.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation position – Action Items

i. <u>H.R. 1919/ S. 2515</u> (Gomez/Gillibrand) Enhance Access to SNAP Act of 2021 or EATS 2021

Recommendation: Support: Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

ii. <u>H.R. 3824/S. 2065 (Grijalva/Brown) Supplemental Security Income Restoration</u> Act of 2021

Recommendation: Support: Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

Purpose:

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

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

II. State Legislative Update - Political Solutions

Governor Gavin Newsom has acted on all legislation passed by the Legislature in 2021. The Legislature continues to be on their fall interim recess and will return to the Capitol on January 3, 2022.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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