

TO: Members, County of Santa Barbara Legislative Committee

FROM: Cliff Berg, Legislative Advocate
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RE: 2018 March Update

DATE: April 4, 2018

The Legislature has reconvened from the Legislative Spring Recess on April 2nd to begin the process of moving their bills through policy committees and working the budget through the sub-committee process. The next deadline for the Legislature is on April 27th, which will be the last day for policy committees to hear and report to fiscal committees the fiscal bills introduced in their house of origin, while the deadline for non-fiscal bills is May 11th. The Budget sub-committees are meeting regularly, but in-large are leaving items open to consideration while they wait for the Governor's May Revise to be released in mid-May.

On March 21st, Senator Toni Atkins was sworn in as the 48th President pro Tempore succeeding Senator Kevin de Leon and becoming the first woman to lead the California State Senate. We might see some shift in the current Senate Committees due to new leadership.

Our office has reviewed all of the introduced bills and has categorized them by subject, as well as determined how they fit into the County Platform. We will now work with staff and our delegation to see which bills to take to the legislative committee.

Fires and Floods

On March 13th, we expedited the conversation between the Administration, California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), CalRecycle and the County where we discussed the Tajiguas Landfill capacity issue after receiving the initial response in February from CalRecycle, which stated that the County's expansion request didn't appear necessary to expedite the current debris removal effort. CalEPA listened to the County's concerns and responded that they are willing work with the County and will be in touch to discuss a further solution after processing the County's concerns. We continue to work with our delegation, CalEPA and the Administration to work out a possible solution.

The Governor and Leadership have also continued their efforts to improve disaster planning and response, committing that they will continue to find a solution for protecting California from the threat of climate change and natural disasters. The Governor and Leadership also held a press conference and noted that there is a need to update current policy on liability rules and regulations for utility services in the light of the increased severity of weather events that have caused natural disasters, continuing that the Thomas Fire in the Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties has been the largest in state recorded history, and the mudslides that were in the County were the most lethal the state has ever encountered.

The liability issue surrounding utilities has raised concerns for the County. We are currently monitoring and engaging in conversations with stakeholders over the County's concerns.

In the wake of fire disasters, PG&E announced in late March that they will be drafting new guidelines for shutting off power during high winds or high fire danger. The announcement was in result of the Northern California wildfires which occurred last fall. The Northern wildfires are currently still being investigated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protections, but the records that have been released so far show that tree limbs and/or entire trees fell onto power lines in areas of where the fires began and were made worse by high winds.

Meanwhile, the Joint Legislative Committee on Emergency Management, which is chaired by Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, continues to hold informational hearing on wildfires, mudslides and climate change. On March 7th, the Committee held a joint informational hearing with the Assembly Committee on Communications and Conveyance, where they discussed the necessity of working communication networks used by first responders during disasters, along with the Governor's decision last December to opt-in to the First Responder Network Authority "FirstNet" State Plan for California, which is a nationwide public safety broadband network.

On April 2nd, Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones announced that insurance companies received over 2,000 insurance claims - including 1,415 in residential personal property claims, 235 in commercial property claims and 388 in auto and other lines claims, totaling more than \$421 million in loss after the Montecito mudslides that damaged more than 400 homes and businesses. The Insurance Commissioner stated, "Over \$421 million in insured losses represents more than property lost—behind these numbers are the tragic deaths of 21 people and thousands of residents traumatized by unfathomable loss...Recovering and rebuilding lives, homes and neighborhoods will take time—and it will be difficult. We will continue to do all we can at the Department of Insurance to help residents navigate the claims process and recover." The Department continues to encourage survivors in Santa Barbara and Montecito that were affected by the fires and mudslides to file a claim with their insurance companies and contact the Department for any assistance.

Earlier in the year, Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones and a group of lawmakers introduced a package of new insurance policies in hopes to strengthen consumer protections for wildfire survivors making insurance claims.

