

TO: Members, County of Santa Barbara Legislative Committee

FROM: Cliff Berg, Legislative Advocate
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RE: 2019 March Update

DATE: March 26, 2019

Governor Gavin Newsom continues his focus on the housing shortage in California. On March 11th, the Governor announced a legislative proposal as part of his \$1.75 billion package to confront the housing cost crisis. The new proposal sets higher short-term goals for housing that cities and counties must meet and provides \$750 million in support and incentives to help jurisdictions plan and zone for these higher, ambitious housing targets. The proposal would also update the state's long-term housing goals, known as Regional Housing Needs Allocations (RHNA).

The new proposal will ensure that by December 31, 2022, HCD, in collaboration with the Office of Planning and Research (OPR), will engage stakeholders and propose an improved RHNA process and methodology. Working with the California State Transportation Agency and OPR, HCD will engage stakeholders and propose opportunities to link transportation and other non-housing funds with housing goals by the end of 2022. Beginning July 1, 2023, SB 1 Local Streets and Roads funds may be withheld from any jurisdiction that does not have a compliant housing element and has not zoned and entitled for its updated annual housing goals. The draft trailer bill language has been released, but there is not yet a bill number for the proposal.

The Legislature is currently in the middle of committee and subcommittee hearings and will adjourn to travel back to their districts for a week during the Spring Legislative Recess on April 11th. They will reconvene on April 22nd. April 26th will be the last day for policy committees to hear and report to the fiscal committees the fiscal bills that are introduced in the house of origin.

IHSS – Changes to AB 85 Formula

While the Governor proposed positive revisions to IHSS MOE that are estimated to increase State General Fund costs for IHSS, starting at \$241.7 million in 2019-20 and growing to \$547.3 million in 2022-23, Santa Barbara along with Stanislaus, Sacramento, Placer, and Yolo County have concerns on the change to the AB 85 formula, to pay for the expansion of Medi-Cal Coverage proposal that the Governor put out.

The budget proposes to expand full-scope Medi-Cal coverage to approximately 138,000 income-eligible young adults up to age 26, regardless of immigration status. The Governor's plan is to partially offset by redirecting county realignment funding for indigent health care to the state. The proposal would redirect \$2.1 million dollars from the County's core Public Health services.

The proposal is based on an inaccurate premise that county costs will decrease because of the proposed Medi-Cal expansion to cover more indigents. Although in fact, any savings will be nominal and would not offset the redirection of realignment as proposed. The County has submitted the County Public Health Department's fact sheet to our the Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees on HHS, Department of Finance, our delegation and CSAC that outlines the serious impacts of the budget proposal which would include reduction to our Communicable Disease programs, reduction in Public Health Laboratory testing and analysis, reduction in Health Education and Promotion activities, reduction in programs targeted to support those with Adverse Childhood Experiences or are victims of human trafficking, and the loss of the ability to leverage these state funds with federal financial participation.

On March 4th, the County sent a formal letter to the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees on Health and Human Services and the Department of Finance to express our opposition of the January's budget proposal to change the health realignment funding formula in AB 85 from 60/40 to 75/25. The Senate Budget Subcommittee #3 on Health and Human Services held a hearing on March 21st, where they heard the Full-Scope Medi-Cal Expansion to Undocumented Young Adults Proposal. The County testified in opposition of redirecting the county realignment funding. The Subcommittee left the item open.

The County is continuing to work with CSAC and our Delegation on this issue. On February 27th, the County had a meeting with the Department of Finance and our Delegation where we strongly expressed our opposition and impacts it would have on the Public Health Department.

Emergency Response

On March 22nd, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency before the fire-season this year, directing his administration to immediately expedite forest management projects that will protect 200 of California's most wildfire-vulnerable communities. This action follows the release of a report earlier this month by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), which identified 35 priority fuel-reduction projects that can be implemented immediately to help reduce the public safety risk for wildfire.

Project examples include removal of hazardous dead trees, vegetation clearing, 3 creation of fuel breaks and community defensible spaces, and creation of ingress and egress corridors. These projects can be implemented immediately if recommendations in this report are taken to enable the work. Those in the SBC Unit include the Santa Barbara Foothill Community Defensible Space, Painted Cave Community Defensible Space and the San Marcos Pass.

