

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

Monday, November 28, 2022

1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair
Supervisor David Brown

Location: Board of Supervisors Chamber – 5th Floor
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Oakland, CA 94612

Summary/Action Minutes

I. Federal Legislative Update – CJ Lake

Schedule

The Senate returns from Thanksgiving break today; the House will be back in session tomorrow.

Midterm Election Results and Look Ahead to the 118th Congress

The 2022 midterm elections brought one of the biggest surprise election results in the modern political era, with polling underestimating Democratic enthusiasm. The House as expected flipped to a Republican majority, but the Republicans expected to pick up many more seats. The GOP is likely to control 222 seats in the next Congress, with a few races yet to be called and will hold a thin majority with the Democrats holding 213 seats.

On the Senate side, the Democrats will remain in the majority as incumbent Senators Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and Catherine Cortez-Masto (D-NV) held on to their seats in Arizona and Nevada in tight races and with Lt. Governor John Fetterman (D-PA) picking up a seat in Pennsylvania. At a minimum, Democrats will have a 50-50 majority with Vice President Harris representing the tie breaking vote. The Democrats have an opportunity to pick up their 51st seat if Senator Raphael Warnock can defeat Herschel Walker in Georgia's runoff election taking place next week (December 6).

On the House side, House Republicans chose current House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy to be their nominee for Speaker of the House. McCarthy easily beat back a challenge by Rep. Andy Biggs, winning, garnering 86% of the House Republican Conference vote. However, McCarthy has work to do to get to 218 votes required to be Speaker of the House. Rep. Steve Scalise was elected as the House Majority Leader and will be second in charge for the House GOP. The most contested race was for the House Republican whip, the number 3 leadership post, where Rep. Tom Emmer was able to win on the second round of ballots. On the Senate side, Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell was reelected as the top Senate Republican for the 118th Congress, easily defeating a challenge from Senator Rick Scott. Senator John Thune will serve as the Minority Whip and Senator John Barrasso will be the Republican Conference Chair.

Regarding the Democrats, Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced that she will be stepping down as House Democratic leader, a post Pelosi has held for 20 years. Speaker Pelosi is the first and only woman to be elected Speaker. Speaker Pelosi stated that she will remain in Congress. Current Majority Leader Steny Hoyer also announced that he will not run for elected Democratic leadership in the next Congress but is also expected to remain in Congress. House Democrats will meet this Wednesday to elect their leaders for the next Congress.

It is expected that Rep. Hakeem Jeffries of New York will take over for Speaker Nancy Pelosi and will lead the House Dems. Rep. Katherine Clark of Massachusetts is running to be Minority Whip, and Rep. Pete Aguilar of California will move up to Democratic Caucus chair. Finally, current House Majority Whip Jim Clyburn of South Carolina will be the assistant Democratic leader, but the post will be lower in the hierarchy than his current position. All four are running unopposed.

Another item to note for this week is that the House Republican Conference will be considering a series of amendments to their internal conference rules. The one we are keeping a very close eye on is a motion by Rep. Tom McClintock (R-CA) to reinstate the earmark ban.

FY23 Appropriations

The top priority for Congress in the lame duck session is funding the federal government past the current deadline of December 16 when the current continuing resolution (CR) is set to expire. Democratic leaders are already considering a one week extension through December 23. However, currently there is not an agreement on top line numbers and there are a lot of policy riders to sort through, with time running short. The Senate will need to find 10 Republican votes to pass an omnibus and several Republican House members are pushing for a longer term CR through early next year when they will control the House in the next Congress. There has also been some mention of passing a yearlong stopgap funding bill, but that seems to be a last resort and unpopular. This will likely run up right until the very end of the year.

The Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting program (MIECHV)

This past spring the County took a position of support to reauthorize funding for the Federal Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV). The program is a federal grant program that supports voluntary, evidence-based early childhood home visiting for families from pregnancy through entry into kindergarten. The program would be reauthorized and funded through fiscal 2027 under a modified version of H.R. 8876, Family Health Home Visit Funding, which has been renamed the Jackie Walorski Maternal and Child Home Visiting Reauthorization Act of 2022. The bill is named after former Rep. Jackie Walorski (R-IN), who died in a car accident August 3 and was the ranking Republican on the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Worker and Family Support.

The bill would appropriate \$500 million for the program in FY 2023, increasing annually and reaching \$800 million by FY27. The amount available for each recipient would be based on the percentage of children younger than five in the state relative to all states in FY 23. The bill would allow eligible programs to utilize virtual visits under certain circumstances, as long as they include at least one in-person visit annually. The measure has bipartisan support with 101 Democratic and 85 Republican cosponsors. The House is scheduled to consider the bill tomorrow under suspension, which requires a two-thirds majority for passage. If passed, it would move on to the Senate for consideration.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation position – Action Item

i. National Association of Counties (NACo) Federal Behavioral Health Advocacy

Recommendation: Support: Colleen Chawla, Director, Health Care Services Agency

Purpose:

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

Recommendation from the Personnel Administration Legislation (PAL) Committee: Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

Following a quiet week, incoming and returning Legislators are looking forward to their return to the Capitol on Monday, December 5th. Events of the day will include an organizational session, a Speakership vote, and a potential special session around a new tax on oil companies.

As a reminder, Speaker Anthony Rendon, Assemblymember Robert Rivas, and the Democratic Caucus convened earlier this month to discuss and possibly elect a new Speaker for 2023-24. The outcome poised Assemblymember Robert Rivas as “Speaker-Designee” with a transition date of June 30, 2023. Because the November discussion was not binding, an official confirmation vote will be held on Monday, December 5.

Secondly, back in October and in response to the surging gas prices, Governor Gavin Newsom indicated his desire for a special session on oil company windfall taxation, but nothing official has been released yet. The PS Team will continue to keep County Staff updated as things unfold.

Key Dates & Deadlines

- 2023-24 Organizational Session – December 5, 2022
- Statutes Take Effect – January 1, 2023
- Legislature Reconvenes – January 4, 2023
- Governor Must Submit January Budget – January 10, 2023
- Last Day to Submit Bill Requests to the Office of Legislative Counsel – January 20, 2023
- Bill Introduction Deadline – February 17, 2023
- Spring Recess Begins – March 30, 2023

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation position – Action Items

- i. [**FY 23/24 Budget Request: Prepared Meals Delivery Program for the Unhoused and Food Insecure in California**](#)
Recommendation: Support: Andrea Ford, Director, Social Services Agency
- ii. [**FY 23/24 Budget and Legislative Proposal: California Department of Aging Supportive Services**](#)
Recommendation: Support: Andrea Ford, Director, Social Services Agency

Purpose:

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

Recommendation from the Personnel Administration Legislation (PAL) Committee: Support. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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