

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

Monday, February 10, 2025

1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Lena Tam, Chair  
Supervisor Nikki Fortunato Bas

Location: Board of Supervisors Chamber – 5th Floor  
County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

## Summary/Action Minutes

### I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

#### **Schedule**

The House and Senate are in session this week. The Senate will devote the majority of their time to confirmation hearings for President Trump's appointees. House Republicans will continue working towards an agreement on a budget resolution to kick off the reconciliation process. The House will be in a week-long recess next week for President's Day while the Senate will be in session.

#### **Reconciliation**

House Republicans hope to move their budget resolution first but were delayed last week in introducing their budget resolution due to internal disagreements over spending cuts. The House Republican leadership wants to move one big reconciliation bill that includes funding for immigration enforcement, energy policy, military spending and an extension of the 2017 tax cuts. The Freedom Caucus is requesting that the package provide spending reductions of over \$2 trillion, while leadership was initially planning for under \$1 trillion in cuts to federal spending. These delays by the House prompted a roundtable discussion at the White House between President Trump, Speaker Johnson, and a group of rank-and-file Republicans to come to terms on the parameters of a House budget reconciliation plan. Speaker Johnson has indicated that the group is very close to agreeing on a framework to move forward and worked through the weekend on the details.

The Senate Budget Committee is preparing to move forward this week on a budget blueprint that sets up a "two-track" reconciliation approach to enact President Donald Trump's domestic agenda. Senate Budget Chairman Graham envisions two reconciliation bills, one including border funding, energy policy, and military spending and some initial spending cuts as offsets, with a second one later in the year focused on permanently extending the 2017 Trump tax cuts. Chairman Graham released his budget resolution on Friday, expecting that his committee would mark up the resolution on Wednesday of this week. House Speaker Johnson has asked Chairman Graham to delay the markup.

A two-bill reconciliation strategy faces significant issues in the House Republican Conference. About 20 Republican House members want to see corporate tax slightly increase, and five members have demanded changes to the SALT cap. Additionally, the House Freedom Caucus and other budget hawks insist that the reconciliation package not increase spending to the deficit, demanding further cuts to social programs. The House leadership sees the border funding as the glue to keep the House conference together. Still, a two-bill strategy, with the first being border, immigration, defense, and energy, disrupts that balance and makes those tax provisions harder to swallow for the House.

## **FY25 and FY26 Appropriations**

Congress has not completed the FY25 appropriations process, with the government currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through March 14. The Appropriations Committees in the House and Senate have yet to reach agreement on top line numbers for these bills. Without an agreement in place there is concern Congress may need to pass another continuing resolution. An additional CR for FY25 will likely complicate Congress's schedule in regard to its consideration of Appropriations for FY26.

### **Cabinet nominees pending Senate approval**

This week, the Senate is set to vote on the confirmation of Tulsi Gabbard as director of national intelligence and Robert F. Kennedy Jr. as Health and Human Services Secretary. The remaining nominees awaiting Senate action are as follows:

Department of Agriculture: Brooke Rollins  
Department of Commerce: Howard Lutnick  
Department of Education: Linda McMahon

Department of Housing and Urban Development: Eric Turner  
Department of Justice: Pamela Bondi  
Department of Labor: Lori Chavez-DeRemer  
Ambassador to the United Nations: Elise Stefanik  
Department of Veterans Affairs: Douglas Collins  
White House Office of Management and Budget: Russell Vought  
U.S. Trade Representative: Jamieson Greer

Small Business Administration: Kelly Loeffler  
Federal Bureau of Investigation: Kash Patel

#### **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**

The Governor met with federal officials in Washington, D.C., regarding assistance for the Los Angeles wildfires, which continue to impact state policy and budget planning. The Governor signed an executive order to improve wildfire response and infrastructure. He also signed two special session bills:

- \$25 million for litigation related to federal legal issues.
- \$25 million for legal aid.

Governor Newsom emphasized that the aid is for vulnerable Californians (e.g., disabled individuals, homeless youth, trafficking victims) and is not intended for immigration-related services for noncitizens convicted of serious or violent felonies. Further legislative clarification may be introduced.

The Assembly began its budget subcommittee process, which will address issues such as wildfire recovery and education, especially rebuilding schools affected by wildfires.

The deadline to introduce new bills is February 21, 2025.

**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. SB 12 (Gonzalez) California Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency**

*Recommendation: Support:* Nikki Fortunato Bas, Board of Supervisors, District 5

**ii. SB 48 (Gonzalez) Safe Access to Schools**

*Recommendation: Support:* Nikki Fortunato Bas, Board of Supervisors, District 5

**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.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

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