The Governor also announced additional details on the \$50 million California for All Emergency Preparedness Campaign which came through AB 72 that was passed in February 2019. The funding provides:

- \$24.25 million in grants to community-based organizations across the state to prepare residents for natural disasters through education and resources designed to bolster resiliency.
- \$12.6 million to support community efforts to build resiliency and respond to disasters by dispatching expert disaster teams to key regions and expanding citizen emergency response teams (CERT).

- \$13.15 million to assist community groups in the development of a linguistically and culturally appropriate public awareness and outreach campaign, directed specifically at the most vulnerable California communities.

The California Natural Resources Agency and Department of Conservation have also announced the award of \$20 million in block grants for regional projects that improve forest health and increase fire resiliency. This Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program helps communities prioritize, develop and implement projects that strengthen fire resiliency.

Meanwhile, the Administration is publishing the Emergency Alert and Warning Guidelines. The guidelines, which were mandated as a result of SB 833 (McGuire), aim to help local governments and the state get on the same page when it comes to communicating with Californians in an emergency.

CSAC along with multiple stakeholders wrote a letter to the administration which states the commitment to working with the Legislature and Administration to address both the root causes of the growing threat of wildfires in the state, but express their opposition to any potential efforts to revise constitutional protections under “inverse condemnation” laws and long-standing liability statutes related to the causes of wildfires, stating that inverse condemnation is the constitutionally protected property right that protects victims and provides a strong incentive for utilities to invest in necessary safety measures.

The County has gathered debris removal and emergency protective cost estimates caused directly from the post 1/9 Debris Flow storms that have occurred this winter and have estimated those costs to be approximately six million dollars for the Operational Area. This estimate is based on clearing all new debris from the debris basins, channels and roads, repositioning and response of first responder resources and EOC activation. The County is working directly with Cal OES on funding.

State Budget

Governor Gavin Newsom submitted his 2019-20 “California for All” budget proposal to the Legislature on January 10th which proposed \$144 billion in state General Fund expenditures. The total proposal, including money earmarked for special purpose funds tops \$209 billion, which is \$8 billion more than former Governor Jerry Brown’s final budget. The Legislature has begun the budget sub-committee process.

Highlights include:

Investments in Emergency Readiness, Response and Recovery

The Budget proposes to support counties devastated by the November 2018 wildfires by backfilling wildfire-related property tax losses and waiving the local share of cost for debris removal. The budget also includes:

- \$200 million General Fund to augment CAL FIRE’s firefighting capabilities, adding 13 additional year-round engines, replacing Vietnam War-era helicopters, deploying new

large air tankers, and investing in technology and data analytics that will support CAL FIRE's incident command in developing more effective initial fire suppression strategies.

- Continues \$25 million General Fund ongoing for pre-positioning local government fire engines to support the state's critical mutual aid system.
- \$60 million General Fund one-time to jump-start upgrades to the 911 system, including an overhaul to the existing fee that will sustainably fund a modern, reliable system.
- \$16.3 million General Fund to finish the build-out of the California Earthquake Early Warning System. To help local governments and individuals be more prepared for emergencies,
- \$50 million General Fund one-time for local grants and to immediately begin a comprehensive, statewide education campaign on disaster preparedness and safety.
- \$213 million pursuant to SB 901 (Chapters 626, 2018), the wildfire prevention and recovery legislation. These funds would be used for fuels reduction, prescribed burns, illegal fireworks disposal, and to streamline regulatory barriers for fuels reduction project. This is the first investment out of a total of \$1 billion over the next five years for fire prevention and forest management activities.
- \$59.5 million from the General Fund over five years for OES to develop and implement the California Interoperable Public Safety Radio System, which would allow various agencies the ability to communicate with each other seamlessly, improve radio coverage to clients whose radio systems are geographically limited, and leverage and link to existing state and regional digital radio systems.

Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST)

The Department of State Hospitals (DSH) continues to experience a significant number of IST commitments—the number of ISTs pending placement into the state hospital was more than 800 individuals in December 2018. The budget proposal includes funding to expand DSH beds, but also includes \$12.3 million to allow DSH to contract up to 74 additional jail-based competency restoration treatment beds through the county jail treatment programs.

In-Home Supportive Services

The In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program provides assistance and services to eligible older or disabled individuals to help them remain safely in their homes. For 2019-20, the Governor's January budget proposal includes \$12.7 billion for IHSS, of which \$4.3 billion is from the General Fund. This is a 15.2 percent increase in General Fund costs over the 2018-19 costs. The budget proposal estimates that average monthly caseload will increase by 4.5 percent over the prior year projection to a total of 564,000 recipients in 2019-20.