The following bills include:

SB 894 (Dodd) After a declared disaster, this bill will allow an insured the option to combine unused primary structures, other structures, contents, and additional living expenses coverage amounts to rebuild their home - protecting insureds who may be underinsured for the Primary Structure yet have unused coverage in the Other Structures coverage or Contents coverage. Also, this proposal extends policy renewal protections for an insured from one renewal to two renewals or 24 months, whichever is greater. After a declared disaster, this bill extends the time to collect Additional Living Expenses (ALE) benefits from 24 months to 36 months. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 25th.*

SB 897 (McGuire) This proposal clarifies the scope of ALE Coverage. After major events, unique situations arise that should be covered under ALE. For example after a wildfire there may be a lack of hotels or other traditional forms of housing, this proposal would require insurers to cover expenses for Airbnb, short-term rentals, or renting an RV while the policyholder's home is being rebuilt.

This proposal also codifies the voluntary Expedited Claims/Billing Procedures triggered by a total loss to an insured. This proposal would automatically trigger and make mandatory expedited claims and billing procedures after a major wildfire to help policyholders facing total losses begin recovery sooner. Issues addressed include: payment of up to 4 months of advanced ALE, standard contents advance payment of at least 25% of policy limits without a completed inventory list, grouping categories of personal property instead of a detailed itemized list, contents coverage settlement where the policyholder could settle for 80% of the contents limit without having to compile a home inventory, and an insurance billing grace period. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 25th.*

SB 1263 (Portantino) This legislation provides automatic additional replacement cost coverage after a declared disaster. The additional coverage would be equal to 50% of the actual coverage available under the insured's primary structure and other structures on the property. When insureds are not offered or do not have Extended Replacement Cost Coverage, and in some cases even when they do, they find themselves underinsured after a major event. This automatic additional replacement cost coverage, triggered only after a declared disaster by the Governor, will protect survivors from being underinsured. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 25th.*

SB 1291 (Dodd) There are three kinds of adjusters that help settle pending insurance claims: those that are employees of an insurance company, those that are "independent" but have a contract with an insurance company to help handle claims, and "public" adjusters that have a contract with a consumer to get a better settlement of a claim with an insurer. "Independent" adjusters are licensed in 35 states, including California; however we are the only state to overwhelmingly license independent adjusters on an organizational, as opposed to individual, basis. California currently issues independent adjuster licenses to both entities and individuals but for both licenses only one individual needs to be fingerprinted, pass a qualifying license exam and meet continuing education (CE) requirements. Other than this one individual, known as the qualified manager, no employees of the independent adjuster who adjust claims need to meet these requirements. This leads to professional gaps and consumers receiving incorrect or improper information, as happened most recently in California's devastating 2017 fires. There are at least 30,000 individuals currently adjusting claims that have not met fingerprinting, exam and CE requirements. This proposal would allow California to join 34 other states by implementing the same high standards enjoyed by consumers through an exam, fingerprint-based background check and CE requirements. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 11th.*

AB 1772 (Aguiar-Curry) The bill would extend the time to rebuild and collect full replacement cost from 24 to 36 months after a declared disaster. After a major event, there is often a shortage of qualified workers in the construction industry coupled with a demand surge for construction

workers needed to rebuild structures. This law will give wildfire survivors additional time to rebuild and collect replacement costs from insurers. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1797 (Levine) The bill requires an insurer to conduct a Replacement Cost Estimate for new residential insurance policies and at each annual renewal. Currently insurers are not required to conduct replacement costs estimates or to update the estimates on a regular basis to keep up with the rising costs of construction over the life of the insurance policy. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1799 (Levine) The bill would require insurers to provide a copy of complete policy documents to insureds upon request, while also clarifying what documents are to be provided. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1800 (Levine) The bill clarifies an insured's right to collect the full replacement cost of their home in the event of a total loss, whether they decide to rebuild, replace at another location or purchase an already built home at a new location. It also ensures policyholders receive full replacement costs, including additional Extended Replacement Cost coverage purchased by the insured, which is currently being withheld by insurers if an insured decides to purchase property in a new location. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1875 (Wood) The bill requires residential property insurers to provide a mandatory offer of extended replacement cost coverage of no less than 50% upon issue or renewal of a residential property insurance policy to ensure policyholders are adequately insured and protected from the dangers of being underinsured. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1923 (Limón) In order to expedite the debris removal process for the health and safety of the public, this proposal would add the Consolidated Debris Removal program to the insurance code, requiring insurers to participate after a declared disaster. The proposal also clarifies the two main types of property coverage and how the Consolidated Debris Removal program will work with each. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 2594 (Friedman) The bill would extend a consumer's right to sue their insurer following a declared disaster from 12 months to 24 months, given that it now takes longer to rebuild after California's fires in 2015 and 2017. Some insurers have refused consumer claims, citing the lack of a lawsuit within the 12-month timeframe. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

