

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

**Monday, November 23, 2020
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

Congressional Schedule

The House and Senate went into recess at the end of last week for Thanksgiving. They will return the week of November 30th.

House Leadership Elections

House Democrats and Republicans held leadership elections for the 117th Congress last week. Top Republican leadership will remain mostly the same: Rep. Kevin McCarthy remains Minority Leader, Rep. Steve Scalise remains Republican Whip and Rep. Liz Cheney remains chair of the House Republican Conference. Rep. Tom Emmer will once again serve as chair of the National Republican Congressional Committee, and Rep. Gary Palmer will also remain in his role as the party's policy chair.

House Democratic leadership will also remain mostly the same. Rep. Nancy Pelosi secured the caucus nomination to maintain her post as Speaker of the House (votes will take place in January). Rep. Steny Hoyer will serve again as Majority Leader and Rep. Jim Clyburn will be Majority Whip. Rep. Katherine Clark, currently the Democratic Vice Chair, was elected for Assistant Speaker; she will be the first woman to serve in this position. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries will remain the Democratic Caucus Chair.

Democrats voted to make Rep. Pete Aguilar of California the new Democratic Caucus Vice Chair. Rep. Aguilar will be the highest-ranking Latino in the House, after current Assistant Speaker Ben Ray Lujan's election to the Senate this month.

Democrats will vote on the DCCC race as well as a slate of committee chairs when the House returns after Thanksgiving break.

FY21 Appropriations

House and Senate Appropriators are working to negotiate the top line numbers for FY21 appropriations bills, in the hopes that they will be able to reach an agreement on an omnibus spending bill before the current continuing resolution expires on December 11. Appropriators met with White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows last week, who indicated administration support for a bill.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell have both said they want a 12-bill omnibus spending package rather than another stopgap funding measure. (Recall, however, that President Trump said after signing the FY19 omnibus bill in 2018 that he would never sign an omnibus again. This could impact negotiations in terms of how the bills are packaged.)

Earmarks

Last week, Majority Leader Hoyer stated House Democratic leaders are proceeding with plans to bring back earmarks for the 117th Congress. He said in an interview on Friday that sometime after the Appropriations Committee's new chairwoman is elected the week of Nov. 30, she will begin soliciting House lawmakers to ask for congressional initiatives for their districts and their states. All three candidates for Appropriations Committee Chair support transparency measures similar to those in place a decade ago before earmarks were banned. That includes making a project's requestor publicly available as well as the justification for spending taxpayer dollars on it, and clearly noting in legislation which provisions constitute member-requested items.

Expiring Pandemic Programs

The following pandemic relief programs are set to expire on December 31, 2020, when the national emergency declaration ends. Some of these could be extended as part of another CR or omnibus deal. See attached CRF guidance related to expenditure timeline.

- Pandemic emergency unemployment compensation
- Pandemic unemployment assistance
- Student loan forbearance
- Eviction moratorium
- Refundable tax credit for required paid sick leave
- Credit for family and sick leave for self-employed individuals
- 2020 rebate checks
- Small business debt relief
- Charitable deduction limits
- Exclusion of employer payments of student loans
- Payment delay for employer payroll taxes ends
- Changes on net operating losses
- 33 tax provisions

Biden Transition Announcements

- Ron Klain, White House Chief of Staff
- Jen O'Malley Dillon, Deputy Chief of Staff
- Julie Rodriguez, Director of White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs
- Antony Blinken, Secretary of State
- Jake Sullivan, National Security Advisor
- Linda Thomas-Greenfield, Ambassador to the UN
- Alejandro Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security
- Avril Haines, Director of National Intelligence
- John Kerry, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate
- Janet Yellin, Secretary of Treasury
- Rep. Cedric Richmond, Senior Adviser, Director of the White House Office of Public Engagement
- Mike Donilon, Senior Adviser
- Steve Ricchetti, Counselor to the President
- Dana Remus, Counsel to the President
- Annie Tomasini, Director of Oval Office Operations
- Louisa Terrell, White House Director for Legislative Affairs
- Shuwanza Goff, Deputy Director for Legislative Affairs
- Reema Dodin, Deputy Director for Legislative Affairs

National Apprenticeship Act of 2020

The National Apprenticeship Act of 2020 reauthorizes and modernizes the National Apprenticeship Act for the first time since its enactment in 1937. The legislation would create nearly one million new Registered Apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and pre-apprenticeship positions over the next five years. The bill would invest nearly \$3.5 billion over five years to scale-up apprenticeship opportunities, streamline access to apprenticeships for workers and employers, and expand apprenticeships into new in-demand industry sectors and occupations.

The House Education and Labor Committee approved the bill in September along party lines. The White House opposes the measure and the president's advisers would recommend that he veto it. However, it will likely be a priority for the Biden administration and would likely be reintroduced next year.

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.S. 4571](#) (Schatz) 2020 Census Deadline Extensions Act

Recommendation: Support: Chris Bazar, Director, Community Development Agency

Purpose:

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

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

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

Capitol News

The Legislature remains on recess until December 7, 2020 when they come back for an organizational session and swearing in ceremonies. Legislative leadership is currently looking for alternative venues to hold their swearing-in ceremonies that will allow for proper social distancing and safety precautions to be followed. However, no formal announcements have been made indicating where these ceremonies will be held.

The Legislature continues to hold informational hearings on a variety of topics, all of which are listed below. The PS team continues to monitor and share summaries from these hearings.

Monday, November 23, 2020

- Assembly Senate Health Committee will hold an informational hearing titled “COVID Care: The Role of Private Insurance.”
- Assembly Select Committee on Police Reform was set to hold an informational hearing. This hearing has been canceled by the Chair.

Key Dates & Deadlines

- December 7th -Legislature Meets for Organizational Session/Swearing-In Ceremonies
- January 1st - Statutes take effect
- January 4th - Legislature Reconvenes –

Governor Gavin Newsom

The Governor continues to hold regular press conferences related to COVID-19 response. With the spike in positive COVID-19 cases, counties have moved backwards in the tier system. More restrictions are anticipated in an effort to slow the spread as we move into the holiday season.

Late Sunday evening it was announced that the Governor and his family are currently quarantining after exposure to a positive COVID-19 case. The Governor and all members of his family have tested negative for the virus.

Monday, November 16, 2020

Today, Governor Newsom and California's Health and Human Services Secretary, Dr. Mark Ghaly, held a press conference to provide an update on the State's response to COVID-19. Governor Newsom provided the update from his home, as him and his family are quarantining after being exposed to a COVID-19 positive CHP officer. The Governor announced that he and his family are following both state and local guidance in quarantining for 14 days. The Governor and his family have all tested negative for COVID-19 but will continue to be tested throughout their quarantine. The Governor highlighted the work and actions taken over the last few weeks to help slow the surge of COVID-19 throughout the state.

Dr. Ghaly reiterated the State's guidance for Thanksgiving gatherings and urged Californians to only celebrate with their own household.

Governor Newsom announced that "progress is being made" in getting closer to a Senate appointment to replace Vice President-Elect Harris. The Governor and his team are also working to prepare a state budget with a focus on public health and economic recovery.

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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