

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

Monday, September 20, 2021  
1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair  
Supervisor Wilma Chan

Location: County Administration Building Room 255  
1221 Oak Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

## Summary/Action Minutes

### I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

#### Schedule

Both chambers of Congress are in session and holding votes this week.

#### Budget Reconciliation

House Committees completed their work on the FY22 budget reconciliation package by September 15th, but negotiations are ongoing between the House, Senate and White House on a final package. Though the Budget Committee cannot amend the final package, it is likely that House leadership will make changes through the Rules Committee print before the bill reaches the floor. Some provisions included in the House package may be stripped out by the Parliamentarian in the Senate through Byrd Rule points of order. On Sunday, parliamentarian MacDonough ruled against Democrats' plan to provide 8 million greencards as part of the bill. She stated that such provisions would create tremendous and enduring policy changes that dwarf their budgetary impacts.

Despite House Committees completing their work, there are several obstacles that remain for President Biden's agenda and the FY22 reconciliation package. As a result, floor consideration of the reconciliation bill could take months to complete, possibly slipping to October or November.

There are a few large policy disagreements that could cause more delays and protracted negotiations. Senator Manchin has called for work requirements on the expanded child tax credit—a requirement opposed by nearly all Democrats. Additionally, three House moderates voted against the Energy and Commerce bill allowing for Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices with manufacturers, a major pay-for that Democrats hoped to use to offset the overall cost of the package. Over the weekend, Senator Sinema also stated her opposition to the provision, further endangering inclusion in the final package. This could be very consequential if the provision remains in the final package. House and Senate Democrats remain at odds with one another on how to allocate funding to critical health programs.

House Democrats and Ways and Means Chair Richard Neal want to permanently fund ACA subsidies as part of reconciliation and expand Medicaid to the 12 non-expansion states. Budget Committee Chairman Bernie Sanders and Senate Democrats want to expand Medicare to cover vision, hearing and dental programs. Both proposals are very expensive and will take additional negotiation to reach a solution to which both chambers and the White House can agree.

The narrow three-seat House majority and the evenly split Senate leave no room for error for Speaker Pelosi or Majority Leader Schumer, and they will be forced to negotiate with the various factions to settle on a final package.

## Continuing Resolution, Infrastructure, and Other Upcoming Deadlines

House leadership is in the process of drafting a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the government beyond the end of the fiscal year on September 30. We expect to see the text of the CR as early as later today. It is expected that the CR will continue funding the government at existing levels through early December 2021. The CR will also include supplemental funding for Afghan refugees entering the United States, relief for states affected by natural and other disasters over the last 18 months, and a suspension of the debt limit through December 2022.

According to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, the United States is scheduled for a default in late October, unless Congress votes to increase the debt ceiling. Senate Republicans have said Democrats should deal with the debt limit and that they plan to vote against an increase. It remains to be seen how Democratic leadership will find the necessary 10 Republican votes to break a filibuster.

Majority Leader Steny Hoyer said he plans to bring the bipartisan, Senate-passed infrastructure bill, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), to the floor on September 27. This date matches the date by which Speaker Pelosi promised to consider the legislation and falls just before the September 30 expiration of the FAST Act extension passed last year. Speaker Pelosi may face resistance to passing the IIJA from the Progressive members of the Democratic caucus who are prioritizing the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation bill which contains massive investments in President Biden's green energy and social program spending and tax package. It is not guaranteed that the bipartisan infrastructure bill will pass the House by September 27, as many House Progressives have signaled their reluctance to support the measure before consideration of the Build Back Better Act.

## White House Homelessness Initiative "House America"

The White House and HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge launched a new national initiative to combat homelessness, and they're trying to form partnerships with local governments to commit resources and energy to the people suffering most due to the national housing crisis. The administration will ask leaders of city, county, state and tribal governments across the U.S. to make a public pledge to reduce homelessness and in return the federal government will provide guidance and support to achieve two goals: providing permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness and building new affordable units for those on the brink.

Governments can join the initiative by passing a proclamation or issuing a letter setting their goals, building their team, and managing a program to achieve their goals, Fudge said, adding that they will have the support of HUD and other agencies through tools, technical assistance, direct regular communication, data support, and peer-to-peer learning. The first cohort of local and state leaders includes Oakland Mayor Libby Schaaf, California Governor Gavin Newsome, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell.

### 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.

## Request for Legislation position – Action Items

- i. [H.R. 1753](#) (Lee) **Improving Access to Nutrition Act of 2021**  
*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency
- ii. [H.R. 4665](#) (Moore) **Worker Relief and Credit Reform Act of 2021**  
*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

iii. [H.R. 4969/S. 2764](#) **Elder Justice Reauthorization and Modernization Act of 2021**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

**Purpose:**

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

**Recommendation from the PAL Committee:** Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

## II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

The legislature has adjourned for its fall recess and will be returning to the Capitol on January 3, 2022. The Governor has until October 10, 2021, to sign or veto bills that made it to his desk. Governor Newsom overcame the recall election that was held last week and Counties have until October 14th to finish counting ballots and certify their results. The California Secretary of State will certify the official, statewide results on October 22, 2021.

### Alameda County Sponsored Bills

- AB 368 (Bonta) Food prescriptions. Status: Held in Committee
- AB 1294 (Quirk) Child Care Pilot. Status: Enrollment, on the way to the Governor’s desk
- Alameda’s Child Care Pilot extension was included in budget bill AB 131 - signed by the Governor
- AB 924 (Wicks) Alameda Health System: hospital authority. Status: Has been turned into a 2-year bill at the request of the County

### LAO Revenue Outlook Update – September 2021

The Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO) released a report today, in which they provide an “interim update” of the formal revenue outlook for 2021-22.

The LAO projects that personal income, sales, and corporation taxes will “exceed the budget act assumption of \$170 billion in 2021-22.” Current estimates show an unanticipated revenue of between \$5-\$25 billion, but the LAO included a disclaimer noting that “there remains significant uncertainty about how much the state ultimately will collect.”

### Key Dates and Deadlines

Governor’s Sign/Veto Deadline – October 10, 2021

Legislature Returns – January 3, 2022

**Purpose:**

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

### Request for Legislation position – Action Items

i. [AB 221](#) (Santiago) **Emergency Food Assistance**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

ii. [AB 1243](#) (Rubio) **Protective orders: elder and dependent adults**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

iii. **AB 636** (Maienschein) **Financial Abuse of Elder or Dependent Adults**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

iv. **SB 549** (Jones) **Social Workers, Essential Workers**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

v. **AB 396** (Gabriel) **Cal Fresh, Educational Programs**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

vi. **SB 65** (Skinner) **Maternal Care and Services**

*Recommendation: Support:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency  
Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

vii. **AB 480** (Carrillo) **Hazardous Materials**

*Recommendation: Support:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

viii. **State Budget Funding for Afghan Refugee Arrivals**

*Recommendation: Support:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency  
Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

ix. **2022 California Home and Community-Base Alternatives Waiver Renewal Application**

*Recommendation: Submit Comment Letter:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency  
Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

x. **State Plan Amendment for Community Health Workers**

*Recommendation: Submit Comment Letter:* Colleen Chawla, Director Health Care Services Agency

xi. **Medicaid Program Reassignment of Medicaid Provider Claims**

*Recommendation: Submit Comment Letter:* Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

**Purpose:**

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 Advocacy or Education  
 **Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position**  
 Other: State update

**Recommendation from the PAL Committee: Support.** Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

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