Other introduced legislation related to wildfires, disasters and insurance claims include:

SB 821 (Jackson) This bill would specify that the Office of Emergency Services may assist county jurisdictions in developing effective public emergency warning systems. The bill has been referred to the Senate Governmental Organization Committee. The County supports this legislation.

SB 824 (Lara) Current law requires an insurer to comply with procedures relating to cancellation of insurance policies in case of total loss to the primary insured structure - procedures such as an insurer may not cancel coverage while the primary insured structure is being rebuilt, nor use the fact that the insured structure is in damaged condition as a result of total loss as the sole basis for a decision to cancel policy, and must offer at least once to renew the policy if total loss insured structure was caused by a disaster. This spot bill would express the intent of the Legislature to clarify this provision is applicable to all insured properties located within a county for which a state of emergency has been declared. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 25th.*

SB 833 (McGuire) The bill would require the red alert system to incorporate a variety of notification resources and developing technologies that may be tailored to the circumstances and geography of the underlying evacuation. The bill would require a local government agency or state agency that uses the federal Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system to alert a specified area of an evacuation order to use the term “red alert” in the alert and notify OES of the alert. *The bill is set for hearing in the Senate Committee on Governmental Organization on April 10th.*

SB 896 (McGuire) The bill would extend the operation of the former aggravated arson offense until January 1, 2024 and would increase the threshold of property damage and other losses constituting an aggravation factor for arson to \$7,300,000. *The bill passed the Senate Committee on Public Safety unanimously on March 13th, and has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

SB 901 (Dodd) The bill would require investor and municipal electric utilities to update their wildfire mitigation plans to include policies and procedures for determining if, when and where to temporarily de-energize a power line during extreme weather events for the purpose of preventing a wildfire. The utilities would have to assess meteorological conditions, mapping of fire risk zones, observations of vegetation conditions around and near power lines, and establish a protocol for notifying impacted customers. *The bill is set to be heard in the Senate Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications on April 17th.*

AB 1740 (Daly) The bill would delete current provisions regarding actual cash value of an insurance claim of total loss to structure, and would instead require that the actual cash value of the claim, for either a total or partial loss to the structure, would be the amount it would cost the insured to repair the thing lost or injured less a fair and reasonable deduction for physical depreciation based upon its condition at the time of the injury or the policy limit, whichever is less. *The bill is currently referred to the Assembly Committee on Insurance.*

AB 1877 (Limon) which would require the Office of Emergency Services to translate any emergency communication of the office into the language other than English that is spoken by a majority of the public in the impacted county or counties, and would make that translation available during the emergency communication. *The bill is set to be heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee on April 4th.*

The County and City Green Energy Production

The County's Assemblymember Monique Limon (D-Santa Barbara) has introduced AB 2077 (Limon) Electricity: local government renewable energy self-generation program. The bill has been put over in the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy from April 4th to April 18th as conversations between stakeholders continue. We have been in ongoing discussions with the Assemblymember's staff, the Committee, Southern California Edison and the City of Santa Barbara on a way to accomplish the County's and City's goals to provide green energy.

Budget

On January 10, 2018 the Governor released his 2018-19 Budget, which proposed \$131.7 billion in state General Fund expenditures. The Assembly and the Senate have begun break off into budget subcommittee hearings in order to review the state budget by subject matter.

