

TO: Members, County of Santa Barbara Legislative Committee

FROM: Cliff Berg, Legislative Advocate
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RE: July 2015 State Update

DATE: July 28, 2015

The legislature wrapped up their policy deadline just prior to going on their summer break which began July 17, 2015. They will return on August 17, 2015 for the final stretch of this first year of the two year session. They are scheduled to adjourn on September 11, 2015, and then they will return to their districts for their fall recess.

The bills passed at the end of session will go to the Governor where he will have 30 days to act on them, otherwise they become law.

In addition to wrapping up the end of session, the legislature will still actively participate in the two special sessions they have running concurrently with the regular session, one on transportation and one on Medi-Cal funding, which we reported on in our June update.

Bills of Interest to the County

AB 3 (Williams) This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to clarify and establish the necessary authority for the creation of the Isla Vista Community Services District within the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County. The substance of the bill has been amended into the measure and we understand that the county is reviewing the language currently in order to provide additional input and potentially take a position. The County is in support of the bill. The bill is sitting in the Senate Appropriations Committee where it will be heard on August 17, 2015. It passed out of the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on July 8, 2015 with a vote of 5-2

AB 45 (Mullin) This bill is opposed by the County. The bill would mandate cities and counties that provide residential collection and disposal of solid waste to create a household hazardous waste (HHW) baseline and to meet an unspecified diversion requirement for HHW collection. The bill was opposed by many cities and counties. The bill is now a two-year bill, it will be taken up again in January.

AB 514 (Williams) This bill is the County sponsored bill which was introduced by Assembly Member Das Williams. This measure is an attempt to address the inadequacy of the current fines and penalties system for local governments. Under current law the violations are rather insignificant therefore people are not discouraging from violating them, we are hopeful that this will provide additional incentives to work with the locals to provide the best outcomes for our local communities. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Local Government Committee but has not been set for a hearing at this time. We are continuing to work with the author on some clarifying amendments; the bill was heard in the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on July 8, 2015, where it passed 5-

1. It will be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee when they return from their recess, but the date has not been set as of yet.

SB 13 (Pavley) This bill would provide a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency 90 or 180 days, as prescribed, to remedy certain deficiencies that caused the board to designate the basin as a probationary basin. This bill would authorize the board to develop an interim plan for certain probationary basins one year after the designation of the basin as a probationary basin. The bill also state that if the department determines that all or part of a basin or subbasin is not being monitored, would require the department to determine whether there is sufficient interest in establishing a groundwater sustainability plan. The bill will also serve as a vehicle for any necessary clean-up to the major ground water bill package passed and signed into law in 2014. The County does not have a position on this bill, but we are watching it as it moves through the process. The bill has cleared both the policy committee and the Appropriations committee in the Assembly; it has moved on the consent file, it will now go to the Assembly Floor for a full vote when they return in August from their summer recess.

SB 122 (Jackson, Hill and Roth) This bill is a vehicle for potential CEQA reform. The bill would require the lead agency, at the request of a project applicant and consent of the lead agency, to prepare a record of proceedings concurrently with the preparation of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, EIR, or other environmental document for projects. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation establishing an electronic database clearinghouse of notices and environmental document prepared pursuant to CEQA, establishing a public review period for a final environmental impact report, and relating to the record of proceedings for a project for which an environmental impact report is prepared pursuant to CEQA. This County is supporting the bill. The bill passed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee where it passed 7-1; it is now sitting on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense file, which will be taken up when they return in August.

SB 128 (Wolk and Monning) The bill is the End of Options Act. It is modeled after a law in Oregon that allows a person who has received a life ending diagnosis to work with their physician to determine if they would like to option to end their life in their own manner. The bill is scheduled to be heard in the Assembly Health Committee, however was pulled and put over due to the lack of votes; the author's continue to work with the Committee in an effort to obtain those necessary votes. The bill is now a two-year bill, it will be taken up next year by the authors. The County is supporting the bill.

SB 658 (Hill) The County is supporting this measure. This bill revises the maintenance and training requirements for placement of automated external defibrillators (AEDs) in commercial buildings and K-12 schools that are conditions for obtaining qualified immunity from civil liability for the selection, installation, placement, and use of AEDs in those facilities. This bill is scheduled to go the Assembly Floor, it passed out of Assembly Judiciary Committee on June 23, 2015 with no opposition.

SB 788 (McGuire) The County is supporting this measure. This bill eliminates the exception in the California Coastal Sanctuary Act of 1994 (AB 2444, O'Connell) (CCSA) that allows the State Lands Commission (Commission) to issue an offshore oil lease if state oil or gas deposits are being drained by wells on federal lands and the lease is in the best interests of the state. The bill will was heard in Assembly Natural Resources Committee on June 29, 2015, where it got out

7-2, the measure is currently sitting on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense file which will be heard when they return in August.

Conclusion

With the budget having been completed, members are back in their districts trying to meet with constituents, do town hall meetings and enjoy their families. Once they return in August they will work at a frantic pace to get their work completed. With the end of session quickly approaching, September 11, 2015; there is much work to be done in an effort to get the bills moved to the Governor for his action. He will then have until October 11, 2015 to sign or veto any bills that land on his desk. As always, if you or your staff has any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.