

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

Monday, May 24, 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 Senate returns today with plans to resume work on a broad bill to boost U.S. competition with China and secure technology supply chains, and to consider more of President Joe Biden’s nominees.

House lawmakers have no floor votes planned this week amid a busy hearing and markup schedule that includes testimony from multiple Cabinet secretaries on fiscal 2022 budget requests. Congress will depart for the Memorial Day recess on Friday. The House is scheduled to return on June 7 and has no votes planned until June 14. The Senate will also return the week of June 7.

The President is scheduled to release his FY22 budget this Friday, May 28.

**Hopes for a Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal?**

Bipartisan talks over the last few weeks will continue but have proven mostly unsuccessful up to this point. The Biden administration sent over a counteroffer to a Senate Republican counteroffer of his original proposal, but over the weekend, Senate Republicans and the White House openly soured on the chances of a bipartisan infrastructure deal. The White House and Senate Republicans are still unable to agree on a firm definition of “infrastructure,” are hundreds of billions of dollars apart in terms of spending, and still have not come up with a compromise on how to pay for the massive infrastructure package. President Biden stated that he hoped for major progress by Memorial Day, which is now just one week away.

**Surface Transportation Reauthorization Markup**

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on Wednesday will consider its surface transportation reauthorization bill, a bipartisan measure to support \$304 billion for highway, road and bridge projects. This marks an increase of more than 34 percent from levels included in the FAST Act. The committee’s leaders reached agreement on the measure Saturday, a day after Republicans rejected the Biden administration’s trimmed-down \$1.7 trillion infrastructure proposal. The bill is very similar to the bill introduced and approved by the Senate EPW committee in August of 2019.

The bill introduced this weekend would authorize \$2.5 billion for electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure grants and \$6.4 billion for states to reduce transportation emissions.

Republican priorities of reducing regulation and giving states more flexibility is also incorporated in the bill. The legislation would streamline the environmental review process for major projects, requiring DOT to average no more than two years to complete a review. Additionally, it would authorize \$2 billion for a grant program for rural communities.

The legislation would also create various programs and studies. The Biden administration and Democrats have prioritized reconnecting urban communities cut off by highways and the bill would authorize \$500 million for a Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program. It would also direct the DOT Secretary to create a center to study the impact of automated vehicles and new mobility, such as dockless bikes and scooters.

### **United States Innovation and Competition Act of 2021**

The bill is a \$250 billion legislative package assembled by Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to boost American research and high-tech manufacturing in order to take on the growing challenge from China.

The centerpiece of the legislation is a proposal by Schumer, Sen. Todd Young, and a bipartisan group of senators to dramatically overhaul the National Science Foundation. It would authorize more than \$110 billion to remake the foundation into a technology directorate while creating “regional hubs” for research across the country.

The legislation also includes \$52 billion in emergency funding for the U.S. semiconductor industry, which represents just a fraction of world production. The bill also includes language from the Senate Banking Committee calling for increased use of sanctions to punish China on human rights abuses, cyberattacks, trade with North Korea,entanyl production and distribution, and more.

### **January 6 Commission**

The House voted last Wednesday to establish an independent commission to investigate the insurrection on January 6 at the U.S. Capitol. 35 Republicans joined Democrats in support of the bill. The bill now moves to the Senate, where GOP resistance has solidified over the last couple of weeks. Senate Minority Leader McConnell said he would vote against the bill, and Sen. Susan Collins said on Wednesday that she needed to see significant changes to the bill including more specific staffing numbers and deadlines for when the commission would complete their report before she would vote “yes.”

Senate Majority Leader Schumer has begun the process to force a vote on the bill, but the timeline for a vote is still unclear. Senate Democrats would need 10 Republicans to vote in favor of the bill before it reached the floor of the Senate for a vote.

### **Nominations**

This evening, Senators will vote on the motion to invoke cloture and proceed to a floor vote on the nomination of Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to be administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Brooks-LaSure’s nomination for CMS has been widely opposed by Republicans over the Biden administration’s decision to rescind a 10-year extension for Texas’s Medicaid waiver. Brooks-LaSure appears to have enough support for the Senate to confirm her to the job. Republican Senators Susan Collins and Jerry Moran joined Democrats earlier this month in supporting her nomination.

Schumer has also filed for cloture on the nomination of Kristen M. Clarke to be an assistant attorney general for the Justice Department, where she would lead the Justice Department’s Civil Rights Division. Clarke faces opposition from Republicans, and the committee vote on her nomination deadlocked 11-11 along party lines. The nomination was able to proceed only after Sen. Susan Collins voted with Democrats on a procedural motion discharging it from the panel. Clarke is currently president and executive director for the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, and she would be the first woman and first woman of color to serve as the head of the DOJ’s Civil Rights Division.

## **FEMA's Pre-Disaster Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program**

Today, the Biden administration announced that FEMA will provide \$1 billion in 2021 for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, a portion of which will be targeted to disadvantaged communities. BRIC supports states, local communities, tribes, and territories in undertaking pre-disaster hazard mitigation projects, reducing the risks they face from disasters and natural hazards. This level of funding is double the amount provided last year. The program seeks to shift the federal focus from reactive disaster spending and toward research-supported, proactive investment in community resilience so that when the next hurricane, flood, or wildfire comes, communities are better prepared.

### **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**

The Legislature continues its discussion of May Revise proposals with multiple budget subcommittees scheduled throughout the week.

The Appropriation Committees have dispensed with their suspense file and bills will now move to the floor for action in each house. As this is the first year of a two-year session, bills that became two-year bills will be eligible to be heard next year.

The Governor and his team continue to push ahead to open up the state by June 15, 2021, and loosen both mask and social distancing restrictions.

Monday, May 25, 2021

The Senate Budget Subcommittee No 3 on Health and Human Services held a hearing related to the Department of Public Health's COVID-19 pandemic response.

Tuesday, May 25, 2021

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 4 on State Administration has scheduled a hearing related to the May Revise proposals.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee No 5 on Corrections, Public Safety, judiciary, Labor and Transportation has scheduled a hearing related to various issues and departments.

Wednesday, May 26, 2021

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 1 on Health and Human Services has scheduled a hearing related to May Revise proposals.

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 5 on Public Safety has scheduled a hearing related to May Revise proposals.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee No 3 on Health and Human Services has scheduled a hearing related to various departments and issues.

The Senate Budget Subcommittee No 4 on State Administration and General Government has scheduled a hearing related to various departments and issues.

Thursday, May 27, 2021

The Assembly Budget Committee has scheduled a hearing on the "2021 Budget."

Friday, May 28, 2021

The Senate Budget Committee has scheduled a hearing on the "Budget Act of 2021 and Overview of the Senate Plan."

### **Alameda County Sponsored Bills**

- AB 368 (Bonta) Food prescriptions.  
Status: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee – PS team working on a budget play
- AB 1294 (Quirk) Child Care Pilot Permanency.  
Status: Assembly Floor
- AB 924 (Wicks) Alameda Health System: hospital authority.  
Status: Has been turned into a 2-year bill at the request of the County

### **Key Dates and Deadlines**

- Floor Session Only – June 1-June 4, 2021
- House of Origin Deadline – June 4, 2021
- Committee meetings may resume – June 7,2021
- Budget Bill must be passed by midnight – June 15,2021
- Special Primary Election AD-18/Bonta Seat – June 29, 2021
- Last day for policy committees to meet and report bills – July14,2021
- Summer Recess begins upon adjournment – July 16 – August 13, 2021

### **Purpose:**

- Report progress
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- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State update**

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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

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