IHSS Reopener Report

As part of the 2017-18 budget trailer bill SB 90 (Chapter 25, Statutes of 2017) that established the new IHSS maintenance of effort (MOE), Specifically, the Department of Finance was required to submit findings and recommendations to the Legislature by January 10, 2019 on four specific elements: 1. The extent to which revenues available for 1991 Realignment are sufficient to meet program costs that were realigned. 2. Whether the IHSS program and administrative costs are growing by a rate that is higher, lower, or approximately the same as the MOE, including the inflation factor. 3. The fiscal and programmatic impacts of the IHSS MOE on the funding available for the Health Subaccount, the Mental Health Subaccount, the County Medical

Services Program Subaccount, and other social services programs included in 1991 Realignment. 4. The status of collective bargaining for the IHSS program in each county. The Department of Finance has completed the Senate Bill 90: 1991 Realignment Report, which is now available on the Department of Finance website.

IHSS MOE Revisions

The Governor's January budget proposal contains revisions to the county IHSS MOE that was established in 2017. The end result of these revisions is estimated to increase State General Fund costs for IHSS, starting at \$241.7 million in 2019-20 and growing to \$547.3 million in 2022- 23. The Department of Finance estimates that there would not be a Realignment shortfall until 2021-22 and it would be a minor shortfall of \$9.5 million. This is positive news for counties as prior estimates under the existing structure showed shortfalls of several hundred million dollars in the coming years.

IHSS Administration

The Governor's January budget proposal provides an ongoing increase of \$15.4 million General Fund for county IHSS administration, for a total of \$326 million General Fund. The budget summary notes that this increase reflects revised benefit rate assumptions.

Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)

The Budget includes \$416.9 million (\$301.7 million General Fund) to continue implementation of CCR. This funding reflects ongoing support for child and family teams, approval of resource families, and continued emphasis of home-based, family care placements with supportive services rather than group home care placements for children in foster care. Although significant progress has been made with the transition of youth in foster care from group homes to Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs beginning January 1, 2017, assumptions on caseload movement were revised to more accurately reflect the pace of implementation.

Child Support Programs

The Governor's January budget proposal includes an increase of \$56 million (\$19.1 million General Fund and \$36.9 million federal funds) for local child support agencies (LCSAs). The additional funding is proposed to be allocated to 21 counties that have relatively lower funding levels. This follows up on a \$3 million increase in the 2018-19 budget and direction in AB 1811 (Chapter 35, Statutes of 2018) that requires the Director of the Department of Child Support Services to work with the Child Support Directors Association to identify refinements to the child support budgeting methodology and to identify programmatic operational efficiencies.

CalWORKs Single Allocation

The Budget includes a one-time augmentation of \$93.6 million for the county single allocation. The Administration will continue to work with representatives of counties and county welfare directors to develop recommendations for revising the single allocation budgeting methodology for the Employment Services component as part of the May Revision.

Elimination of SSI Cash-Out Policy

Last year's budget made SSI recipients eligible for federal CalFresh benefits and provided one-time funding to offset any reduction in benefits due to this policy change. The Budget includes

\$86.7 million General Fund in 2019-20 and makes permanent the offset of the loss of food benefits for households that would otherwise experience a reduction resulting from the elimination of the SSI Cash-Out policy.

Regional Homelessness Coordination

Governor Newsom proposes an additional \$500 million in one-time General Fund for siting emergency shelters, navigation centers, and supportive housing. Entities that apply for this funding must establish joint regional plans to address homelessness that include cities and counties, and report all funding used for homelessness services. The proposal would direct \$200 million of that funding to local Continuums of Care, \$100 million to the state's 11 largest cities, and the remaining \$200 million for "meeting milestones" grants to local jurisdictions that show progress toward developing housing and shelters.

No Place Like Home Program

The Governor wants to expedite the allocation of No Place Like Home (NPLH) grant allocations to counties to build permanent supportive housing for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and those who are living with a severe mental illness. It is unclear how these funds would be expedited, but voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 2 authorizing the NPLH program last November.

Housing Planning and Incentives

In addition to \$500 million in one-time funding for local efforts to address homelessness, the Governor proposes \$750 million in funding for revamping regional housing planning, setting new short- and long-term targets for housing production, and to provide incentive funding for local governments that successfully encourage housing production. The funding would be split between \$250 million for planning and target-setting grants and technical assistance to local governments, with \$500 million allocated to local government housing production incentives. While details were sparse, representatives of the Department of Finance and the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency indicated that they plan to work closely with stakeholders, including local government, to develop the new programs.

