Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

Both houses in session this week

Appropriations

Federal government working under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through December 20, 2019. A Bipartisan deal has been reached and the results should be shortly. The House will vote tomorrow if the measure is available. The Senate will follow the next day, and comments indicate the President will sign the compromise package.

Title IV-E Waiver transition funding agreement. It does include: permanent repeal of three health insurance taxes: the Cadillac Tax, Medical Device Tax, and a health insurance fee, a nationwide increase of the age at which you may purchase tobacco and e-cigarette products to 21 years old, $25 million for research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health to study gun violence.

Impeachment

Articles will be voted on by the full House on Thursday. The trial in the Senate will occur in January, by law it must take precedence over ALL other actions until completed.

US Trade

The US-Mexico-Canada Agreement was sent to Congress by the President. By law it cannot be amended. The House will start mark-ups and the House will vote on Thursday. The agreement includes labor rights monitoring and enforcement, and dispute panels, and it also removes a guaranteed period for biologic drug data protection. Two federal District Courts (Oakland & El Paso) have blocked the President’s current attempt to use military construction funding diverted in September for border wall construction.

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. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM): Medicaid Program; Medicaid Fiscal Accountability Regulation
Recommendation: Oppose: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

ii. Executive Order 13888 on Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement
Recommendation: Support without endorsement: Keith Carson, Board of Supervisors, District 5

iii. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM): Health and Human Services Grant Regulation
Recommendation: Oppose: Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency and Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

iv. Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM): USCIS Fee Schedule Rule
Recommendation: Oppose: Wilma Chan, Board of Supervisors, District 3

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.

Informational Item

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

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

Week in Review at the Capitol

The Legislature is in recess but is preparing to return to Sacramento next month. The Governor is working on the budget which is scheduled to be released on or before January 10, 2020. The PS team is currently reaching out to the Alameda County delegation regarding the proposed 2020 legislative package and budget requests.

Assemblymember Ian Calderon will not be seek re-election and his stepmother, Lisa Calderon announced that she will be running for his seat in the 57th Assembly District. This race will prove interesting as it is between two well-known political families with Sylvia Rubio, sister to current Assemblywoman Blanca Rubio, and current Senator Susan Rubio, also announcing she is running for the seat.

Prop 63/MHSA Informational Hearing

On Monday, December 9, 2019, the Assembly Budget Subcommittee #1 on Health and Human Services held an informational hearing on “The Promise of Proposition 63 and the Future of Mental Health Funding in California.” Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg told the committee that MHSA funding needs to be properly spent and accounted for by counties. Steinberg suggested funds should be spent on unsheltered homeless, children, and formerly incarcerated individuals.
CalAIM

The workgroups are continuing to meet as they have a tight timeframe in which to get their work completed. There are five work groups and two sub-groups that will provide recommendations related to the states 1915(b) waiver as well as the 1115 waiver. This will be a fundamental shift to the Medi-Cal program as well as how the state provides both behavioral health and substance abuse treatment. With the departure of DHCS Director Jennifer Kent in October and the scheduled departure of Deputy Director, Mari Cantwell, Richard Figueroa will be negotiating these waivers with CMS. Mr. Figueroa is a long-time political staffer and well respected.

Governor Gavin Newsom

Governor Newsom continues to make appointments to various state agencies, boards, and commissions. The Governor also introduced a quarterly newsletter which will be translated into multiple languages to keep Californians apprised of current and future plans for the state.

Key Upcoming Dates
- January 6 – Legislature Reconvenes
- January 10 – Deadline for Governor to submit proposed budget
- January 17 – Policy Committee deadline for two-year bills tagged fiscal
- January 24 – Deadline for two-year bills in their house of origin to be sent to the Floor
- January 24 – Deadline to submit bill drafting requests to Legislative Counsel
- January 31 – Deadline for all two-year bills to pass off the Floor in their house of origin
- February 21 – Bill introduction deadline

Purpose:
- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State update

Informational Item

i. Acknowledge submission - to the California Department of Health Care Services by Alameda County Health Care Services Agency - of “Initial Comments” in response to CalAIM proposals, including the “In Lieu of Services” proposal, for discussion at upcoming CalAIM working groups

III. Approve the Alameda County 2020 Legislative Priorities
Recommendation: Support: Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, County Administrator's Office

Attachment

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.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

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