The May Revise will be released around mid-May, after which the Assembly and Senate will then hold their own budget hearings where they vote to adopt their own version of the budget, after which both versions of the budgets will go before the Budget Conference where the appointed Budget Conferees will vote on which version of the budget to send to the Governor. The Budget Bill must be passed by midnight of June 15th.

Highlights include:

Elimination of the 340B Program

The Governor's 2018-19 budget proposal eliminates the use of the 340B Drug Pricing Program in Medi-Cal. The federal program entitles eligible healthcare providers to discounts on outpatient prescription drugs. The elimination of the program directly affects the County because it could reduce revenues in the County's Public Health Department by \$5 million to \$6 million, effective July 1, 2019, and would negatively impact the County's health care safety net.

The 340B Program provides significant benefits to the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the patients served. As a qualified health center participating in the 340B Program, the County's Public Health Department healthcare providers gain access to materially reduced pricing on select outpatient drugs, allowing them to stretch resources and provide more comprehensive services to the County's most vulnerable patients. We continue to advocate to oppose the elimination of the 340B Program in the Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees, and are currently waiting for the administration to release the May Revise.

Disaster Relief

CalFire response costs will require a 2017-18 budget augmentation of \$469.3 million, which will be provided through the state's Emergency Fund. The state is currently also seeking a federal supplemental disaster-related appropriations bill that would amount to \$4.4 billion to support disaster recovery efforts.

Rainy Day Fund

The budget proposes a \$3.5 billion supplemental payment in addition to the constitutionally

required transfer to the Rainy Day Fund for 2018-19. The two payments would bring the total Rainy Day Fund to \$13.5 billion.

Courts

The budget proposal provides \$4.2 billion for the judicial branch that includes \$150 million in new funding to support efforts by the Judicial Council to improve and modernize trial court operations.

For 2018-19, the budget includes a \$150 million package out of the general fund for courts, which includes:

- Support for Trial Court Operations
The Budget includes an increase of \$122.8 million General Fund for trial court operations and an increase of \$25.9 million General Fund for trial court employee benefit costs.
- Trial Court Trust Fund Revenue
The Budget includes an increase of \$34.1 million General Fund to reflect a further reduction of fine and penalty revenues expected in 2018-19.
- Self-Help Centers in Trial Courts-The Budget includes an increase of \$19.1 million General Fund to expand self-help services in trial courts to assist the increasing number of self-represented litigants and achieve court efficiencies.
- Language Access-The Budget includes an increase of \$4 million General Fund to enable the continuation and expansion of interpreter services for civil matters in all courts.
- Pilot Project for Online Adjudication of Traffic Violations-The Budget includes \$3.4 million to establish an online adjudication system for traffic violations in five pilot courts.

Transportation Infrastructure

For 2018-19, the budget includes \$4.6 billion in new transportation funding, which includes:

- A focus on “fix-it-first” investments to repair neighborhood roads, state highways and bridges (\$2.8 billion).
- Making key investments in trade and commute corridors to support continued economic growth and implement a sustainable freight strategy (\$556 million).
- Matching locally generated funds for high-priority transportation projects (\$200 million).
- Investing in local passenger rail and public transit modernization and improvement (\$721 million).

Statewide Voting Systems Replacement

The budget includes \$134.3 million General Fund for the purchase of all necessary hardware, software, and initial licensing for the replacement of voting systems and technology in all of the 58 counties.

Libraries

For 2018-19, the budget includes \$9 million for libraries, which includes:

- Augmentation for Literacy Program—An increase of \$2.5 million General Fund ongoing to expand the existing California Library Literacy Services program.
- One-Time Funding for Broadband Grants—\$5 million General Fund one-time for broadband equipment grants, with the expectation that \$2 million would support connection for public libraries who lack access to the broadband network and \$3 million would expand capacity for libraries already connected.
- One-Time Funding for Online Service System—\$1.5 million General Fund one-time for online systems for use by public libraries to support efficient access to resources.

Public Safety Communications

The state budget proposes \$11.5 million in State Emergency Telephone Number Account (SETNA) funds to modernize the state's system and improve public safety during emergency events.

