

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

**Monday, October 19, 2020  
1:30 p.m.**

**Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair  
Supervisor Wilma Chan**

Location: **Board of Supervisors Chambers – Room 512 5<sup>th</sup> floor**  
County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

**Summary/Action Minutes**

**I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake**

**Congressional Schedule**

The House remains in recess. The Senate is in session this week. The Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a vote on October 22, 2020 on the nomination of Amy Coney Barrett to be an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court.

**Coronavirus Stimulus/Relief Discussions**

Speaker Pelosi set a deadline of tomorrow to reach an agreement with the White House on any new coronavirus relief. It remains doubtful that the Republican-controlled Senate will accept any deal they strike. Late last week, Treasury Secretary Mnuchin told Speaker Pelosi that President Trump will personally lobby to get reluctant Senate Republicans behind any stimulus deal they reach. President Trump said he is willing to go beyond the \$1.8 trillion offer for a virus relief plan that has already been offered by the administration, but Senate Majority Leader McConnell rejected that, saying GOP lawmakers will not go along.

The full Senate is in session this week, and Senate Majority Leader McConnell has indicated that the Senate will take up a targeted bill totaling around \$500 billion. The bill would come in two parts, with a vote on the first piece to replenish the Paycheck Protection Program coming tomorrow, and a vote on other provisions including extending Unemployment Insurance and providing additional funding for schools and hospitals coming on Wednesday. Democrats continue to say they will not accept a piecemeal approach.

**Supreme Court - Barrett Nomination**

The Senate Judiciary Committee will vote on Amy Coney Barrett's nomination on Oct. 22 at 1:00 PM eastern. The vote will most likely proceed along party lines, a 12-10 advantage for Republicans on the Committee.

The full Senate could move to executive session as early as Friday to begin debate on the nomination with a final vote as early as Saturday.

**Supreme Court - Census**

On October 13, the Supreme Court cut the census count short by two weeks. They had originally asked for a four-month extension. Then, on October 16, the court said it would review President Trump's efforts to omit unauthorized immigrants when apportioning congressional seats. The Supreme Court has said they will hold a hearing on Nov. 30, 2020.

A three-judge panel in New York blocked Trump's plan as violating federal law. Advocacy groups and several states led by New York say Trump is trying to manipulate the count and deprive Democratic-leaning areas with high immigrant populations of congressional seats.

For a bit of context, federal law requires the Commerce secretary to send the census tally to the president by Dec. 31, and the president to send Congress the numbers for allocating House seats by Jan. 10. President Trump issued a memorandum in July laying out the plan to exclude undocumented immigrants from both reports. In its ruling against the Trump Administration, the New York panel said the U.S. Census Act requires congressional apportionment to be based on the total number of people in each state. The judges said the administration's approach also would violate a separate requirement that the Commerce secretary send the president a single set of numbers derived from the census.

### **ABAWD Rule**

A federal judge on Sunday formally struck down the Trump administration Able Bodied Adult Without Dependents rule change, which would end food stamp benefits for nearly 700,000 unemployed people. The judge described the rule change as "arbitrary and capricious." As you may recall, the rule went final in December of 2019, and the County submitted comments in opposition. On April 1, implementation was delayed due to the public health emergency.

Chief U.S. District Judge Beryl A. Howell of D.C. condemned the Agriculture Department for failing to justify or even address the impact of the sweeping change on states, saying its shortcomings were made even clearer due to the coronavirus pandemic, during which unemployment has quadrupled and rosters of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program have grown by more than 17 percent, with more than 6 million new enrollees.

#### **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.

## **II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions**

The Legislature remains on their interim recess until December 7, 2020. Committees are in the process of scheduling and/or holding oversight or informational hearings. Please see below for those that have been set this week.

### *Tuesday, October 20, 2020*

- An informational hearing for budget has been scheduled. The PS Team will provide a summary after the hearing.
- Budget Subcommittee Number 3 on Resources and Transportation related to Wildfire Mitigation Measures

### *Wednesday, October 21, 2020*

- An informational hearing has been scheduled, as indicated below. The PS Team will provide summary after the hearing.
- Senate Health Committee related to the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in jeopardy: what does it mean for California.

### **Governor Gavin Newsom**

The Governor continues to hold regular press conferences throughout the week to update the media and Californians about the state's actions on COVID-19 and the wildfires.

*Monday, October 19, 2020*

Today at noon, Governor Newsom provided an update on the progress COVID-19 vaccinations and wildfires. Last week, California submitted a vaccine plan to the CDC and in return the state was awarded \$28.86 million of federal support to advance state and local vaccine efforts. Today, Governor Newsom also announced the Scientific Safety Review Workgroup, consisting of 11 health experts that will individually review any FDA approved vaccines. For data management, the state will be using CAIR (California Immunization Registry).

**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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