Transportation Funding

The Governor's January budget proposal includes \$4.8 billion in SB 1 (Beall, 2017) funding in 2019-20. \$1.2 billion in funding from Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account (RMRA) will be split evenly between cities and counties, with another \$1.2 billion dedicated to the repair and maintenance of the state highway system. An additional \$400 million is available to repair and maintain the state's bridges and culverts, \$307 million is available to improve trade corridors, and \$250 million is available for congested commute corridor projects. The budget proposal also reflects \$458 million for local transit operations and \$386 million for capital improvements for transit, commuter, and intercity rail. Counties and cities will also receive the final \$75 million loan repayment authorized by SB 1. In addition to SB 1 funding, cities and counties will share \$567 million in price-based excise tax revenue, up from \$235 million in 2018-19. Recall that SB 1 eliminated the "true-up" process and resets the price-based excise tax rate at 17.3 cents per gallon in 2019-20 with future inflationary adjustments. An additional \$1.1 billion in Highway User Tax Account (HUTA) revenue will be allocated to counties and cities by formula.

Cap & Trade Expenditure Plan

The Governor's January budget proposal expends \$1 billion from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) for 2019-20. This is roughly \$400 million less overall than last year's cap and trade expenditure plan, which was adopted in June of 2018.

Despite the decrease in the proposed allocation, funding levels largely remain the same for key programs including:

- \$407 million for the purchase of zero-emission vehicles, trucks, and freight equipment;
- \$230 million to fund and implement AB 617 Community Air Protection Programs;
- \$40 million for the Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program;
- \$25 million proposed for CAL Recycle waste diversion programs to help reduce short lived climate pollutants, such as methane emissions, from landfills. This is significant for local governments given that Cal Recycle's SB 1383 Organic Waste Diversion regulations are expected to be adopted this year and will increase organic waste diversion requirements.

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund

The Governor's January budget proposal revives the concept of a Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund. The proposal, which died in the Legislature last year, would create new charges on drinking water customers and certain agricultural entities to generate revenue to implement a new financial assistance program to address unsafe drinking water systems, with a focus on disadvantaged communities. This proposal is consistent with Senator Bill Monning's SB 623 from the 2018-19 legislative session. The Budget also includes \$4.9 million General Fund on a one-time basis for the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Food and Agriculture to take initial steps toward implementation of this new Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Program, including (1) implementation of fee collection systems, (2) adoption of an annual implementation plan, and (3) development of a map of high-risk aquifers used as drinking water sources.

Cannabis

The Governor's January budget proposal includes \$200 million from the Cannabis Tax Fund and Cannabis Control Fund and \$2.9 million for the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for a cannabis tax enforcement program to help with cannabis tax compliance. Proposition 64 levies excise taxes on the cultivation and retail sale of both recreational and medical cannabis. As California's cannabis markets continue to grow, the excise tax is expected to generate \$355 million in 2018-19 and \$514 in 2019-20. These excise taxes are used to fund different programs as required under Proposition 64. These programs include community reinvestment, funding for studies, youth cannabis use prevention, environmental protection, and funding for law enforcement. The Administration has noted that it will hold off on proposing specific allocations until the May Revision of the budget when more up to-date revenue data will be available.

Cannabis and Public Banking

In June 2017, former Governor Jerry Brown signed into law the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA), which creates one regulatory system for both medicinal and adult-use cannabis.

CDFA released the proposed permanent regulations for cannabis cultivation licensing on July 13, 2018, which started the formal rulemaking process and initiated the official 45-day public comment period. On October 19, 2018, the California Department of Food and Agriculture posted the proposed permanent regulations. The proposed changes were in response to comments received during the notice of proposed rulemaking that closed on August 27, 2018, and the regulatory hearings that took place from July through August.

On December 7, 2018, California's three state cannabis licensing authorities announced the release of the proposed cannabis regulations currently under review by the California Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The rulemaking action regarding these regulations, initially noticed on July 13, 2018, was submitted to OAL for review on December 3, 2018. The proposed regulations have now been officially approved OAL as of January 16th.

