

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

Monday, May 23, 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 House is in a committee work period and will not return for votes until June 6 while the Senate will vote this week starting tomorrow afternoon.

WIOA Reauthorization

Last week, the House passed its reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, funding most of the nation’s workforce development programs by a vote of 220 - 196.

The House Education and Labor Committee began bipartisan talks on the bill early in the session, but Republican negotiators walked away from a deal, understanding that they would likely get to write their own reauthorization next year. In response, Democrats added additional funding for the existing system, requirements that workforce boards reflect demographic diversity of state and local workforce areas and changes the definition of “Individuals with barriers to employment” by adding individuals who have been historically underserved and marginalized as a result of race, color, national origin, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

The House-passed bill stands little chance in the Senate and the Senate HELP Committee has not yet produced a bill of its own.

Baby Formula Supplemental

Last week the House passed two bills aimed at addressing the baby formula shortage. The first, H.R. 7790, a supplemental appropriations bill, would provide \$28 million in emergency funding to give the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the resources it needs to address the infant formula shortage. The second extends formula purchasing flexibility under the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC).

The \$28 million in supplemental funding would provide FDA with the resources to strengthen and increase the number of FDA inspection staff, provide resources for personnel working on formula issues, help the agency stop fraudulent baby formula from entering the marketplace, and improve data collection on the infant formula marketplace. The supplemental package passed by a vote of 231-192, and the WIC legislation easily passed by a vote of 414 to 9. WIC is by far the largest purchaser of formula in the U.S., with more than half of infant formula in the U.S. going through the program.

Republicans called the \$28 million supplemental funding bill ineffective, and largely opposed it in the House. Its fate in the Senate is unclear, as House Democrats introduced the measure quickly without negotiating with senators.

President Biden also invoked the Defense Production Act (DPA) last week in response to the formula shortage and launched “Operation Fly Formula”. Under the DPA, the President is requiring suppliers to direct needed resources to infant formula manufacturers before any other customer to help increase production and speed up supply chains.

Under Operation Fly Formula, President Biden directed the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to use Department of Defense (DOD) commercial aircraft to pick up overseas infant formula that meets U.S. health and safety standards. DOD will use its contracts with commercial air cargo lines to transport products from manufacturing facilities abroad that have met Food and Drug Administration (FDA) safety standards. Similar actions were taken under the DPA during the early days of the COVID pandemic to deliver needed PPE and other medical supplies.

Purpose:

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

II. State Legislative Update – Political Solutions

This Week in the Capitol

Only Floor Session will be held this week as bills must meet the House of Origin Deadline on Friday, May 27th. Bills that fail to meet this deadline will not be moving forward this legislative session. Committee Hearings may resume on Tuesday, May 31st.

CARE Courts

SB 1338 (Eggman/Umberg), which encapsulates the Governor’s CARE Courts proposal, moved off of the Senate Appropriations Suspense File last week. The County Coalition, including CSAC and UCC, remains concerned about the need for funding and time to implement – they have asked individual counties to engage their delegations and highlight fiscal impact and desire for a phased-in approach.

Key Dates and Deadlines

- Floor Session Only – May 23-27, 2022
- Deadline for bills to pass off of the floor in their house of origin – May 27, 2022
- Budget bill must be passed – June 15, 2022
- Policy Committee Deadline. Summer Recess begins at the end of this day’s session – July 1, 2022
- Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess – August 1, 2022

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. State Budget Request - Community Based Services Programs

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

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

None.

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

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