

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

Monday, March 8, 2021  
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**

**Schedule**

The House and Senate are in session this week. The Senate will return to confirmations after passing the American Rescue Plan on Saturday. The House will vote this week on the Senate-passed version of the American Rescue Plan, sending the bill to the President's desk for enactment. They also have votes scheduled on three other bills, including two bills regarding firearms legislation and background checks, and a bill on union rights (PRO Act).

**American Rescue Plan**

*State and Local Aid*

The bill contains a total of \$350 billion in direct aid to states, counties, and cities. There is a total of \$130.2 billion for counties and cities, divided evenly. Counties will receive a total of \$65.1 billion in aid. Allocations will be determined based on population. Local governments will have the ability to sub-allocate funds. Each county will receive their portion of the funds in two equally sized tranches. The first tranche will be delivered not later than 60 days after the enactment of the bill. The second tranche will be delivered not earlier than 12 months after the delivery of the first tranche. Funds may be expended through December 31, 2024.

*Vaccines*

The bill will provide \$7.5 billion for the CDC to support state, local, tribal, and public health departments and community health centers in the distribution of vaccines. An additional \$1 billion will be provided to the CDC to strength vaccine confidence by investing in information distribution and education.

*Housing, Rental Assistance, and Homelessness*

The bill will provide \$26 billion for Emergency Rental Assistance, including \$21.2 billion for allocations to states, territories, counties, and cities. County governments with populations over 200,000 will receive additional direct funding to keep families in stable housing and prevent an eviction crisis. \$4.75 billion will go to HUD for homelessness funding to be distributed through the HOME Investment Partnerships program formula. \$5 billion will go to HUD for emergency housing choice vouchers. \$10 billion will go to the Homeowner Assistance Fund and allocated to states to provide homeowners struggling to make mortgage payments with direct assistance for mortgage payments, property taxes, property insurance, utilities, and other housing-related costs. \$4.5 billion in emergency funding will be allocated to LIHEAP.

The bill also includes \$510 million for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program. Funds will be used to support homeless service providers for overnight shelter, meals, assistance to food banks and pantries, and one-month of rental, mortgage, or utility assistance to prevent evictions or service cuts. \$110 million of that \$510 million is provided to support communities and organizations assisting with migrant families and individuals during the COVID-19 emergency.

#### *TANF*

The bill will provide \$1 billion for TANF for states to provide short-term targeted aid, including cash assistance, to families in crisis.

#### *Food Assistance*

The bill extends the 15% SNAP benefit increase through September 30, 2021 (currently set to expire June 30). An additional \$1.1 billion will be allocated for state SNAP administration over the next three fiscal years. The bill also extends the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program through the summer. It also provides an additional \$800 million for WIC to fund a temporary 4-month increase in the value of WIC food vouchers.

#### *FMAP*

The bill will provide a 100% FMAP for states that opt to provide coverage to the uninsured for COVID-19 vaccines and treatment without cost sharing and an enhanced FMAP for states that expand Medicaid programs to cover mobile crisis intervention services for individuals experiencing mental health or substance use disorders.

#### *EITC and Child Tax Credit*

The bill expands the 2021 child tax credit to \$3000 annually per child aged 6-17 and \$3600 for children under 6 and makes the credit fully refundable in 2021. Treasury will be instructed to issue the credit in the form of periodic payments starting as early as July 2021. The bill also increases the Earned Income Tax Credit by up to \$1,000 and expands the minimum and maximum age for claiming the credit in 2021.

#### *Unemployment*

The extension of unemployment benefits was slightly slimmed down in the Senate version of the bill. It will provide \$300 per week in supplement unemployment aid through September 6, 2021. The House-passed version of the bill would have funded \$400 a week and would have expired on August 29, 2021.

#### *Paid Leave Credit*

The bill would extend through Sept. 30 tax credits for employer-provided paid sick and family leave, which were established under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act. The value of the credits would be increased to match an employer's share of contributions to defined benefit plans and registered apprenticeship programs. State and local governments are now eligible for these credits.

#### *Paycheck Protection Program*

The bill provides an additional \$7.25 billion in lending authority to the PPP, bringing the total to \$813.7 billion. The eligibility rules have been expanded to cover more tax-exempt groups, including 501(c)(5) labor organizations, 501(c)(7) social and recreation clubs, 501(c)(8) fraternal benefit societies, and religious educational groups. The bill would also expand PPP loan forgiveness to include payments made for premiums on behalf of individuals who qualify for COBRA health insurance continuation coverage.

### **Nominations and Confirmations**

The Senate will meet tomorrow at 3:00pm to resume consideration of the nominations of Rep. Marcia Fudge to be Secretary of HUD and Merrick Garland to be Attorney General. The Senate will hold two votes to invoke cloture on Fudge and Garland. If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Marcia Fudge, the Senate will hold a confirmation vote at 12:00pm on Wednesday.

If cloture is invoked on the nomination of Merrick Garland, the Senate will hold a confirmation vote at 2:15pm on Wednesday. Majority Leader Schumer has also filed for cloture on the nomination of Michael Regan to be administrator of the EPA, but a vote has not been scheduled. Xavier Becerra was voted through the Senate Finance last week, and we are waiting for an announcement on consideration on the Senate floor.

## **Firearms Legislation**

The House will vote on two bills dealing with federal background checks for gun purchases. The Biden administration has taken a position of support on both bills.

### *H.R. 8: Bipartisan Background Checks Act*

The bill would extend a background check requirement to unlicensed and private firearm sellers before selling a firearm. Current federal law does not require unlicensed sellers to do background checks before transferring firearms. This bill currently has 131 House cosponsors, including 3 Republicans.