Property Tax Backfill

The state budget provides \$23.7 million in backfill to counties and other local jurisdictions for lost property taxes in 2017-18 and 2018-19 resulting from the October 2017 fires. This is a preliminary number that will be updated to capture full losses in counties in both northern and southern California in the May Revision.

SB 5 - California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection and Outdoor Access for All Act (2017)

If approved by the voters, SB 5 will add \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to implement its provisions, including \$175 million for Coastal protection with \$85 million for state coastal conservancy. The state budget proposes \$1.02 billion for the first year of SB 5 implementation, should the measure be approved. The budget also allocates \$95.5 million from SB 5 for flood control projects that achieve public safety and fish and wildlife improvements.

State and Local Parks

The state budget allocates \$472 million in funding from SB 5 for various park programs and projects, which includes four million in grants for deferred maintenance projects to county fairgrounds and \$464 million for improving and increasing access to local neighborhood parks.

Groundwater Sustainability

The state budget proposal includes \$61.8 million in SB 5 funding for the Department of Water Resources to support SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSAs) activities. The budget also proposes \$84 million to the State Water Board to support regional groundwater treatment and remediation activities, including \$10 million in technical assistance for drought and groundwater investments.

Cap and Trade Funding

In result of the extension of the cap and trade program, the state will have \$1.25 billion in cap and trade funds available for appropriation in 2018-19.

In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

The state budget contains no changes to the structure of the new county In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) maintenance of effort (MOE) that was negotiated last year.

Health Care Expansion

California continues to implement the optional expansion of ACA with nearly 3.9 million Californians covered in 2018-19.

2011 Realignment

The state budget updates revenue assumptions for 2011 Realignment programs. For the Community Corrections Subaccount (AB 109) the 2017-18 statewide base remains \$1.241 billion, with growth funding estimated at \$84.3 million. The 2011 Realignment estimates will be revisited and revised in the Governor's May Revision.

Proposition 47

Proposition 47, which was passed in November of 2014, requires misdemeanor rather than felony sentencing for certain property and drug crimes and permitted inmates previously sentenced for these reclassified crimes to petition for resentencing. Based on fall projections, the Department of Finance (DOF) currently estimates a net savings of \$64.4 million when comparing 2017-18 to 2013-14, an increase of \$18.8 million over the estimated 2016-17 savings.

Community Corrections Planning (CCP) Grants

The state budget continues with a round of Community Corrections Planning (CCP) grants totaling \$7.9 million for Community Corrections Partnerships (CCPs) to support work associated with ongoing AB 109 implementation efforts.

Affordable Housing

The timing of SB 2 (Chapter No. 364, Statutes of 2017) appropriations is still unclear, but the state budget does project that \$258 million in tax revenues will be generated through SB 2's recording fee in 2018-19.

Other Legislation and Information

AB 3224 (Thurmond) was amended on March 20th with language that would place restrictions on counties from contracting out with eligibility workers that would find citizens that are eligible for the following services – CalFresh, CalWORKS, Medi-Cal, IHSS and various programs for the elderly and disabled. The sponsors of this bill, Western Center on Law and Poverty stated that the language in the bill is only intended to codify existing practice into state law regarding eligibility determinations for certain social services. Currently, all counties follow the practice of making eligibility determinations; therefore CSAC is taking a neutral position on this bill. Although the County is not currently taking a position on this bill, we are carefully monitoring it

in case there are any amendments to expand of scope of the bill, since there could be a similar intent of AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer), which the County heavily opposed last year.

SB 1160 (Hueso) would make it a misdemeanor to commit a trespass by entering a gaming facility on the Indian lands of a federally recognized Indian tribe after receiving an order of exclusion from the designated agency of the tribal government. The bill was amended on April 2nd stating that it would authorize the tribe to enter into an agreement with a law enforcement agency to enforce an order of exclusion. The bill would possibly create a local control issue for the County since it will create a mandated local program that would possibly force the County to incarcerate and/or prosecute a trespassing person.

