

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

**Monday, November 1, 2021  
1:30 p.m.**

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

Location: County Administration Building Room 255  
1221 Oak Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 Senate has confirmation votes scheduled, and the House will vote on a slate of bills.

**Reconciliation/Infrastructure**

Democrats are still fighting over lingering differences on a \$1.75 trillion social-spending plan. House Democratic leaders are pushing hard to get the package finalized, with planned votes on both that bill and the bipartisan infrastructure bill as soon as this week. A House Democratic leadership aide said yesterday that progress had been made on several of the outstanding issues, including drug pricing, but that a Rules Committee meeting today that would have prepared the bill for a floor vote tomorrow was postponed.

At a news conference in Rome on Friday, President Biden expressed confidence that both the social-spending package and the infrastructure legislation were well on the way to passage. However, Senator Manchin threw cold water on the President's optimism today at a press conference where he stated in no uncertain terms that he was open to supporting a final bill that "helps move our country forward" and "equally open to voting against a bill that he believes would be harmful". This setback again calls into question the fate of the budget reconciliation package and the bulk of President Biden's domestic agenda and further sets back the timeline for passage. It is likely that the reconciliation bill will see action in December as negotiation continue this month.

The major outstanding issues that were not included in last Thursday's draft are:

- Prescription drugs: House and Senate Democrats are narrowing in on a deal that would allow Medicare to negotiate a smaller number of prescription drugs than previously envisioned by House leadership. The new negotiated draft will likely include a redesign of Medicare Part D, Medicare drug negotiation, and rebates to beneficiaries on drugs that increase prices beyond inflation.
- Immigration: Senators are prepping another to get some protections for undocumented immigrants into this package. It is still unclear if this effort will be successful where previous attempts have failed.
- Paid Family and Medical Leave: Assistance on family and medical leave remains a top priority for many Democrats but Senator Manchin has expressed his opposition. Over the weekend, proponents attempted to reach a compromise with Senator Manchin on a proposal that can pass muster but have been unable to reach an agreement. There is a small chance that an expansion of these benefits is included in the next draft.

- SALT: Key Democrats insisted last week the state and local tax relief, known as SALT, would indeed make it into the final version of the bill. It is possible that limited relief could be included in a manager's amendment, but the details still need to be worked out. Some House Democrats have insisted excluding SALT from the bill would be a dealbreaker for them.

**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 Item**

**i. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security. “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals”**

*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**

The Legislature remains on its recess until January 3, 2022.

**Ports**

Ports and infrastructure are currently at the forefront of activity. Last week, a letter signed by 10 Republican legislators (also attached to this report) was sent to the Governor urging him to call a Special/Extraordinary Session to deal with the backlog and our supply chain crisis. This comes on the heels of the Port of Los Angeles and the Port of Long Beach extending operational hours to 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Several retailers have also made commitments to extend their hours as well, in hopes of easing some of the congestion.

As indicated in our Weekly Report on Friday, the Governor announced his strategic partnership with the Biden-Harris Administration to ensure multiple infrastructure projects can move at once through our trade corridors.

The Legislature has scheduled a Joint Hearing of the Assembly Select Committee on Ports and Goods Movement/Senate Select Committee on Ports and Goods Movement for informational purposes regarding “The Perfect Storm: California’s Ports Congestion and Goods Movement Crisis” on November 3.

**Alameda County Sponsored Bills**

- AB 368 (Bonta) Food prescriptions. - Status: Held in Committee
- AB 1294 (Quirk) Child Care Pilot. - Status: Signed by the Governor
- Alameda’s Child Care Pilot extension was included in budget bill AB 131, signed by the Governor
- AB 924 (Wicks) Alameda Health System: hospital authority. - Status: Has been turned into a 2-year bill at the request of the County and will not be pursued next year.

**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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