Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

The House and Senate are in session this week. Before leaving for its August recess, the House will consider several bills that would target the Affordable Care Act and a four-month extension of the national flood-insurance program that is set to expire July 31. The Senate is expected to confirm Robert Wilkie to be the next Secretary of Veterans Affairs today and will likely name conferees to the Farm Bill conference committee later this week. The House named its conferees last week including, CA Representatives Costa, Denham, Royce and Waters.

FY19 Appropriations

The House and Senate have started to conference the first minibus (MilCon-VA, Energy & Water, and Legislative Branch bills). The package should be relatively easy to conference except for disagreements over the VA Mission Act. Some Republicans and all Democrats want to raise the caps to pay for the VA Mission Act that was signed into law in early June. President Trump and House Republicans are objecting, saying funds can be found within the FY19 allocations. The House approved its second minibus (Interior-Environment and Financial Services bills) last week and the full House has passed 6 out of 12 appropriations bills.

On the Senate side, the Appropriations Committee has advanced all 12 appropriations bills to the floor. It is expected that the Senate will take up the second House minibus this week (H.R. 6147). The Senate plans to add the Transportation-HUD and Agriculture-FDA appropriations bills to the second minibus in a manager’s amendment. At this point, the Senate has passed 3 of the 12 bills.

Congress could enact some FY19 bills prior to the September 30 deadline, but we expect a Continuing Resolution for the majority of federal agencies to be passed shortly after the House returns from August recess.

Apprenticeships

The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee will hold a hearing this Thursday on Modernizing Apprenticeships to Expand Opportunities.

President Trump also signed an executive order last Thursday related to workforce development that establishes the President’s National Council for the American Worker and the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board. The Council will provide a forum for the development of a national strategy to address urgent workforce issues. The Council will:

- Develop a national campaign to raise awareness of workforce issues, such as the urgency of the skills crisis and the importance of STEM education;
• Create a plan for recognizing companies that demonstrate excellence in workplace education, training, retraining policies, and workforce investment;
• Help expand the number of apprenticeships and encourage increased investment in training and re-training American workers;
• Recommend a specific course of action for increasing transparency related to education and job-training programs, and propose ways to increase available job data; and
• Consider and implement the recommendations of the American Workforce Policy Advisory Board (Board).

The Board will draw upon the knowledge and expertise of leaders from outside government to develop recommendations on how to improve our country’s education and training. Companies including, IBM, General Motors, Lockheed Martin, FedEx, Home Depot, and potentially Apple and Blackrock will advise the government on how to deal with the threat of automation facing American workers. The initiative will be led by Ivanka Trump and Secretary of Labor Acosta.

The Administration is also calling on American companies, associations, and foundations to sign a pledge committing to invest in workers and students.

**Rent Relief Act**

Senator Harris introduced the Rent Relief Act last week (still no bill number assigned). The legislation would allow qualified taxpayers to claim a refundable tax credit for the rent that they pay. In order to qualify, taxpayers must spend at least 30% of their gross income for the taxable year on their rent including utilities. The proposal would allow individuals living in government-subsidized housing to receive the tax benefit as well. Senators Feinstein, Blumenthal, and Hassan are original cosponsors.

**Purpose:**
- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position
- **Other: Federal Update**

**Request for Legislation position – Action Item**

i. A Resolution in Support of Honoring World War II Chinese-American Veterans with a Congressional Gold Medal

*Recommendation: Support:* Wilma Chan, President, Board of Supervisors, District 3

[Attachment]

A. Information Item

Position taken under authority of the adopted 2018 Legislative Platform for immediate action by legislative advocates:

i. Medicaid Program: Reassignment of Medicaid Provider Claims

*Recommendation: Oppose:* Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

[Attachment]

**Purpose:**
- Report progress
- Advocacy or Education
- **Request PAL Committee Recommendation or Position**
- Other: Federal Update

**Recommendation from PAL Committee:** Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.
II. State Legislative Update – Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Sacramento has quieted down significantly, with the Legislature on their Summer Recess. When they reconvene on August 6, they will turn their attention to fiscal bills with the end goal of sending all bills to the Governor for signature or veto prior to the August 31 final adjournment of session. Prior to the Legislature adjourning for Summer Recess, the Legislature moved SB 901 (Dodd) to conference committee where they will discuss potential changes to laws related to wildfire preparedness, response and wildfire liability. Conference Committee will hold its first meeting this week, on July 25.

