

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

Monday, March 4, 2024
1:30 p.m.

Supervisor Keith Carson, Chair
Supervisor Lena Tam

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

Both the House and Senate will be in session for the next three weeks.

Tuesday is the biggest day of primary elections of the 2024 cycle. States holding primary elections on March 5th include Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont and Virginia.

State of the Union

President Biden is set to address both chambers of Congress on March 7th for the annual State of the Union address. He will cover the economy, Ukraine, Israel and Gaza, immigration, and more.

FY24 Appropriations

Last week the House and Senate approved another short-term continuing resolution which extended the deadline for six (6) appropriations bills until March 8th and made March 22nd the cut-off for the remaining six (6) bills.

Yesterday, House and Senate leadership announced they had reached a funding deal for 1) FY24 Agriculture-Rural Development-FDA, 2) Commerce-Justice-Science, 3) Energy-Water Development, 4) Interior-Environment, 5) Transportation-HUD and 6) Military Construction-Veterans Affairs. Both chambers will seek to pass the minibus before the government funding deadline on Friday.

Overall, the package is a spending freeze with some cuts. Democrats staved off most of the policy riders that House Republicans sought to include. Democrats also said the bill would fully fund a nutrition program for low-income women, infants and children known as WIC, providing about \$7 billion for the program, a \$1 billion increase from the previous year.

The current plan is for the House to vote on the package this Wednesday, with the Senate to follow. It is expected that nearly all Democrats to vote for the bill. It remains to be seen how many Republicans will support the bill.

Child Tax Credit Expansion Bill

There are no immediate plans for the Senate to take up the House-passed \$78 billion Child Tax Credit Expansion package in the Senate. The tax bill could be put on the floor as a standalone bill or paired with another must-pass measure, but with Senate Finance noncommittal in taking up the bill, passage is not certain.

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.

II. Request for Legislation position – Action Item

i. Letter of Support - In Home Supportive Services: Administrative “Bridge” Funding – \$51 million

Recommendation: Support: Andrea Ford, Director, Social Services Agency

[Attachment](#)

[Attachment](#)

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Patricia Beebe expressed concern about Election Code 30165, a result of AB 626 passed by the Legislature. She stated that voters are being denied the ability to cast their ballots without an envelope and direct check-in at the polls. She said this practice is unlawful and urged the Board of Supervisors to provide training for poll captains to ensure voters can deposit their ballots correctly.

Jackie Cote raised concerns about the voting process, and the impact of the Voters Choice Act (VCA) on voter turnout. She stated that the extended voting period and delayed counting of votes have led to voter apathy and confusion. She advocates for a return to precinct-based voting on election day for security and transparency. She questioned the lack of training on election code procedures and urged the Board of Supervisors to address the issues.

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