

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

**Monday, February 11, 2019  
1:30 p.m.**

**Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair  
Supervisor Wilma Chan**

Location: **Board of Supervisors Chambers – Room 512 5<sup>th</sup> floor**  
County Administration Building  
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

**Summary/Action Minutes**

**I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake**

The House and Senate are both in session this week and are scheduled to recess on Friday for the week-long President's Day recess. The House has canceled votes and most hearings tomorrow to allow Members to attend the funeral of former Representative John Dingell (D-MI). A Senate floor vote will also occur on William Barr's nomination to be the next Attorney General. Congress will need to act on a spending bill this week to fund the federal government as the current continuing resolution (CR) runs through Friday, February 15, 2019.

**FY19 Appropriations & DHS Conference Committee**

The border security negotiations between House and Senate appropriators on the DHS conference committee stalled over the weekend. Despite making progress toward a compromise last week, a dispute among Democrats and Republicans arose over whether to put a cap on the number of undocumented immigrants officials can detain. Democrats have argued for a cap to force ICE to detain criminals rather than those with no criminal history. However, Republicans have resisted a detention limit on the grounds that criminals should not count toward a cap and ICE should maintain discretion. Negotiators are meeting again today to try and resolve the remaining issues with detention beds. There is talk of a CR through September 30<sup>th</sup> for the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill.

Additionally, President Trump is in El Paso, Texas today for a campaign rally and what is expected to be his case to declare a national emergency at the southern border.

**Senate Rules Change – Nominees**

The Senate Rules and Administration Committee will mark up a proposal (S. Res. 50) on Wednesday to overhaul the way the Senate considers certain nominations. Chairman Blunt and Senator Lankford last week introduced the resolution that would expedite Senate consideration of President Trump's district court judge nominees and certain executive nominees including, those positions that fall under Cabinet secretaries (deputy secretaries, etc). Under the resolution, the Senate would have two — rather than 30 — hours of debate after it agrees to invoke cloture, or limit debate. Republicans would need to gain support from seven Democrats in order to pass the 60-vote threshold. If Republicans can't win enough Democratic support, they'd be able to use the "nuclear option," the parliamentary procedure that allows the Senate to override a rule by simple majority.

**SALT Deduction Legislation**

Senator Bob Menendez and Congressman Bill Pascrell introduced the Stop Attacking Local Taxpayers (SALT) Act of 2019, a bipartisan, bicameral bill to repeal the federal cap on state and local tax (SALT) deductions. Both Menendez and Pascrell are members of the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees, the committees of jurisdiction on tax policy.

The bill fully restores the SALT deduction, which has been part of the tax code since the federal income tax was created in 1913. It also restores the top individual income tax rate at 39.6%. President Trump has said he is open to reviewing the SALT cap, but Senate Finance Chairman Chuck Grassley has said he has no plans to take up the legislation this year.

### Family Separation Hearings

Last week the House Energy & Commerce Oversight Subcommittee held a hearing on President Trump's family separation policy. Commander Jonathan White, from the Department of Health & Human Services, testified and told the Committee that of the 2,816 children that were separated from their parents as a result of the zero tolerance policy, there were six unresolved cases as of the day of the hearing. The second panel of witnesses (experts from the ACLU, pediatrics and children's mental health organizations, and refugee and immigrant services) testified to the devastating effects of separating children from their parents.

The House Judiciary Committee was scheduled to hold a hearing tomorrow on the family separation policy but has now been postponed until February 26, 2019. The House Oversight Committee also postponed its scheduled hearing tomorrow into how HHS, DHS and DOJ documented family separations. A make-up date has not yet been finalized.

### Hearings

- The House Financial Services Committee will hold a hearing on Wednesday entitled, “Homeless in America: Examining the Crisis and Solutions to End Homelessness.”
- The House Financial Services Subcommittee on Consumer Protection and Financial Institutions will hold a hearing on Wednesday on access to banking services for marijuana-related businesses.
- The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing on Wednesday on “Strengthening Our Health Care System: Legislation to Reverse ACA Sabotage and Ensure Pre-existing Conditions Protections.”
- The Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing on Thursday on America’s Infrastructure Needs: Keeping Pace with a Growing Economy.

### Purpose:

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

### Request for Legislation Position – Action Item

- i. **Proposed Resolution urging the United States Department of Health and Human Services to rescind the new Title X Regulations**

**Recommendation: Support:** Supervisor Wilma Chan, District 3, Board of Supervisors and Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

[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.**

## **II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions**

### **Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee Highlights**

The Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee met on Thursday, February 7, 2019 to hear AB 72 and AB 73, amendments to the current year budget. AB 72 contains a property tax backfill for counties affected by wildfires in 2018 and funding for an emergency preparedness campaign. AB 73 establishes the Disaster Response Emergency Operations special fund for economic uncertainty, among other things. Both bills passed out of committee on a 15-0 vote and will be heard on the Senate Floor.

### **Governor Newsom Appointments**

Governor Newsom continues to announce appointments, but announcements have slowed down a bit. We anticipate that because most of his key positions are filled his team will now take more time to fill other positions, keeping in mind that many of the Governor Brown appointees were told if they wanted to stay, they could.

### **Housing and Transportation**

The Governor's proposed budget called for housing goals to be tied to transportation funding for each region. This week the Governor's office met with stakeholders to further discuss this proposal. Stakeholders have been told by the Administration that this will be a long-term discussion. However, the Assembly plans to introduce at least one bill on related to this concept.

### **Legislative Platform**

The Sacramento Team has met with most of the legislative delegation to share with them the County's updated and officially adopted legislative platform. The team has also informed the delegation's staff about the process of the BOS for getting bill positions in the event that they would like for the County to weigh-in on any of their legislative proposals.

### **Urban Counties Caucus**

UCC meets every Wednesday morning to discuss upcoming hearings, legislation, and the state budget. This week was the UCC Executive Director's last meeting. It is anticipated that the UCC Board will announce the firm that successfully won the interim contract to perform the work of the Executive Director while they perform a search for a new Executive Director.

UCC's state budget priorities are listed below:

- General Fund support for IHSS program
- Funding for Child Support payments – \$56 million
- Homelessness – \$500 million
- CEQA Reform and RHNA Reform (which is expected to take many out years to come up with solutions)
- Local control and transportation dollars
- Funding for wildfires in California

### **Key Dates/Deadlines**

- February 12, 2019 – Governor Newsom's first "State of the State"
- February 13, 2019 – Disaster Summit hosted by CSAC
- February 22, 2019 – Bill Introduction Deadline
- March 1, 2019 – Assembly Deadline to have language drafting requests for spot bills into Legislative Counsel

**Key Dates/Deadlines** *(continued)*

- March 13, 2019 – Assembly Deadline by which to have substantive language for spot bills turned into Assembly Rules Committee
- April 11, 2019 – Spring Recess begins

**Purpose:**

- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- Other: State Update

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

*Board of Supervisors' Committees agendas are available via Internet at: <http://www.acgov.org/>*