

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

Monday, April 24, 2023
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 chambers are in session this week. The House will recess next week.

GOP Debt Limit Bill

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy said that the House will pass a \$1.5 trillion debt ceiling increase plan this week, but he is lining up the necessary votes to get the bill through the chamber. The Speaker also invited President Joe Biden to discuss the debt ceiling with him. House Republicans' proposal would increase the nation's debt ceiling by \$1.5 trillion to stave off a US default until March 31, 2024, at the latest. It aims to trim \$4.5 trillion in spending over a decade, in part by cutting discretionary spending by \$130 billion next year and capping its growth at 1%. The bill would ease energy regulations, end clean-energy tax breaks, rescind unspent Covid-19 funds, and impose new work requirements on adults without children who receive Medicaid and food stamps. Regarding COVID-19 funds, the bill would rescind all unspent funds from the various funding sources related to COVID-19 which the GOP estimates will result in \$50-60 billion in savings.

As the bill currently stands, President Biden and the Democratic-controlled Senate would reject the proposal. The top line spending cap of \$1.47 trillion (a \$131 billion cut from FY23) included in the bill would allow the House Appropriations Committee to begin marking up its bills in May. The Treasury Department is set to release an updated estimate of the "X date" when extraordinary measures are exhausted, and the country can no longer meet its obligations.

Additionally, the House Problem Solvers Caucus has endorsed a debt ceiling framework as a pathway to avoid breaching the debt ceiling this June. The framework would raise the debt limit until December 31, 2023, as a stop gap measure and tie a subsequent increase in the debt ceiling until February 2025 to spending cuts and reforms enacted by the end of this year. The plan proposes creating a special bipartisan commission to outline deficit-reducing measures by December 2024, with an up-or-down vote in the next Congress in February 2025. It would also tie the longer-term increase in the ceiling to the establishment of as-yet-undefined budget controls in the coming annual appropriations process.

House Border Wall Bill

The House Homeland Security Committee unveiled their bill today, just days after their colleagues on the Judiciary Committee advanced a plan to increase immigrant detention, tighten asylum access, and make other changes to federal immigration laws.

The legislation requires the resumption of wall construction on the U.S.-Mexico border, increases funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and works on designating Mexican cartels as terrorist organizations. The measure will be marked up in committee on Wednesday.

Republicans are using the legislative effort to try to make good on campaign promises to tighten border enforcement, with migrant encounters hitting records during much of President Joe Biden's tenure so far. Any House-passed border legislation is likely to come to a standstill in the Senate, though narrower provisions could serve as a starting point for future immigration negotiations. House Republican leaders are eyeing a floor vote on border measures in May, but they will have to contend with objections within their party. The Judiciary panel amended its bill to address some GOP worries about asylum access, but other Republicans have raised concerns about a requirement for employers to check workers' status through the E-Verify program.

EPA Emissions Rule

The White House is in the final stages of reviewing a draft proposal from the Environmental Protection Agency, which would target both new and existing power plants, the second-biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States today. The proposal, which could be unveiled in the coming days, is the EPA's second attempt to clamp down on carbon dioxide released from power-plant smokestacks. The Supreme Court last year tossed out a sweeping Obama-era rule that sought to shift electricity generation from fossil fuels toward renewable sources. The new proposal is smaller in scope and built on changes that can be employed directly at power plants, including through efficiency gains known as heat-rate improvements, carbon-capture systems, and the substitution of cleaner hydrogen for natural gas as a combustion source.

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. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

There are four days left before a major deadline in the Legislative Process. Friday, April 28th marks the policy committee deadline for bills with a fiscal tag. This encompasses most bills making their way through and therefore Committees will be holding several hearings throughout the week to discuss and vote on each one. The next deadline will be the Appropriations Committee Deadline on May 19th.

Alameda County Sponsored Bills Set for First Hearing

Alameda County's sponsored AB 922 (Wicks) and AB 1313 (Ortega) will be heard in their first policy committee on Tuesday, April 25.

B 922 (Wicks) Prepared Meals Delivery Program is set for hearing in Assembly Human Services Committee. The bill creates a pilot program that will support local accessible meal programs for the unhoused.

AB 1313 (Ortega) Older individuals: case management services is set for hearing in Assembly Aging and Long- Term Care Committee. This bill would create a pilot program to work with providers of case management and visiting programs that have been unable to grow capacity to meet the growing population needs despite additional local government assistance.

The Political Solutions Team has been working with the County and the Author's Office to prepare for Tuesday's hearings.

Hearing This Week

- Senate Appropriations Committee - Monday, April 24
- Senate Judiciary Committee - Tuesday, April 25
- Assembly Human Services Committee - Tuesday, April 25
- Assembly Aging & Long-term Care Committee - Tuesday, April 25
- Assembly Appropriations Committee - Wednesday, April 26
- Assembly Housing Committee - Wednesday, April 26
- Assembly Local Government Committee - Wednesday, April 26
- Assembly Budget Subcommittee No 1 on Health & Human Services - Wednesday, April 26
- Senate Budget Subcommittee No 3 on Health & Human Services – Thursday, April 27
- Senate Budget Subcommittee No 4 on State Administration – Thursday, April 27
- Senate Budget Subcommittee No 5 on Public Safety – Thursday, April 27

Alameda County Sponsored Bills

Alameda County is sponsoring the following bills:

- AB 922 (Wicks) Prepared Meals Delivery Program, status: Set for hearing in Assembly Human Services Committee on Tuesday, April 25th
- AB 1313 (Ortega) Older individuals: case management and visitation services, status: Set for hearing in Assembly Aging & Long-Term Care Committee on Tuesday, April 25th
- AB 1387 (Ting) In-Home Supportive Services Program: provider shortage: grant-based outreach program. - Co-Sponsor, status: Set for hearing in Assembly Appropriations on Wednesday, May 3rd

Key Dates & Deadlines

- Policy Committee Deadline for Fiscal Bills – April 28,2023
- Policy Committee Deadline for Non-Fiscal Bills - May 5, 2023
- Appropriations Committee Deadline – May 19, 2023
- Floor Session Only – May 30- June 2
- House of Origin Deadline – June 2
- Budget Bill Deadline – June 15

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. [AB 881 \(Ting\) Jury Duty](#)

Recommendation: Support: Brendon Woods, Public Defender, Alameda County Public Defender’s Office

ii. [Community Resilience Grant Application](#)

Recommendation: Support: Yesenia Sanchez, Alameda County Sheriff, Alameda County Sheriff’s Office

iii. [Adopt a resolution requesting the California Department of Transportation Update the Draft 2023 State Rail Plan to Reflect the Valley Link Rail Project](#)

Recommendation: Support: Nate Miley, President, Board of Supervisors, District 4

Speaker

Kelly Abreu commented that the County's information on the Valley Link Rail Project is incorrect.

Purpose:

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Abreu commented on the response to the Grand Jury report of 2015; the County agreed to consider a code of ethics policy for all employees. He encourages the County staff to consider an ethics policy for all County employees.

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