

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

**Monday, January 14, 2019
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 in session this week. Today marks the 24th day of the partial government shutdown, making it the longest shut down in history. House Majority Leader Hoyer (D-MD) has said the House will not recess the week of January 21st if the government remains shutdown.

Government Shutdown & Appropriations

Despite the House passing four appropriations bills last week that had previously passed the Senate (Financial Services (H.R. 264), Transportation-HUD (H.R. 267), Agriculture-FDA (H.R. 265) and Interior-Environment (H.R. 266)), the bills are expected to be dead on arrival in the Senate. Majority Leader McConnell has stated several times he will not bring any legislation to the floor that the President would veto. Republican leadership has successfully kept the caucus together against the measures. No more than 12 Republicans have voted in favor of any of the appropriations bills on the House floor last week.

The White House also released a statement of administration policy on last Wednesday claiming it would veto any appropriations measures that do not “address the security and humanitarian crisis on our Southwest border.”

President Trump and the White House have suggested ways to circumvent the need for Congressional approval to fund the border wall, including declaring a national emergency. While it would certainly be met with legal challenges, it could pave the way for Congress to pass the remaining FY19 appropriations bills with the border wall off the table.

Disaster Supplemental

The House Rules Committee announced it will meet this week to set up floor consideration of the \$12.1 billion disaster relief bill (H.R. 268) that would provide funding to those states impacted by affected recent hurricanes, typhoons, wildfires, and other natural disasters. We expect the legislation to easily pass the House with the majority of Democrats in favor of the disaster package.

The legislation, introduced last week by Appropriations Chairman Nita Lowey (D-NY), includes \$2.96 billion for infrastructure, economic and community development, \$2.54 billion for resiliency funding to mitigate damage from future disasters that are accelerating in number due to climate change, \$1.86 billion in assistance to farmers and rural communities, and \$1.46 billion for the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to repair and reconstruct damaged facilities, among other things.

Back Pay Legislation

The Senate approved the Government Employee Fair Treatment Act (S. 24), a bill to provide compensation to federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations, on a voice vote on January 10. The House subsequently passed the bill on a vote of 411-7. President Trump is expected to sign the legislation, ensuring the back pay for those that are impacted by the shutdown.

Cabinet Nominations & Hearings

AG Nominee

On Tuesday, January 15, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of William Barr to be the next Attorney General. Barr will likely not receive Democratic votes but can be confirmed without bipartisan support. Republicans now enjoy a two-seat majority on the Judiciary Committee, and swing vote Senator Flake (R-AZ) has retired, making it easier for Republicans to move the nomination through committee. A simple majority is needed to confirm him on the floor.

EPA Administrator

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hold a nomination hearing for Andrew Wheeler to be the next Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). He currently serves as acting Administrator. Mr. Wheeler had previously been confirmed by the Senate as the EPA Deputy Administrator on April 12, 2018 on a vote of 53-45. We expect his nomination to move easily through the Senate as Republicans increased their margin in the midterms with two of the three Democrats that voted in favor of Wheeler's previous nomination lost reelection (Sens. Heitkamp and Donnelly).

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

Governor Newsom Budget Released

Governor Newsom released his first state budget on January 10, 2019, showcasing a summary of his “California for All” plan to increase spending on numerous services, while upholding fiscal prudence. The \$144 billion general fund proposal initiates six months of discussions with the Legislature, with a June 15th deadline to pass a balanced budget. Newsom’s total budget, which includes money allocated for special purpose funds, tops \$209 billion. It should be noted that unlike past budgets, 86.4% of this budget (non-prop. 98 dollars) are allocated for one-time expenditures. This approach is an effort to create budget resiliency for out-years, which includes the paying off of much of the borrowing and debts that the state needed to tap into during fiscally challenging budget years. The proposed budget further includes significant payments to both PERS and STRS to try to stabilize the state’s retirement systems.

Prior to the PAL meeting, the lobbying team attended a briefing by the Director of the Department of Finance on the 2019-20 proposed budget.

Highlights include the following items of significance:

IHSS MOE

This budget and Administration would like to keep Counties whole, with that they offered a 4% MOE increase and have additionally proposed a permanent 7% restoration for the recipients.

CalWORKs Increase

The proposal includes several areas in the CalWorks program to help low-income families. The 2019-20 budget is seen as a way to invest in one-time programs while looking for long-term solutions, as the Administration has stated, this is considered a budget year plus 3 years.

Medi-Cal Expansion

\$53 million dollar increase for the Medi-Cal program. Continued use the Prop. 56 funds for provider rates, however, these are not permanent increases and the stakeholders are continuing to push for the increases to be permanent and on-going. This budget will also be expanded to include young undocumented adults.

Homelessness/Emergency Shelters

A proposed \$500 million for local governments to create “navigation housing shelters” including allocating \$300 million initially as part of the \$500 million. The Administration is encouraging counties and cities to work together to achieve these goals.

SB 1 Transportation Funding

The budget calls for SB 1 dollars to be contingent upon meeting the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) numbers released by HCD. While there aren’t any details available as of yet, the Administration plans to re-energize and empower HCD to enforce these RHNA numbers to be met by locals. The Administration pointed out that while the local government in question may not receive their transportation funding if they fail to meet their assigned numbers, however, if they continue to work in good faith to meet their numbers the local government will then be allocated their transportation dollars. Administration will work with HCD so they can be a resource for locals to be able to reach their goals.

Census

The progress report on Complete Count Office’s Census 2020 Outreach and Communication Program was released last week. As previously reported, the budget has proposed \$50 million dollars for the Census. Additionally, we know that CSAC has a working group with a representative from each county that will meet on a regular basis to review best practices.

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

III. a) 2019-2020 Alameda County Legislative Platform *(continued from January 7, 2019)* [Attachment](#)

Supervisor Chan, Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, and other county staff discussed the latest revisions of the Alameda County Legislative Platform. The revised version includes some technical edits and clarifications discussed at the previous PAL meeting.

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.

b) Proposed County sponsored/co-sponsored legislation

i. SSA – Alignment of State Regulations for the administration of CalFresh and CalWORKs regarding sponsored noncitizens

[Attachment](#)

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.

c) 2019 County Priorities

[Attachment](#)

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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