On December 11, 2018, the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) has adopted proposed emergency Cannabis Tax Regulation 3702, California Cannabis Track-and-Trace, to require the wholesale cost and retail selling price of cannabis and cannabis products to be recorded in the California Cannabis Track-and-Trace (CCTT) system. Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code section 34013, proposed section 3702 is effective for two years from the date the regulation is filed with the Secretary of State (effective until December 27, 2020).

The Bureau of Cannabis Control (Bureau) announced on March 1st that it is accepting applications for grant funding authorized by the California Cannabis Equity Act of 2018 (Equity Act) established by Senate Bill 1294. The Bureau has been appropriated \$10 million to award to cities and counties to assist equity applicants and licensees through equity programs that focus on inclusion and support of persons in the cannabis industry, who are linked to populations or neighborhoods that were negatively or disproportionately impacted by cannabis criminalization.

All grant funds will be distributed no later than June 30, 2019. Applicants that meet the eligibility requirements and submit timely applications will receive a minimum grant of \$100,000, unless a lesser grant amount is requested. Only cities and counties are eligible for grant funds.

On March 27th, the Bureau will also hold the first Cannabis Advisory Committee (CAC) of the year in Sacramento. There will be an Informational Presentation on "Worker Health and Safety in the Cannabis Industry" by Amalia Neidhardt, the Senior Safety Engineer at Cal/OSHA Research and Standards Occupational Health Unit, as well as discussion and possible action to elect the Cannabis Advisory Committee Chair and Vice Chair, discussion and possible action on the Cannabis Advisory Committee Handbook and discussion and possible action on the 2019 Meeting Recommendations.

The California Association of Environmental Health Administrators will hold a regulation of cannabis cultivation workshop on May 30th in Murphys, California to provide objective information about the environmental and safety issues associated with regulated and unregulated/black market cultivation of cannabis.

Senator Bob Hertzberg introduced SB 51 (Hertzberg) which would create the Cannabis Limited Charter Banking and Credit Union Law. The bill would create the Cannabis Limited Charter Bank and Credit Union Advisory Board which would include the Treasurer, the Controller, and the Chief of the Bureau of Cannabis Control, and commit to it the general responsibility for ensuring that this law functions in a safe and efficient way. The bill is set to be heard in the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee on April 3rd.

AB 286 (Bonta) was introduced on January 29th. The bill would temporarily reduce California's cannabis excise tax from 15 percent to 11 percent and suspend the cultivation tax altogether through 2022. AB 286 is meant to stimulate the legal cannabis industry in California by creating a more equitable climate for the compliant businesses to compete with the growing grey market. Another problem is that the black market still exists, making it difficult for compliant cannabis entities to compete with the illicit actors who do not pay the same taxes. The bill will be heard in the Assembly Revenue and Tax Committee on April 1st and then the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions on April 9th.

SB 67 (McGuire) was amended on March 21st. The bill would until September 15, 2019, revalidate an expired temporary license issued by the Department of Food and Agriculture, if the licensee submitted an application for an annual state license and application fees for the same premises and commercial cannabis activity for which the temporary license was issued, before the licensee's temporary license expiration date. The bill passed the Senate Business and Profession Committee and was referred to Senate Appropriations.

Bills of Interest to the County

AB 132 (Cooper)/AB 141 (Cooper) Trial Costs: Joseph James DeAngelo, Jr.

AB 132 (Cooper) has been amended into AB 141 (Cooper). Over a span of 14 years the Golden State Killer (GSK) was suspected of committing multiple murders, rapes, kidnappings, robberies and burglaries throughout California. Last year Joseph DeAngelo was arrested as the GSK suspect. The trial of the GSK is going to place an unexpected financial burden on the counties responsible for trying this case. AB 141 will provide some cost recovery to the district attorneys and public defenders responsible for the prosecution and defense of the GSK. AB 132 was set to be heard in the Assembly Public Safety Committee on March 12th, but was postponed by the committee. The Public Safety Committee had believed the bill was primarily fiscal and didn't want to hear it in the Committee. The author of the bill decided to amend AB 132 into AB 141 (Cooper), it will most likely be re-referred by Rules to Local Government. The County is in support of this bill.

AB 245 (Muratsuchi) CA Aerospace and Aviation Commission: Establishment

The bill would enact the California Aerospace and Aviation Act of 2019, which establishes the 17-member California Aerospace and Aviation Commission for serving as a central point of contact for related industries and supporting the health and competitiveness of these industries in

California. The County is in support of this bill. The bill is set for hearing in the Assembly Committee on Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy on April 2nd.

