

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

Monday, October 3, 2016
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

The House and Senate are not in session. Congress adjourned last week after passing a Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government through December 9, 2016. The House and Senate will return for a Lamé Duck session the week of November 14, 2016.

Continuing Resolution

Last week, Congress passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund most federal agencies through December 9, 2016. The agencies will be funded at levels agreed to in the Omnibus spending measure from last year. The House passed the spending bill last Wednesday night, several hours after the Senate overcame partisan divides to pass the measure.

The CR includes the full year FY17 Military Construction-Veterans Affairs appropriations bill. The spending measure also includes a \$1.1 billion aid package to fight Zika and \$500 million in the form of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant program for victims of flooding in Louisiana, West Virginia, and Maryland.

Senate Democrats had originally blocked the bill from passage in an effort to ensure that communities affected by lead-contaminated drinking water, such as Flint, MI, would also receive funding through the measure. However, Senate Democrats agreed to move forward after House Speaker Paul Ryan and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi reached a deal on Tuesday evening to allow a vote on an amendment that would add funding for these communities to H.R. 5303, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

The White House announced its support for the legislation on Wednesday afternoon but also expressed disappointment that provisions were not included to allow the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) to implement disclosure rules on corporate political donations and to lower the Export-Import Bank's legally required quorum. Despite these shortcomings, President Obama signed the CR on Thursday, which took effect on October 1, the start of the new fiscal year.

Survivors Bill of Rights Act

Last week, the Senate passed H.R. 5578, the Survivor's Bill of Rights Act by unanimous consent. Within the bipartisan legislation, survivors of sexual assault would have the ability to request preservation of their sexual assault kits for the duration of the maximum statute of limitations, and to be informed of any test results from the kits. The bill would also ensure that survivors are not held financially accountable for the evidence collection.

The House previously passed H.R. 5578 on September 6, 2016. With overwhelming bipartisan support and quick passage in both Chambers, President Obama is expected to sign the bill into law later this week.

Lame Duck Session

The House and Senate will return to session during the week of November 14, 2016 following the Presidential and Congressional elections. The only must-pass legislation and key priority during this time will be passing an omnibus appropriations bill that will fund the federal government through FY17. Other items that may be considered during the Lame Duck session include, criminal justice reform, mental health reform, and a reauthorization of child nutrition programs.

Criminal Justice Reform

Speaker Paul Ryan wants the House to take up criminal justice reform during the Lame Duck session. He stated that the measure is very bipartisan and he will be reaching out to uncommitted members prior to Congress returning to session in November. Speaker Ryan believes that the House is further along in terms of negotiations and potential to pass the measure than the Senate.

Child Nutrition Reauthorization

Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Pat Roberts still hopes to pass the bipartisan school lunch reauthorization in the lame-duck session. The House version remains highly controversial because it would create a pilot program for block-granting meal programs.

The bipartisan child nutrition bill would reauthorize nutrition programs for five years. The legislation would also ease rules on sodium and on whole grains, but it would broadly preserve the school meal standards pushed for by the Obama administration and implemented under the expired Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. State Legislative Update – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Legislators are back in their districts campaigning for reelection. The Legislature could come in after the election to deal with a transportation funding proposal, however the next time the Legislature will be in session is December 5, 2016 to convene the 2017-18 session.

The Governor has been acting on the final bills of the 2015-16 session. On September 1, 2016 there were nearly 800 bills on the Governor's desk. By early evening on September 30, 2016, the Governor met his deadline to sign or veto all bills that had been passed by the Legislature. Alameda County took positions on 36 bills that were sent to the Governor at the end of session, 26 of those bills were signed into law and 10 were vetoed. Now the Governor will focus on the November 8th General Election and the 17 statewide ballot initiatives.

Community-Based Transitional Housing Grant Program

The 2016-17 budget appropriated \$25 million for the Community Based Transitional Housing Program, which is seeking to encourage cities and counties to support housing that provides treatment and reentry services for offenders released from state prison or county jail. The program will provide grants of up to \$2

million to cities and counties that approve conditional use permits or other entitlements, valid for at least 10 years, for facilities that provide transitional housing and supportive services. The grant application opened on October 1st, and the Department of Finance will be accepting applications on a rolling basis through October 1, 2018, or until the \$25 million is exhausted.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

- i. **Measure O1** (Albany City Council) **Albany Sugar Sweetened Beverages General Tax**
Recommendation: Support: Rebecca Gebhart, Interim Director, Health Care Services Agency

Purpose:

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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