AB 417 (Limon) was signed by the Governor on March 23rd, which was a bill to provide a narrow statutory fix that would allow the Aurora Visa del Mar, LLC (AVDM), an acute psychiatric hospital in Ventura County to re-open outpatient mental health services while the current facility is being rebuilt in result of the Thomas Fire. Current law required a psychiatric hospital that provides inpatient services to maintain basic services in order to remain open, and because outpatient services are tied to the inpatient license, the outpatient services would not be eligible to be open. The bill allows the California Department of Public Health to permit the services to reopen for a short period of time while inpatient services are suspended. The bill has now been signed into law.

AB 653 - Tribal Tax Issues

AB 653 (Ridley-Thomas) was legislation sponsored by the Chumash Tribe, which passed the Assembly last year and was set for hearing in the Senate Governance and Finance Committee on August 30, 2017. After lengthy discussions between the sponsors, the County, our legislative delegation, CSAC and the rural counties, the sponsors and author decided to cancel the hearing. The bill is now a two-year bill, but the author of the bill, Sebastian Ridley-Thomas (D-Los Angeles) resigned due to health reasons.

We have been in contact with the sponsors of the bill, and we understand that there is still some interest, but if there will be any movement, it won't be until later in the year. We continue to monitor the bill and watch for any other pieces of legislation that could possibly be amended into a similar concern for the County.

Cannabis

The passage of Prop 64 allowed the recreational use of marijuana in California which created a number of cannabis policy, trailer bill language and regulations by the Bureau of Marijuana Control, CalCannabis and the Department of Public Health this session. In addition to Prop 64, which was approved in 2016, the Governor signed into law the Medical Cannabis and Regulatory Safety Act (MCRSA) in 2015. These two laws contained several differences; therefore in addition to the \$94.6 million appropriated in the budget to implement California's cannabis laws, the budget package included trailer bill SB 94 that merged provisions of MCRSA together with Prop 64.

Most of the cannabis issues this year were worked through a compromised deal by the Assembly, Senate and Administration through the cannabis trailer bill language in SB 94 and the clean-up cannabis trailer bill AB 133, with a majority of policy bills becoming either two-year bills or receiving a veto from the Governor.

Although the CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing program, the Bureau of Cannabis Control, and the Department of Public Health published their proposed draft regulations for implementing MCRSA in the Spring, SB 94 and changed current law. In order to be consistent with changes in the law, the Bureau had to withdraw proposed regulations and has released new emergency regulations on November 16th, and became effective in December of 2017.

Meanwhile, the CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing program prepared a Draft Program Environmental Impact Report in accordance to CEQA, which provided information of potential environmental effects associated with the implementation of cannabis cultivation regulations. CalCannabis began issuing state cannabis cultivation licenses on January 1, 2018 and is currently accepting applications for temporary and annual cannabis cultivation licenses for cultivators, nurseries and processors. The Bureau of Cannabis Control has began public licensing workshop on March 1st, which focuses on licensing information that is needed and resources that are available for people planning to apply for state commercial cannabis licenses.

Banking the cannabis industry remains a priority for California with a much needed solution. SB 930 (Hertzberg) has been set for hearing in the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee on April 18th after being amended on March 14th. SB 930 (Hertzberg) creates a limited purpose bank licensed and regulated by the Department of Business Oversight (DBO). It would authorize limited purpose banks to provide depository services and issue special checks to cannabis-related businesses, authorizes the limited purpose banks to obtain private depository insurance, as authorized by the DBO, in lieu of FDIC insurance, and would create an oversight Board with the State Treasurer, Controller and the Chief of the Bureau of Cannabis Control as members and the Director of the Department of Finance as an ex-officio member, among multiple other provisions.

Bills of Interest to the County

AB 334 (Cooper) Federal VAWA legislation passed in 2011 mandated the provision of free sexual assault forensic medical exams for patient/victims who do not want to cooperate with law enforcement agencies. The original California statute passed in 1977 mandating that local law enforcement agencies pay for sexual assault exams was amended after 35 years to comply with VAWA. The amended statute specified that law enforcement agencies could be reimbursed \$300 by Cal OES out of their State VAWA appropriation for exams involving the non-cooperative patient/victim. The legislation passed the Senate Judiciary Committee with a 6-1 vote, but the author pulled the bill out of the Senate Public Safety Committee, therefore the bill is now a two-year bill. The County is in support of the bill.