AB 255 (Limon) Coastal Resources: oil spills: grants

The bill would include Native American tribes and other public entities to be eligible for grants authorized by the Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act. Existing law provides that the Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act may offer spill response equipment grants to local governments with jurisdiction over waters of the state. The bill would clarify this existing grant program in the code and ensure this program continues to provide these specified grants to local government, Native American Tribes or other public entities that have jurisdiction over or are directly adjacent to waters of the state. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources. The County is in support of this bill.

AB 409 (Limon) Climate Change: agriculture: grant program

The bill would establish a competitive grant program in the Office of Planning and Research to develop climate adaptation planning tools and trainings for agricultural producers in the central valley, central coast, and desert regions of the state. Priority shall be given to joint applications that take a collaborative and inclusive approach that include both of the participation by farmers, ranchers, technical assistance providers, county agricultural commissioners and agricultural industry organizations. The bill has been re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources. The County is in support of the bill.

SB 46 (Jackson) State government: emergency services

This bill expands on last year's SB 821 (Jackson, Ch. 615, stats. 2018) by allowing local government to automatically enroll residents, stoutens and other employees in locally-operated emergency alert systems while preserving their ability to opt-out and clarifies that alerting authorities may use wireless telephone subscriber data for the sole purpose of emergency notification and allows local governments to identify residents with access and functional needs for the purpose of sending them specialized emergency alerts. The bill has been re-referred to the Senate Committees on Governmental Organization and Human Services. The County is in support of this bill.

SB 224 (Grove) Grand theft: agricultural equipment

The bill would establish theft of agriculture equipment or property including tractors and all-terrain vehicles, as a separate crime. This bill will also recirculate money from fines collected back into existing rural and agriculture theft crime fighting programs that help provide more resources to law enforcements efforts. The County is in support of this bill. The bill is set for a hearing in Senate Public Safety on April 2nd.

SR 12 (Jackson) Relative to the 50th anniversary of the Santa Barbara oil spill

The Senate Resolution would resolve that the Senate encourage its members to urge their constituents to participate in beach clean-up and other community efforts to bring citizen action and involvement to the protection of our environment and further honor the tireless efforts and important accomplishments of California's environmental leaders stretching from the time of the Santa Barbara oil spill 50 years ago up to the present day. The bill passed the Senate 30-1 on January 28th and is chaptered into law. The County supported this Senate Resolution.

Bills of Possible Interest to the County

Our office is reviewing all the introduced legislation and will flag those bills that could be of possible interest to the County. We will then work with staff to see which bills to the County needs to take positions on. This year after discussion with our legislative delegation, we will be trying to take more positions earlier in the process.

Some bill of interest that are already introduced include:

AB 377 (Garcia) Microenterprise home kitchen operations

The bill would modify the conditions for a city, county, or city and county to permit microenterprise home kitchen operations within its jurisdiction. The bill would require an enforcement agency that is permitting and inspecting microenterprise home kitchen operations to annually report specified information about the operations within its jurisdiction and post a link to a report on the homepage of its internet website. The bill would modify the food safety standards applicable to microenterprise home kitchen operations. The bill would prohibit an internet food service intermediary or a microenterprise home kitchen operation from using the word “catering” or any variation of that word in a listing or advertisement of a microenterprise home kitchen operation’s offer of food for sale. The bill will be heard in the Assembly Public Safety Committee on April 2nd.

AB 486 (Limon) Disaster preparedness: local government: animal wildfire evacuation plan

The bill would, if a city or county requires a permit to keep an animal within its jurisdiction, require an animal owner as a condition for obtaining the permit to create and submit to the city or county an animal wildfire evacuation plan for any animal covered by the permit. By imposing a new duty on local government, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The first hearing was cancelled at the request of the Author.

AB 927 (Jones-Sawyer) Crimes: fines and fees: defendant’s ability to pay

The bill revises state law to impose fines, fees or assessments on defendants only after a court finds that the defendant has the ability to pay. AB 927 requires courts to make a finding of a defendant’s ability to pay prior to imposing any fine, fee or assessment, except for orders of victim restitution. The bill will be heard in the Assembly Public Safety Committee on April 2nd.