Update on County Sponsored Bills

AB 2111 (Quirk), Alameda County’s sponsored bill, which will align CalWORKs sponsor deeming provisions with those used for CalFresh for sponsored non-citizens indigence determinations, was placed on the Appropriations Suspense File for action in August when the Legislature returns from Summer Recess.

Initiative Update

The initiative to restrict parole for non-violent offenders and authorize felony sentences for certain misdemeanor offenses, which we are monitoring for the County, has now become eligible for the November 2020 ballot. This measure failed to make it on the November 2018 ballot due to not meeting the sample qualifications deadline.

Emergency Homelessness Funding and Webinar

The Homelessness Coordinating and Financing Council is currently onboarding staff and ramping up their resources in preparation of administering and allocating funds through the new Homeless Emergency Aid Program, given the budget just went into effect July 1. As such, they have not finalized their deadlines but expect to be ready to get funding out the door as soon as possible. It is expected that a Notice of Funding Availability will be released this summer, with application review and notices of awards taking place in late summer/fall 2018, and the disbursement of Round 1 payments being allocated by January 2019. On July 25 the California State Association of Counties will hold an informational webinar titled “New Homelessness Funding: Thinking it Through.” As you know, the 2018-19 budget provides over $700 million to address homelessness in the state. This also means that local governments must be prepared to act quickly and be prepared to navigate new requirements over the next few months. This webinar will address how local governments can access homelessness funding and how to leverage the funding to create long term solutions. To register for this webinar, please click here.

Cal OES Grant Opportunities

The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), is currently seeking proposals for the Innovative Response to Marginalized Victims (KI) Program, the Sexual Assault Law Enforcement Specialized Units (ST) Program, and the Trauma-Informed Care & Brain Science Principles (TQ) Program for 2018-19.

The KI program is aimed at supporting innovative programs that serve marginalized victims of crime. There is approximately $10 million available for this program, with a $307,000 maximum grant per applicant. Applications are due August 27, 2018. To learn more about this opportunity, please click here.

The ST program seeks to support specialized law enforcement units to provide coordinated response to victims of sexual assault. There is approximately $409,000 available for this program, with a $204,500 maximum grant per applicant. Applications are due no later than August 3, 2018.

The TQ program applications is aimed at developing and implementing web-based training programs on trauma-informed care and brain science principles specific to disciplines that handle child abuse or children traumatized by abuse. Counties can request up to $200,000. Applications are due August 13, 2018.

LAO Report: California Budget Spending Plan

The report shows that the budget assumed total state spending of $197.2 billion, which represents an increase of 7% over revised totals for 2017-18. General Fund spending in the budget package is $138.7 billion, an increase of $11.6 billion, or 9%, over the revised 2017-18 level. Special fund spending increased $1.3 billion, or 2%, over the revised 2017-18 level. The administration projects the state will collect $133.3 billion in General Fund revenues in 2018-19, which represents a 3% increase over revised 2017-18 estimates.

State Controller’s June Cash Report

The State Controller reports June revenues exceeded expectations – a total of $19.1 billion. This is greater than anticipated in the 2017-18 budget by $2.30 billion or 13.1%. The 2017-18 fiscal year, which ended on June 30, brought in total revenues of $135.29 billion – $1.53 billion higher than estimated in the May Revise and $6.82 billion higher than estimated in the 2017-18 budget. Total 2017-18 fiscal year revenues were $13.38 billion higher than in fiscal year 2016-17.

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

Request for Legislation position – Action Item

Information Item
Position taken under authority of the adopted 2018 Legislative Platform for immediate action by legislative advocates:

i. SB 1004 (Weiner/Moorlach) Mental Health Services Act: prevention and early intervention
   Recommendation: Oppose unless amended: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency and Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency – continued from July 2, 2018

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.

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