

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

Monday, April 27, 2020

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**

The House and Senate are out of session until Monday, May 4, 2020.

**Coronavirus Relief - Phase 3.5**

Last week, Congress passed a package with the centerpiece being additional funding for the SBA's Paycheck Protection Program. Last Thursday, the House returned to Washington, D.C. after Republicans demanded an in person vote. The Paycheck Protection and Health Care Enhancement Act (H.R.266) passed and includes \$320 billion in funding.

The package Congress approved last week did not include support for state and local governments.

**Ongoing Coronavirus Relief Discussions**

Congress is scheduled to remain in recess until May 4, 2020. Discussions have begun on the House side and the Speaker has made it clear that the House will produce its own bill to address the Majority priorities and program support regardless of whether the Senate wants to proceed. Passage could occur at the earliest in the mid-late-May, early-June timeframe.

*House:* In the next round, Democrats want a broad spending package with a focus on assistance for state and locals.

*Senate:* Senate Majority Leader McConnell has stated the Senate will not begin work on any subsequent COVID response legislation until the House and Senate return to Washington, any future legislation would require full Senate participation and debate.

In an interview last week, McConnell stated that funds for state and local governments should be limited to COVID response and not cover other operational expenses or pension costs for those governments.

**Administration**

President Trump has stated he wants CARES 2 to include aid for state and locals. In addition, the administration is currently focused on the following:

- Infrastructure (potential focus on 5G and broadband), but not as broad as once thought
- Tax Break - they have not given up on some sort of payroll tax break
- Bring back manufacturing jobs from China (supply chain for critical infrastructure)

## Supreme Court - Public Charge Update

Last Friday, the Supreme Court refused to halt the Trump administration's enforcement of public charge immigration restrictions during the Covid-19 pandemic. New York AG Letitia James led a petition to put the regulation on hold, citing evidence that the rules have scared immigrants away from seeking medical care. The Public Charge rule does count immigrants' use of safety-net programs like Medicaid against their legal immigration status. AGs, health advocates, and clinics are concerned about the chilling effect this will have, even for immigrants that are entitled to medical care.

In March, US Customs and Immigration Services said immigrants who undergo medical testing for the coronavirus or treatment related to it will not be penalized when applying for green cards and visas under the newly enacted public charge rule. In guidance released last month, USCIS stated, "such treatment or preventive services will not negatively affect any alien as part of a future public charge analysis." The Justice Department argued that the states' petition was unnecessary, and SCOTUS agreed.

## Senators Call for Small Business Administration Investigation

Last week, Senate Banking Committee Ranking Member Brown (D-OH) and Senate Minority Leader Schumer (D-NY), and Ranking Member Cardin (D-MD) of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, sent a letter to SBA Inspector General Mike Ware, calling for the immediate investigation of reports that some lenders participating in the SBA's Paycheck Protection Program have prioritized the applications of larger and wealthier clients to the detriment of smaller businesses adversely impacted by the coronavirus pandemic. There is ongoing discussion of technical changes to the PPP in a future legislative package

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

### Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: Federal Update**

## II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

The Legislature and the Administration remain focused on COVID-19 management and response. Even though the Legislature is currently adjourned under a joint COVID-related recess until May 4, 2020, legislators and staff continue working remotely on priority issues.

The Assembly Rules Committee met last Friday and referred nearly 300 bills to policy committees. All bills were referred to a single committee. The Chair of Rules Committee, Assemblymember Ken Cooley stated that double referrals were set aside to expedite the business of the house under these exigent circumstances.

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee 6 on Budget Process, Oversight, and Program Evaluation met at 10:00 a.m. today, Monday, April 27, 2020. The subject of the informational hearing was "COVID-19 Recovery and Economic Stimulus."

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 on Education Finance will hold an informational hearing on Tuesday, April 28, 2020 on the following topics:

- COVID-19 Implications for K-12 School Finances, Accountability, and Safety
- COVID-19 K-12 School Closures: Where do we go from here to mitigate Learning Loss?
- COVID-19 Child Care & Essential Workers

The Senate Rules Committee will hold a closed session at 10:30am on Wednesday, April 29, 2020.

### County Sponsored Priorities

The PS team is continuing to work remotely and is coordinating with legislative and County staff on issues that are of priority to the County.

### Governor Gavin Newsom

On Monday, April 27, 2020, Colorado Governor Jared Polis and Nevada Governor Steve Sisolak today announced their respective states are joining California, Oregon and Washington in the Western States Pact – a working group of Western state governors with a shared vision for modifying stay at home orders and fighting COVID-19.

### Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

DHCS has published additional and/or updated guidance for providers, beneficiaries, and the public related to COVID-19. Additional updates will be posted to the DHCS COVID-19 resource page.

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

#### Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL\_Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State update**

#### Request for Legislation position – Action Item

i. **AB 1593 (Reyes) Personal Income Taxes: Earned Income Credit**

*Recommendation: **Support:** 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.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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