### *H.R. 1446: Enhanced Background Checks Act*

The bill will propose to fix the “Charleston loophole,” which allows the transfer of a firearm if there is not a denial of the background check within 3 days. The bill extends the initial background check review period from three to 10 business days. After the initial 10 business day period if a background check has not been completed. A purchaser may request an expedited review to spur the FBI to complete their investigation. They may petition online or by mail, and must certify that they are not prohibited from purchasing or possessing a firearm.

## **Executive Orders**

Yesterday, President Biden signed an executive order to modernize Vote.gov, order federal agencies to expand access to voter registration, provide voting access and education to prisoners in federal custody, examine barriers to citizens with disabilities voting and improve ballot tracking for overseas voters, including active-duty military.

Today, President Biden signed two executive orders dealing with gender equality. The first establishes the White House Gender Policy Council, and requires that Council to submit a government-wide plan within 200 days with recommendations to “advance gender equity and equality in the United States and around the world.” The second order addresses sexual violence in the education field, and directs the education secretary to review all department policies and actions to identify those that may be inconsistent with the stated policy.

## **Immigration Bills**

The House added Tuesday – Friday as voting days next week. It was previously scheduled to be a committee work week. It is expected for the House to take up H.R. 6 – Dream and Promise Act, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, VAWA Reauthorization and Equal Rights Amendment ratification deadline change (passed last Congress). U.S. Citizenship Act will not happen before the recess.

## **Appropriations/Budget Update**

Subcommittee Dear Colleagues are expected this week. They will include deadlines as well as guidance on what accounts will be eligible for “Community Project Funding” (read: earmarks) as well as what information will be required for committee vetting. Members will be able to make a max of 10 project requests. For-profit entities will be ineligible as primary recipients. Local/state/non-federal matches will be required.

The president's "skinny" budget is expected to be released by the middle of this month. The committee's submission system will open on Monday, March 29 and deadlines will be April 14, 15, 16. There is potential for a brief reopening in May to adjust requests once the full budget is released, but they want to be done by Memorial Day. Mark-ups will happen in June and bills will be on the floor in July. They hope to finish all 12 bills before the August recess.

**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 Senate is beginning to hold policy committee hearings. A schedule of priority policy committee hearings is included below. Both houses continue to schedule budget subcommittee hearings to hear and discuss early action budget items.

The Governor will deliver his third State of the State Address on Tuesday, March 9, 2021. The PS team will be monitoring and sending out a summary.

#### *Monday, March 08, 2021*

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 1 on health and Human Services has scheduled a hearing related to the: Department of Managed Health Care, Department of Health Care Services, California Health Benefit Exchange, California Health and Human Services Agency.

The Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee will meet to hear the following legislation: - SB 61 (Hurtado) Workforce training programs: supportive services.

#### *Tuesday, March 09, 2021*

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 4 on State Administration will meet on Tuesday to discuss issues related to the: Department of Housing and Community Development, Department of Fair Employment and Housing, Local Government Financing

The Assembly has scheduled a Joint Hearing with the Health Committee and Budget Subcommittee No 1 on Health and Human Services on: Behavioral Health Components of California Advancing and Improving Medi-Cal

The Senate Governmental Organization Committee will meet to hear the following legislation:

- o SB 19 (Glazer) Wine growers: tasting rooms.
- o SB 52 (Dodd) State of emergency: local emergency: sudden and severe energy shortage: planned power outage.

• The Senate Public Safety Committee will meet to hear the following legislation:

- o SB 16 (Skinner) Peace officers: release of records.
- o SB 73 (Wiener) Probation: eligibility: crimes relating to controlled substances.

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

- The Senate Education Committee will meet to hear the following legislation: o SB 20 (Dodd) Student nutrition: eligibility for CalFresh benefits.
- The Senate Health Committee will meet to hear the following legislation: o SB 56 (Durazo) Medi-Cal: eligibility.

Thursday, March 11, 2021

- The Senate Governance and Finance Committee will meet to hear the following legislation:
  - o SB 6 (Caballero) Local planning: housing: commercial zones.
  - o SB 219 (McGuire) Property taxation: delinquent penalties and costs: cancellation: public health orders.

### California Department of Public Health Community Vaccine Advisory Committee

The California Department of Public Health Community Vaccine Advisory Committee met last week on Friday. Discussion included the new equity county distribution plan that was released last week, the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, The MyTurn app and issues with the lack of accurate data. The vaccine drafting guidelines committee will be discussing adding those with mental health issues into priority guidelines and how to verify those with highest risk due to underlying conditions.

### KEY DATES & DEADLINES

Governor's State of the State Address – March 9, 2021

- Senate Spot Bill Deadline to have amendments submitted to Senate Rules – March 10, 2021
- Assembly Spot Bill Deadline to have amendment language submitted to Assembly Rules – March 15, 2021
- Spring Recess begins upon adjournment – March 25, 2021
- Legislature returns from Spring Recess – April 6, 2021
- Policy Committee Deadline for fiscal bills – April 30, 2021

#### 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.

### Request for Legislation position – Action Items

i. [Budget Trailer Bill RN 21 06760](#)

*Recommendation: Support:* Phyllis Nance, Director, Department of Child Support Services

ii. [Governor's Budget as it pertains to child support funding](#)

*Recommendation: Support:* Phyllis Nance, Director, Department of Child Support Services

iii. [Proposed Legislation: Hotel on Fairgrounds – Amendment to Government Code Section 25536](#)

*Recommendation: Support:* Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, County Administrator's Office

**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.

*Board of Supervisors' Committees agendas are available via Internet at: <http://www.acgov.org/>*

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