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

Monday, October 21, 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

Both the House and Senate are session this week.

#### **Appropriations**

The Federal government working under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through November 21, 2019. Another CR is expected though the length of it is uncertain. The House Appropriations Chair said it would expire before Christmas, but another shutdown is unlikely.

#### **Appropriations bills**

The Senate will vote on a package of smaller non-controversial spending bills: 1) Commerce-Justice-Science; 2) Ag-FDA; 3) Interior-Environment, and 4) Transportation-HUD.

A second package is hoped for consisting of following but without bipartisan agreement will not proceed: 1) Labor-HHS-Education (no bipartisan agreement); 2) Defense (no bipartisan agreement); 3) State-Foreign Ops, and 4) Energy-Water.

#### Impeachment

House investigation continues, no vote needed to authorize an inquiry and it will remain that for now House GOP will move to censor Intelligence Chair for "mischaracterizing" the Presidents phone call – motion expected to be rejected along party lines

SNAP Categorical Eligibility Comment period has been extended until Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> because House requested an analysis of its impact on the school lunch program because more than 40,000 children could lose eligibility

Immigration: Public Charge rule change blocked by federal judges in NY, CA & WA, block is nationwide and will remain while case is appealed. Estimate no final decisions until mid-2020.

#### **Border Emergency Resolution**

By law declaration of emergency must be reviewed every six months. Congress passed a 2<sup>nd</sup> resolution vacating an emergency which was vetoed by the President and the Senate vote failed to override veto.

#### **Purpose:**

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

### **Request for Legislation position** – Action Items

- i. <u>Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records</u> *Recommendation: Support if amended:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency
- ii. <u>H.R. 4334</u> (Bonamici) Dignity in Aging Act of 2019 *Recommendation: Support:* Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

#### S. 2358 (Casey) Wise Investment in Children Act of 2019

*Recommendation: Support:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency and Lori A. Cox, Director, Social Services Agency

#### **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.

#### **B.** Informational items

- i. <u>Notice of Proposed Rule Making Tobacco Products; Required Warnings for Cigarette</u> <u>Packages and Advertisements</u> *Recommendation: Support:* Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency **Board Action Taken**: support proposed tobacco labeling regulations
- ii. <u>HUD's Implementation of the Fair Housing Act's Disparate Impact Standard Comment</u> <u>Letter</u>

Recommendation: Oppose rule change: Chris Bazar, Director, Community Development Agency

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

The Legislature remains on their fall recess and will return to Sacramento in January of 2020. The governor had until midnight on October 13, 2019, to sign or veto any bills, but completed his business in the early evening, releasing his last press release related to legislation at about 6pm. The governor will now begin to work with his staff to craft the 2020-2021 budget.

#### **Governor Gavin Newsom**

On October 17, 2019, the Governor issued a press release on the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the deadly Loma Prieta Earthquake, to announce the launch of the nation's first statewide Earthquake Early Warning System.

The California Earthquake Early Warning System will marry a new smartphone application with traditional alert and warning delivery methods such as Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). The system uses ground motion sensors from across the state to detect earthquakes before humans can feel them and is automated to notify Californians so that they can "Drop, cover and hold on" in advance of an earthquake.

The Governor has held multiple signing ceremonies around the state, one of the most high-profile of which was those that surrounded the signing of several housing-related pieces of legislation. As such, on October 9, 2019, the Governor issued a press release regarding affordable housing legislation.

On October 9, 2019 at the Legal Aid Society of San Diego, the Governor signed SB 113 by the Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, which will enable the transfer of \$331 million in state funds to the National Mortgage Special Deposit Fund, and establishes the Legislature's intent to create a trust to manage these funds to provide an ongoing source of funding for borrower relief and legal aid to vulnerable homeowners and renters.

The construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) can also help cities meet their housing goals and increase the state's affordable housing supply. The Governor signed several bills to eliminate barriers to building ADUs.

Last Tuesday, the Governor kicked off a statewide tour to sign a series of bills that build on his Administration's efforts to tackle the housing affordability crisis. In Oakland, he signed the nation's strongest statewide renter protection package and a number of other bills to address the rising costs of rent and housing. AB 1482 by Assemblymember David Chiu creates a statewide rent cap and eviction protections that are critical to combatting California's housing and cost-of-living crisis.

Housing affordability has been a top priority for Governor Newsom. The state budget signed in June made a historic \$1.75 billion investment in new housing and created major incentives to incentivize cities to approve new home construction. The budget also provided \$20 million for legal services for renters facing eviction as well as\$1 billion to help cities and counties fight homelessness.

# **County Sponsored Legislation**

# AB 723 (Quirk) Transactions and use taxes: County of Alameda: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District.

AB 723 was amended to include the County, which will allow the County to go to the voters should you decide to increase your sales and use tax by .5%. This bill was signed by the governor on October 11, 2019.

#### AB 944 (Quirk) CalWORKs: sponsored noncitizen: indigence exception.

Our co-sponsored bill, AB 944 (Quirk) with the Western Center on Law and Poverty was vetoed by the governor on October 13, 2019. The governor was concerned about investing in new programs in California given we are facing some fiscal shortfalls in the coming years.

AB 143 (Quirk-Silva) Shelter crisis: homeless shelters: Counties of Alameda and Orange: City of San Jose. The bill was signed by the governor on September 26, 2019.

# Key Dates/Deadlines

January 6, 2020 – Legislature Reconvenes

# **Purpose:**

Report progress
Advocacy or Education
Request PAL\_Committee Recommendation or Position
Other: State update

# **Request for Legislation position** – Action Items

i. <u>Urban Libraries Council: Statement on Equitable Public Access to E-Books</u> *Recommendation: Support:* Cindy Chadwick, County Librarian, Alameda County Library

# ii. California Public Utilities Commission request for comments regarding the recent power shutoff

Recommendation: Submit comments: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

Purpose:
Report progress
Advocacy or Education
<b>Request PAL</b> Committee Recommendation or Position
Other:

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

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

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