AB 653 (Ridley-Thomas) The legislation is sponsored by the Chumash Tribe, and was amended on August 23rd to state that beginning the 2018-19 fiscal year, property owned in fee or held in

trust by a federally recognized Indian Tribe, or owned in fee or held in trust by a charitable nonprofit organization is exempt from taxation if the following conditions are met: The tribe has submitted an initial written request or trust application to the US Department of the Interior and the department has determined that the initial written request trust application is complete, and that the tribe has submitted both of the following to the assessor: documents establishing that the tribe is federally recognized and documents establishing that the initial written request or trust application is under consideration by the US Department of the Interior. The property is used primarily for tribal housing, an essential governmental function, or other charitable purposes including but not limited to, tribal religious, education, museum, hospital, and cemetery facilities or for the preservation of agriculture and open space. The author of the bill cancelled the Committee hearing, and the bill is now a two-year bill. The County opposed the legislation.

AB 726 (Holden) and AB 813 (Holden) The legislation would have created a freeze on any new forming Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) organizations and restricted the ability to expand existing Community Choice Energy (CCE) programs. The County of Santa Barbara was opposed to AB 726 and AB 813, unless CalCCA's amendments were adopted. The bills were held in the Senate Rules Committee and are now two-year bills.

AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) The County is in strong opposition to the bill. The bill creates specific conditions and requirements that would apply when a county enters into a new contract or renews or extends an existing contract, and also specifies the conditions that must be met in order to permit a personal services contract. The Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee claimed that there needs to be more negotiations on the bill. The bill was held in the Senate Rules Committee and is now a two year bill.

SB 349 (Lara) This bill would require minimum staffing ratios for dialysis clinics and a minimum transition time between dialysis patients, as follows, commencing January 1, 2020. The bill increases the likelihood of quality care for individuals with End Stage Renal Disease by reducing the risk of infections, cardiac related and other causes of death. This bill is currently on the inactive file, but we are still monitoring just in case of any future movement. The County is in support of the legislation.

SB 588 (Hertzberg) This bill substantially revises the existing state rigs-to-reefs program that allows for the partial removal of oil and gas platforms in state or federal waters if the remaining portion is converted into an artificial reef and certain conditions are met. The bill passed the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee on June 29th with a 12-2 vote, and then was referred to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee but didn't meet the policy deadline, therefore is now a two-year bill. County opposes the bill.

SB 821 (Jackson) This bill would specify that the Office of Emergency Services may assist county jurisdictions in developing effective public emergency warning systems. The bill has been referred to the Senator Governmental Organization Committee. The County is in support of the bill.

SB 827 (Wiener) The bill would require the County to grant housing development projects, in key transit corridors, a "bonus" by exempting the project from certain local development requirements such as density, maximum floor area, parking requirements and height restrictions.

This would effectively negate development standards for housing along the State Street/Hollister Avenue transit corridor as well as in already crowded Isla Vista. The bill has been currently referred Senate Transportation and Housing Committee. The County is in opposition to the bill.

SB 917 (Jackson), which would clarify that under current law, an insurance policy will cover loss or damage resulting from a landslide if that landslide was attributable to a condition already covered by the policy, such as wildfires. The bill is set to be heard in the Senate Committee on Insurance on April 25th. The County is supporting the bill.

Conclusion

The Legislature returned from Legislative Spring Recess on April 2nd, and now the Legislature will be in the midst of deadlines to consider bills in policy and fiscal committees.

Policy committees and budget subcommittees have begun to meet, with the deadline for fiscal bills to be heard will be on April 27th, and the last day for policy committees to hear non-fiscal bills introduced in their house will be on May 11th. May 18th will be the last day for policy committees to meet, while May 25th will be the last day for fiscal committees to hear and report to the Floor bills that were introduced in their house of origin.

We look forward to discussing priorities in the Legislature and will continue to work with staff and keep the committee and Board updated. As always, should you or your staff have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know.