

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

Monday, May 4, 2020

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

Congressional Schedule

The Senate is back in session today, while the House will remain in recess until at least Monday, May 11, 2020.

CARES 2 Bill

House

Speaker Pelosi is focused on a CARES 2 bill, with the cornerstone being state and local assistance. House leadership staff is working on outlines for the next coronavirus package, and they are soliciting input from committee chairs. Currently, there are talks of including more direct payments to individuals, changes to the Paycheck Protection Program to both tighten and expand eligibility and funding, federalization of the medical supply chain, and a fix to prevent the collapse of pension funds. Committee chairs will likely use the previous House CARES package proposal as the base for moving forward.

Senate

Majority Leader McConnell has said that there will probably be another state and local funding bill. He has stated that he wants the next bill to contain language that limits liability for businesses as the economy begins to reopen.

Administration Priorities

- Supply Chain
- Trump has said he will not agree to pass further stimulus measures to combat the economic fallout of the coronavirus outbreak without a payroll tax cut.
- Infrastructure (but limited in scope) broadband etc.

Treasury Guidance

The Department of the Treasury is scheduled to release an additional FAQ on the department's \$150 billion State Stabilization Fund.

McConnell Priorities

- Nominations (not only judicial branch, but a focus on national security side)

- DOD - Currently, there are about 20 vacant/unconfirmed positions including Secretary of the Navy (nominated), undersecretary of the Air Force (no nominee), undersecretary of the Navy (no nominee).
- DHS - Currently, there are about 11 vacant/unconfirmed positions including Secretary and Deputy Secretary, ICE Director, CBP Commissioner, CIS Director.
- 65 percent of top jobs in the department are vacant or filled by acting appointees
- Oversight on COVID-19 legislation already passed
- FY21 Appropriations
- COVID-19 4.0 Package - the Senate will be working with the Administration on an alternative (limited in scope) to Speaker Pelosi's proposal

COVID-19 Mitigation Efforts Congress

- Staffing Guidelines - offices are asked to admit necessary staff only and to adhere to updated maximum occupancy standards
- Visitor Screening - masks are recommended, individuals appearing ill may be denied entry
- Social Distancing - maintain 6 feet between individuals
- Time Constraints - limit meetings to 15 minutes if possible
- Office Discretion - offices may adhere to their own rules including mask requirements, meeting sizes, staffing plans, etc.

Hearings

The Senate scheduled a slate of hearings for this week:

- Judiciary Committee hearing on nominations, Tuesday May 5 at 2:30 ET.
- Intel Committee hearing on nomination, Tuesday May 5 at 9:30 ET
- Banking Committee hearing on nominations, Wednesday May 6 at 10:00 ET.
- Commerce Committee hearing on "The State of the Aviation Industry: Examining the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic," Wednesday May 6 at 2:30 ET.
- HELP Committee hearing on new tests for COVID-19, Thursday May 7 at 10:00 ET.
- House Labor-HHS-Education, COVID Response, Wednesday, May 6,

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 and the Administration remain focused on COVID-19 management and response. The Assembly reconvenes today, May 4, 2020, from the COVID-related recess which began on March 20, 2020. The PS team continues to screen bills as they are amended and make additions to the County's bill lists by issue area.

The Senate is expected to return from recess on Monday, May 11, 2020. Last week Pro Tem Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) in a press release stated, "the Senate's final return date is subject to ongoing information and guidance from health officials and the Senate's priority remains returning in a way that does not endanger the health of the public, Senators, or staff."

Assembly Committee hearings will resume this week utilizing the Assembly Chamber and the two largest committee rooms in an effort to allow for physical distancing.

Each policy committee will hold one hearing with bills being referred to a single committee. We will work with your staff to determine the impacts on your County's priorities related to Vision 2026 and your 10X goals.

Monday, May 1, 2020

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 on Health and Human Services will hold an informational hearing on "Critical Health and Human Services Issues Related to the COVID-19 Crisis" at 10:00am.

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

The Senate Special Committee on Pandemic Emergency Response will hold an informational hearing on "Testing and Contact Tracing during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Present and Future" at 1:30pm.

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 Friday, May 1, 2020, International Workers' Day, Governor Newsom recognized the contributions and sacrifice of California's essential workforce, including health care workers, farmworkers, grocery workers, teachers, care givers and countless others keeping the state operating during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor highlighted state resources available for essential workers and resources for those who may have lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic.

Governor Newsom signed an executive order that temporarily broadens the capability of counties to enroll persons into the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program using various eligibility verification methods due to social distancing requirements.

Budget

On Thursday, April 30, 2020, the Department of Finance sent a Budget Letter directing that all state agencies and departments must take immediate actions to reduce expenditures and identify operating savings. These immediate actions consist of the following:

- Leave Buy-Back—Cancellation of the annual leave buy back of accumulated vacation or annual leave in 2019-20 due to the fiscal emergency, including for excluded employees.
- New Goods and Services Contracts—Departments may not enter into any new service contracts, contracts or agreements to lease or purchase equipment, issue purchase orders for goods or services, or make changes to an existing contract if the change would increase costs, except purchases that directly support teleworking strategies, personal protective equipment and hand sanitizer, or other purchases necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- Travel—All non-essential travel has already been cancelled to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These restrictions will remain in place until further notice. Additional restrictions are under consideration.
- Hiring—Departments should use discretion when filling vacancies and assessing staffing needed to fill essential positions given the need to maintain flexibility in an environment of constrained resources."

Purpose:

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL_Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State update**

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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