

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

Monday, March 15, 2021
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

Schedule

The House is not in session today but will meet at noon tomorrow. The House has several votes scheduled this week, including votes to extend the PPP deadline, reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, expand the Dream and Promise Act (H.R.6), allow undocumented agricultural workers to qualify for a new temporary immigration status or permanent legal status, and waiving PAYGO and extending pandemic Medicare provider cuts freeze through 2021. The Senate is in session this week, and will work on the confirmations of President Biden's various nominees.

American Rescue Plan

The \$1.9 trillion package was signed into law on Friday. You should have received an analysis from us last week. We fully expect agencies to be releasing guidance over the next few weeks on the various programs in the bill.

PPP Extension

The deadline for the Small Business Administration to approve PPP applications is March 31st. Democrats have introduced a bill to extend the application deadline by two months and extend the SBA's approval deadline through June 30th. The American Rescue Plan added over \$7 billion to the PPP and expanded access for the smallest businesses, sole proprietors, independent contractors, and the self-employed.

Nominations and Confirmations

Last week, Marcia Fudge was confirmed as Secretary of HUD and Merrick Garland was confirmed as Attorney General. The Senate will vote on the confirmation of Interior secretary nominee Deb Haaland this evening. Majority Leader Schumer filed for cloture on the nominations of Isabella Casillas Guzman to be administrator of the Small Business Administration and Katherine Tai to be U.S. trade representative.

Immigration Bills

H.R. 6, the Dream and Promise Act

More than 2 million individuals in the U.S. without legal status would receive a path to citizenship under H.R. 6. The bill would provide conditional green cards and work authorizations to immigrants now living illegally in the U.S. who arrived as children if they meet criteria similar to the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

H.R. 1603, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act

Undocumented agricultural workers could qualify for a new temporary immigration status or permanent legal status under this legislation. The bill would also make changes to the H-2A temporary agricultural worker visa program, including by setting up a pilot program to allow visa holders to change jobs without a new application process, and would require agricultural employers to use an employment eligibility verification system modeled after E-Verify.

Delay of Medicare Sequester Cuts

The U.S. House of Representatives will vote next week on extending a pause on Medicare cuts to providers, just weeks before they are scheduled to take effect. The 2% cut, which took effect since 2013, was temporarily lifted by Congress in December in response to the pandemic and its effect on providers' finances. The cut will take effect again April 1 without congressional action. The bill will also exempt the COVID-19 relief bill passed Thursday from deficit-reducing requirements that would have triggered a 4% cut to Medicare payments.

Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization

Authorization of the Violence Against Women Act expired in 2019, but Congress has continued to fund the numerous programs under the act through the annual appropriations process. The effort to reauthorize the bill this year would authorize VAWA programs for five years through 2026. The bill would ensure expanded funding for victim services, including housing, health care, cash aid, paid leave from employment to deal with the harms of gender-based violence, and unemployment compensation if needed. The law also reauthorizes grant programs to improve criminal justice responses to gender-based violence, expands allowable uses and invests in prevention. VAWA would also strengthen protections and programs for women in marginalized communities, who experience particularly high rates of violence. Some of the major authorizations include:

- \$222 million for STOP Grants to support law enforcement, victim services, legal assistance and data collection in domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases
- \$110 million for grants to support rape prevention and education programs through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). At least 15% of funds would be allocated to state, territorial, and tribal sexual assault coalitions for coordinating prevention activities
- \$75 million for grants to private nonprofit entities, tribal governments, and publicly funded organizations such as law schools to provide legal assistance to victims, including dependents
- \$73 million for grants to aid state, local, and tribal governments for improvements and alternatives to criminal justice response efforts
- \$60 million for grants to create and expand rape crisis centers and other nongovernmental or tribal programs for sexual assault victims
- \$35 million for grants for transitional housing assistance
- \$4 million for collaborative grants to increase the long-term stability of homeless victims
- \$4 million for grants to support full and equal access to housing by victims
- \$20 million for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program for the relocation of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking
- \$20 million for a grant program within the Justice Department for state and local governments to train law enforcement personnel to prevent and prosecute cybercrimes
- The measure would also prohibit an individual convicted of a misdemeanor stalking crime from possessing a firearm

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

Capitol Update

This week, the Legislature will continue to hold budget subcommittee hearings to work through budget issues. The Senate has also begun holding policy committee hearings and the Assembly is gearing up to begin these hearings by the end of the month. The below schedule details priority policy and budget committee hearings happening this week.

This week also marks a major deadline for the Governor recall effort. The proponents of the recall must submit gathered signatures by March 17, 2021 for the Secretary of State to verify. If the recall qualifies, the Lieutenant Governor, Eleni Kounalakis, will need to call the election.

Monday, March 15, 2021

- The Senate Budget Committee will hold a hearing today to discuss budget bills related to the state's COVID-19 response.
- The Assembly Budget Committee will meet today to discuss “Early Action Budget Items and Clean Up”
- The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 5 on Public Safety will meet today to discuss topics related to the Judicial Branch and Department of Justice

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

- The Assembly Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy committee has scheduled an informational hearing on the topic of: Inclusive Economic Recovery Priorities for 2021
- The Assembly has scheduled a joint hearing with Health and Budget Subcommittee No 1 on Health and Human Services on the subject of: Medi-Cal Eligibility, Benefits and Managed Care Components of California Advancing and Improving Medi-Cal
- The Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee will meet to hear the following legislation:
 - o SB 1 (Atkins) Coastal resources: sea level rise
 - o SB 45 (Portantino) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022.
 - o SB 63 (Stern) Fire prevention: vegetation management: public education: grants: defensible space: fire hazard severity zones: forest management.
 - o SB 83 (Allen) California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank: Sea Level Rise Revolving Loan Program

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

- The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 1 on Health and Human Services has scheduled a hearing related to the following topics: Health and Human Services Agency/Office of Systems Integration, Department of Aging, Department of Health Care Services, Department of Community Services and Development, Department of Child Support Services, Department of Social

Thursday, March 18, 2021

- The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 6 on Budget Process, Oversight and Program Evaluation has scheduled a hearing on the subject of: COVID-19 Direct Response Expenditures Budget Change Proposals, Vaccine Distribution Resource Needs, Anticipated New Federal Funding
- The Senate Housing Committee will meet to hear the following legislation:
 - o SB 10 (Wiener) Planning and zoning: housing development: density.
 - o SB 15 (Portantino) Housing development: incentives: rezoning of idle retail sites.

Census Data & Redistricting

Many continue to be concerned about the Census Bureau's announcement that census data will be made available at the end of September.

UCC and CSAC are meeting with Common Cause, who is actively engaged in the 2021 redistricting conversations, to discuss the issue and work on potential solutions. The PS team will continue to watch this issue for the County and report out.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- Assembly Spot Bill Deadline to have amendment language submitted to Assembly Rules – March 15th
- Spring Recess– March 25 - April 6, 2021
- Special Primary Election for AD-79/Weber Seat – April 6, 2021
- Special Election – June 8, 2021
- Policy Committee Deadline for fiscal bills – April 30, 2021

Purpose:

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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