

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

Monday, November 25, 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

The House and Senate are both in recess this week. The House recessed on Thursday and the Senate recessed on Friday of last week. The Senate will return on Monday, December 2 and the House will return on Tuesday, December 3, 2024.

Political Appointments

President-elect Trump has begun the process of selecting a cabinet and other high-ranking administration officials. Mr. Trump has also empowered Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy to head up an organization outside the government titled the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). DOGE is charged with downsizing the federal government, either by executive authority or through congressional action. Musk and Ramaswamy have indicated their intention to cut government agencies down to “essential staff” and the federal budget by roughly \$2 trillion. Musk laid out his plans in a recent WSJ Op-Ed last week. The federal workforce represents about 4% of overall annual federal spending.

The Trump Administration will have to contend with existing federal law and Congress to execute its plans to dramatically reduce the size of the federal government. It may be able to achieve some of its staff reduction goals by mandating a five-day return to office policy, implementing the Schedule F designation for the civil service, or eliminating certain positions throughout federal agencies.

Russell Vought, who will return to his role as OMB director, has indicated that he will work with DOGE to execute their recommendations. Vought was also a chief architect of the Heritage Foundation’s Project 2025. A new House Oversight subcommittee, led by Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA), has been tasked with coordinating with the future so-called Department of Government Efficiency that Musk and Ramaswamy will lead.

Outside of DOGE, president-elect Trump nominated RFK Jr. and Dr. Memhet Oz to head up HHS and CMS, respectively. Neither man has experience running state agencies nor experience with federal health systems. Both have either fully endorsed or flirted with conspiracy theories and have sought to undermine the scientific establishment. If confirmed, RFK Jr. will have authority over CMS, NIH, the CDC, HRSA, FDA, and the many agencies that make up HHS. Dr. Oz will administer the Medicare and Medicaid programs, representing about a quarter of total federal spending.

Overall, President-elect Trump's picks indicate a broad intention to dismantle or significantly limit the size and effectiveness of the agencies and departments they will be charged with leading. His choices are not without issue. President Trump has started to nominate individuals to fill his cabinet.

Pending CA Waivers and Approvals

California is still waiting on several approvals from Biden-Harris Administration officials to regarding clean air and water safeguards, disaster relief funding, and public land protections in the final two months of Biden's presidency.

Senator Padilla and Governor Newsom met with Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland where they urged the Biden Administration to designate outstanding National Monuments, including the Chuckwalla National Monument.

The state also has several pending waiver requests that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must review and approve to protect California's ambitious climate and emissions rules that create jobs and protect public health, as authorized by the Clean Air Act.

The state is also waiting for the approval of \$5.2 billion California state and local governments spent on emergency relief in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

State leaders pressed for a reversal of a 2023 FEMA decision to eliminate the reimbursement eligibility for emergency NCS retroactively for stays for high-risk individuals exceeding 20 days between June 11, 2021, and May 11, 2023.

119th Congress and Committee Leadership and Steering Committee

Senate: Republicans have secured a majority in the Senate with 53 seats. This expanded control will streamline the process for confirming President Trump's Cabinet selections, judicial appointments, and senior Administration roles, facilitating a swift establishment of his Administration. All Senate races have now been called.

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

Request for Legislation position – Action item

i. **H.R. 7354 (Kelly) Protect Black Women and Girls Act**

Recommendation: Support: Colleen Chawla, Director, Alameda County Health

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.**

**i. Letter sent in support of [H.R. 9631](#) (Lee) National Food as Medicine Program Act of 2024
*Informational item***

Colleen Chawla, Director, Alameda County Health

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

II. State Legislation – *Informational item*

i. Letter sent in support of Access to Home and Community-Based Alternatives-Assisted Living Waiver (HCBA) for Medi-Cal Beneficiaries Experiencing Homelessness

Colleen Chawla, Director, Alameda County Health and Andrea Ford, Director, Social Services Agency

[Attachment](#)

Purpose:

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

This item was informational only and required no Committee action.

III. Probation Department Proposal to Name A County Facility: “Richard Valle Technology Lab”

[Attachment](#)

Brian Ford, Chief Probation Officer, Alameda County Probation Department, presented a Board letter and proposed Resolution to approve the recommendations to rename the Technology Lab, located on the 3rd Floor of the Juvenile Justice Center at 2500 Fairmont Drive, San Leandro, as the "Richard Valle Technology Lab".

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

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