

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

**Monday, February 4, 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. The House will consider several non-controversial bills focused on infrastructure and public safety. Two bills of particular interest include, H.R. 494, which would reauthorize the juvenile justice block grant program, and H.R. 507, which would require the Department of Justice to conduct a survey of human trafficking survivors seeking services throughout the country. The Senate will vote today on S. 1, the package of bills related to the Middle East. Also, this week, the Senate will consider a broad, bipartisan public lands package that contains over 100 bills previously introduced in the 115th Congress.

FY19 Appropriations

The federal government has funding to maintain operations through February 15th, however Speaker Pelosi has said the 17 Democrats and Republicans on the DHS conference committee need to finalize their work by Friday to allow enough time to vote on the potential deal. When the talks began last week, both Democrats and Republicans agreed they do not want another shutdown. Republicans insist that any deal must include funding for a barrier. Democrats have remained steadfast in their opposition to funding for the border wall but did offer funds as part of a first negotiation for more personnel, technology, repair projects at ports of entry, and even suggested an openness to border fencing. One official conference committee meeting was held last week, but no others have been scheduled.

President Trump recently has declared the negotiations “a waste of time” and said over the weekend that his State of the Union address would reveal more of his own plans. He also suggested that might include making an emergency declaration to circumvent Congress to begin building a border wall.

State of the Union

President Trump will deliver his State of the Union address on Tuesday. In his speech, the President is expected to focus on five key issue areas including, immigration, infrastructure, health care and prescription drug costs, trade, and foreign wars. President Trump will reiterate his call for \$5.7 billion in border wall funding and will make the case for what he deems a national emergency on the southern border and ask Congress to produce a package that makes substantial investments in vital infrastructure projects. On trade, President Trump will update Congress on the US trade relationship and ongoing feud with China. He’ll also urge lawmakers to approve the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (formerly NAFTA) and to pass the Reciprocal Trade Act. Finally, President Trump will defend his decision to pull troops out of Syria and discuss “endless foreign wars.”

USDA Proposed SNAP Rule

The Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service released a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, “Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults Without

Dependents.” The Senate dropped provisions related to SNAP work requirements in the 2018 Farm Bill negotiations. Because of this, the Administration put forth a proposed rule that would encourage broader application of the statutory ABAWD work requirement. Written comments must be submitted on or before April 2, 2019 (CJ Lake will work with the Social Services Agency on County submission).

Nominees

The Senate Judiciary Committee is scheduled to vote Thursday on William Barr’s nomination to be attorney general. Barr is likely to advance to the Senate floor for a vote as early as next week.

The Senate EPW Committee is expected to hold votes in the next few weeks on the nominations for Nicole Nason to be FHWA Administrator and Andrew Wheeler to be EPA Administrator. Hearings and votes scheduled for tomorrow on Department of Labor nominations have been postponed.

Hearings

There are several hearings this week as House Democrats begin to turn their attention to issues other than appropriations, including:

- The House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee will hold a hearing Wednesday on “Texas v. U.S.: the Republican Lawsuit and Its Impacts on Americans with Pre-Existing Conditions.” The House Education and Labor Committee also scheduled a hearing Wednesday on pre-existing conditions.
- The House Appropriations Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee will hold an oversight hearing looking at the effect of Trump administration policies on the Affordable Care Act on Wednesday.
- The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee meets for a hearing Tuesday to examine how primary care affects health care costs and outcomes.
- The House Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee will hold a hearing Thursday on President Trump’s family separation immigration policies, efforts to reunify families with children, and the long-term effects of those separations.
- The House Education and Labor Committee will hold a hearing Thursday on raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. Last month, Democrats in both chambers released legislation to gradually increase the minimum wage.
- The House Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing Wednesday on preventing gun violence.
- The House Energy and Commerce Environment and Climate Change Subcommittee will meet Wednesday for a hearing on addressing the environmental and economic effects of climate change.
- The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold its first hearing of the 116th Congress on Thursday entitled, “The Cost of Doing Nothing: Why Investing in our Infrastructure Cannot Wait.”

