Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

The House and Senate are both in session this week. The chambers will focus primarily on Defense policy and funding. The Senate will try to wrap up its FY16 Defense Authorization bill, while the House plans to consider its FY16 Defense Appropriations bill as well as the Transportation-HUD spending bill.

Later in the week, the House may consider the Senate-passed Trade Promotion Authority legislation. The Senate approved the legislation right before Memorial Day recess. The TPA legislation would give fast-track authority to President Obama on trade negotiations. There continues to be strong opposition from progressives that are worried about potential impacts on jobs. Representatives Honda, Lee and Swalwell have stated they will vote against the legislation.

House and Senate Appropriations

This week, the House Appropriations Committee plans to complete consideration of the FY16 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development appropriations bill (H.R. 2577). It is on track to be the fifth House-passed spending bill of the year as Republican leaders try to complete all 12 appropriations bills by the start of the next fiscal year on October 1. The Transportation-HUD spending bill would provide $55.3 billion in discretionary funds, up from $53.8 billion this year. However, a projected $1.1 billion decline in the Federal Housing Administration would translate into a practical increase of just $25 million above current spending levels. The bill also includes policy riders that would bar commercial flights and ferries to Cuba from the U.S. and would ease trucking regulations.

Last week, the House passed (H.R. 2578) the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill by a mostly party-line vote of 242-183. Democrats continue to oppose most appropriations bills because the overall spending levels are too low. Representatives Honda, Lee, and Swalwell all voted against the bill.

Last week, Senate Democrats said they plan to vote against motions to proceed to any appropriation bill that keeps spending below the caps instructed by the Budget Control Act of 2011. The Senate will continue consideration of amendments to H.R. 1735, the House-passed defense authorization bill.

Waters of the United States

The Senate Environment & Public Works (EPW) Committee plans a markup of S 1140 this week. This would require the Secretary of the Army and the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator to consider an alternate definition of the term “waters of the U.S.” The bill is a response to the EPA’s recently unveiled clean water rule. The House passed a similar bill (H.R. 1732) in May. NACo has taken a very active role in opposing the rule as currently written and is working with Congress to ultimately repeal the rule.
Police Body Cameras

The House is scheduled to consider six pieces of legislation under suspension this week, to include a bipartisan resolution focused on police body cameras. The House will vote on H. Res. 295 that would encourage state and local law enforcement agencies to consider the use of body-worn cameras by officers. A recent Justice Department report said use of the cameras could increase transparency and citizen views of police legitimacy and improve behavior and civility among police officers and citizens. Use of the cameras could also help to quickly resolve complaints or lawsuits and improve evidence for arrest and prosecution, according to the report. The nonbinding resolution would also recognize the work of all law enforcement agencies and officers to protect communities. The resolution was introduced on June 3, 2015 by Texas Democrat Al Green and was referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which has not acted.

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 – Platinum Advisors

Friday was the house-of-origin deadline requiring most bills to pass from one house to the other in order to move forward this year. The Budget Conference Committee will meet this week on the budget in addition to other policy committee hearings. The next deadline is July 17, 2015, which is the last day for policy committees to meet and it also marks the beginning of the summer recess. The Legislature will return on August 17, 2015 for the final weeks of the session.

Budget Conference Committee

The Budget Conference Committee finished their first round through the book of conference issues on Friday. In large part, the committee agreed to leave most items open until there was some decision made on which revenue numbers to use the Department of Finance’s or the Legislative Analysts’ Office. Agreeing to use the higher revenue numbers will allow focus on high priority issues such as the restoration of Med-Cal provider rates and the elimination of the Maximum Family Grant rule. Once an agreement on revenue is reached, there should be a quick resolution of the issues so the budget and trailer bills may be in print for 48 hours prior to a floor vote.

Trailer Bills

The Legislature is required to adopt a budget by midnight on June 15, 2015 in order to avoid forfeiting any pay, adoption of the budget trailer bills are not subject to that deadline.

The Senate, Assembly and the Administration are not in agreement on how to spend the additional Cap & Trade auction revenue, making it likely that the Legislature will delay action on the expenditure plan. In addition, southern California counties have expressed their frustration with the Affordable Housing & Sustainable Communities (AH & SC) program process, and they are pushing a request to allocate Cap & Trade revenues directly to regional authorities to implement sustainable communities in the region. There may be a proposal to split the AH & SC program into to pots, with the affordable housing piece being administered by Housing and Community Development and allocating revenue to the metropolitan planning organizations to fund sustainable communities projects.
California Children’s Services (CCS) Program

The CCS program provides diagnostic and treatment services, medical case management and physical and occupational therapy services to children under 21 with severe health conditions such as cystic fibrosis, hemophilia, cerebral palsy, heart disease, cancer, traumatic injuries and other major infectious diseases. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) convened a core group of stakeholders in December to help the Department in redesigning CCS to improve the current program and develop the opportunities for innovation and improvement. The stakeholder process has run outside of the 1115 waiver stakeholder process.

It is now unclear when the process will be complete as the stakeholder committee members are not aligned in terms of their goals with the program. One of the largest ongoing concerns of a variety of stakeholders is the possibility of CCS being folded into managed care. The CCS Medi-Cal carve-out sunsets at the end of the year and there is legislation currently moving to extend the sunset.

There will be a meeting on June 22, 2015 with DHCS to present several different proposed models for the CCS program to stakeholders.

Purpose:
☐ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
☒ Other: State legislative update

Request for Legislation Position – Action Items

i. Support: 1) Moving all childcare back into the Proposition 98 guarantee and to re-bench the guarantee; 2) Governor’s May Revise proposals related to special and early education; and 3) Assembly Budget Subcommittee #2 on Education Finance’s proposal related to early childhood education

Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency, on behalf of the Early Care and Education Planning Council

ii. AB 47 (McCarty) State Preschool Program: Eligibility
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency

iii. AB 74 (Calderon) Care Facilities: Regulatory Visits
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency and Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

iv. AB 188 (Garcia) Childcare: Alternative Payment Providers: Reimbursement Rates: Eligibility Requirements
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency

v. AB 833 (Bonta) Individualized County Child Care Subsidy Plans: Pilot Expansion for Alameda County
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency and Lori Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

vi. SB 311 (Beall) Childcare & Development Services Act: Alum Rock Union Elementary School District: pilot
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency

vii. SB 567 (Liu) Childcare Programs: Continuity of Services
Recommendation: Support: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency
viii. **SB 763** (Leno) Disclosure of Flame Retardant Chemicals in Children’s Products

*Recommendation: Support*: Caroline Judy, Acting Director, General Services Agency

**Purpose:**

- [ ] Report progress
- [ ] Advocacy or Education
- [x] Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- [ ] Other:

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

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