AB 1332 (Bonta) Sanctuary State Contracting and Investment Act

The bill would enact the Sanctuary State Contracting and Investment Act, which would, among other things, prohibit a state or local agency from entering into a new, amended, or extended contract or agreement with any person or entity that provides a federal immigration agency with any data broker, extreme vetting, or detention facilities services, as defined, unless state or local agency has made a finding that no reasonable alternative exists, as specified. The bill would also prohibit a state or local agency from making any investment in stocks, bonds, securities, or other obligations issued by any provider of data broker, extreme vetting, or detention facilities services to a federal immigration agency, as specified. The bill is set for a hearing in the Assembly Public Employment and Retirement Committee on April 3rd. CSAC is monitoring this bill if it continues to progress, but believes this is a statement bill and will not continue due to its heavy opposition.

SB 67 (McGuire) Cannabis: temporary licenses

MAUCRSA, until January 1, 2020, authorizes a licensing authority to issue a provisional license to an applicant that holds, or held, a temporary license for the same premises and the same commercial cannabis activity, if specified conditions are met. Current law required the provisional license to be valid for 12 months and prohibits the provisional license from being renewed. This bill would, until September 15, 2019, revalidate an expired temporary license issued by the Department of Food and Agriculture, if the licensee submitted an application for an annual state license and application fees for the same premises and commercial cannabis activity for which the temporary license was issued, before the licensee's temporary license expiration date.

SB 144 (Mitchell) Fees: criminal administrative fees

The bill would end the assessment and collection of administrative fees imposed against people in the criminal justice system. By doing so, it would dramatically reduce the suffering caused by court-ordered debt and enhance the economic security of system-involved populations, taking the first step towards ushering in an era of more just criminal justice policy that does not rely on stripping wealth from communities of color and low-income communities. The bill is currently in the Senate Rules Committee.

SB 160 (Jackson) Emergency Services: Cultural Competence

This bill directs counties to incorporate cultural competence in their emergency plans by integrating interpreters in all emergency communications, incorporating qualified representatives from community groups during the planning process, and using culturally appropriate resources when preparing community members for emergencies or disasters. The bill will be heard in the Senate Governmental Organization on April 9th.

SB 209 (Dodd) Wildfire: California Wildfire Warning Center: weather monitoring

The bill would establish in the state government the California Wildfire Warning Center (center). The center would be comprised of representatives from the Public Utilities Commission, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, as provided. The center would have various responsibilities relating to fire-threat weather conditions, including overseeing the development and deployment of a statewide network of automated weather and environmental stations designed to observe mesoscale meteorological phenomena that contribute to increased wildfire risk, including a statewide fire weather forecasting, monitoring, and threat assessment system. The bill will be heard in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee on March 26th.

SB 247 (Dodd) Wildland fire prevention: vegetation: management

The bill was amended on March 14th to require the Public Utilities Commission to establish a two-way balancing account for each electrical corporation for all costs incurred by the electrical corporation for vegetation management, prohibit the electrical corporation from diverting any revenue from the account to any activity other than vegetation management, and prohibit the electrical corporation from earning any profit on any revenue from the account. The bill would require the commission to ensure that an electrical corporation fully recovers all costs incurred to comply with the trim list requirements that would be adopted pursuant to the bill and all other

reasonable vegetation management activity. The bill will be heard in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee on April 10th.

SB 346 (Jackson) After school programs: Distinguished After School Health Recognition Program Reauthorization

The bill re-creates the Distinguished After School Health (DASH) Recognition Program, a certification for on school-site after school youth programs that meet specific healthy eating and physical activity standards that have been determined to help children lead healthier, more productive lives. Through DASH certification, these youth programs are recognized for having program curriculum that match the DASH standards for nutrition and physical activity for youth. Before it sunsetted in 2018, over 200 after school programs in California were recognized for meeting the DASH standards. The bill will be heard in the Senate Education Committee on April 3rd.

Conclusion

Legislators will travel back to their districts for a week during the Spring Legislative Recess on April 11th and will reconvene on April 22nd. April 26th will be the last day for policy committees to hear and report to the fiscal committees the fiscal bills that are introduced in the house of origin.

The Legislature has started the budget subcommittee hearings but is continuing to leave most items open for discussion while they wait for the Department of Finance and the Administration to issue the May Revise, which will be in Mid-May. The budget subcommittees will then meet after the May Revise is issued to make decisions and then the budget conference committee will be meeting to adopt the budget by the June 15th deadline.

We look forward to discussing priorities in the Legislature and the budget as bills continue to get introduced. We 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.