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

Potential impacts locally from the Federal Government Shutdown:

There was an informational webinar held regarding the Federal Government Shutdown and Public Housing Agency contingency plans for March. HUD has worked closely with their local government partners to make sure that they had enough funds to get through the end of February. Locals were encouraged to reach out to their landlord partners to encourage them to stay in the program and remind them that they can’t be evicted based on non-payment given the shutdown.

Additionally, participants in the program were also reminded that they must pay their share of the rent during the shutdown. If it runs into March, it was suggested that they borrow from other resources, if they could. However, it should be noted that if you are able to use other resources you must get authorization from HUD. HUD stated that they should be able to get locals through the end of April even if the federal government shuts down again on February 15, 2019. The moderators stressed that they should continue to work closely with their HUD representatives.

Governor Newsom's Thoughts on PG&E Bankruptcy:

PG&E officially declared bankruptcy on January 29, 2019. Governor Newsom issued a statement in response, as follows: "PG&E today filed for reorganization in federal bankruptcy court. That was PG&E's choice, but it does not change my focus, which remains protecting the best interests of the people of California. My administration will continue working to ensure that Californians have access to safe, reliable and affordable service, that victims and employees are treated fairly, and that California continues to make forward progress on our climate change goals." Additionally, on Friday, February 1, 2019 Governor Newsom sent a letter to the trustee handling the bankruptcy.

Budget

The Assembly Budget Committee met and heard AB 72 and AB 73, as was reported in our weekly update last week. The Senate Budget Committee will meet on Thursday, February 7, 2019 to hear both bills.

AB 72 relates to emergency preparedness and the property tax backfill for affected counties due to the wildfires and AB 73 establishes the Disaster Response Emergency Operations special fund for economic uncertainty, among others.

The Senate Budget Committee has scheduled an informational hearing on February 21, 2019, to hear the Housing and Homelessness issues. The Assembly will also hold a similar hearing on February 26, 2019.

There will also be a joint hearing of the Assembly Budget Subcommittee 2 on Education Finance and the Assembly Education Committee to discuss "Pre K For All" and lessons learned from other states.

Urban Counties Caucus – Budget/Priorities

The UCC Board met on January 28, 2019. The following issues were highlighted:

- Budget Update: UCC provided a summary, which we have included in conjunction with this communication.
- General Fund support for IHSS program.
- Funding for Child Support payments (\$56 Million), which UCC fought for last year but was ultimately not successful.
- Homelessness \$500 million; CEQA Reform and RHNA Reform (which is expected to take many out years to come up with solutions).
- Concerns were raised with the proposal to link transportation dollars to local housing production.
- Funding for Wildfires in California

Budget Priorities:

- Support the IHSS shortfall
- Child support payments
- Homelessness and Affordable Housing

UCC Chair and Vice Chair nominations included: for Chair, Carole Groom, San Mateo County and for Vice Chair, Kelly Long, Ventura County.

Property Tax backfill for the counties impacted by the wildfires was added as a priority issue to the platform. There are three impacted counties in the UCC, the Board thought it was important to support them and the Governor on this budget issue.

Bills

A number of spot/non-substantive bills have been introduced – including many related to affordable housing; RDA restart; and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA).

Important Dates

The bill introduction deadline is February 22, 2019.

The budget subcommittees will begin to meet at the end of February or the beginning of March. Their schedules were released late last week; we will work with staff to identify where we need to be to support the County's priority budget issues.

Purpose:

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

Request for Legislation position – Action Item

- i. Letter requesting Governor Newsom to create a statewide commission on recycling markets**

Recommendation: Support: Willie A. Hopkins, Jr., Director, General Services Agency

[Attachment](#)

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

III. 2019-2020 Alameda County Legislative Platform amendments regarding megaregional transportation projects and congestion management, and sentencing reform – Action item (continued from January 28, 2019)

Recommendation: Support and recommend to the full Board for adoption: Susan S. Muranishi, County Administrator, County Administrator's Office

[Attachment](#)

Purpose:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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