



TO: Monterey County Legislative Committee

FROM: Ashley S. Walker, Senior Policy Advisor

DATE: September 15, 2022

- a. **Status of the Legislature:** The Legislature adjourned on in the very early hours of September 1. All bills that were passed by the Legislature and to the Governor will need to be acted on. The Governor has 30 days to take action on legislation presented to him. There was debate on several key issues right up until the very end of session, including water affordability and efficiency bills, CARE Court, abortion access, and gun related legislation. The new two-year legislative session will begin in January, with Members being sworn in in December.
- b. **State Budget Earmark: Next Steps:** AB 179 (Ting) included the language that allocates \$6,163,000 to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) for Nacimiento Dam Maintenance projects. The final budget bill was passed by the legislature and signed by the Governor. Nossaman will coordinate a meeting with DWR to discuss next steps to draw down funding. MCWRA will need to enter into a funding agreement with the State to draw down funding in a timely manner. We will continue to work with our Legislative Delegation on opportunities for state budget funding for our priority projects.
- c. **Legislation:** The County took positions on several bills, and below is a chart outlining which bills passed the Legislature and which did not pass. All bills passed will head to the Governor for action.

Measure	Author	Topic	Position	Status
<a href="#">AB 1623</a>	<a href="#">Ramos</a> D	Personal income taxes: exclusion: uniformed services retirement pay: survivor benefit plan payments.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 1640</a>	<a href="#">Ward</a> D	Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 1654</a>	<a href="#">Rivas, Robert</a> D	Low-income housing: insurance tax: income tax: credits: farmworker housing.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 1737</a>	<a href="#">Holden</a> D	Children’s camps: safety.	Oppose	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 1944</a>	<a href="#">Lee</a> D	Local government: open and public meetings.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 1951</a>	<a href="#">Grayson</a> D	Sales and use tax: exemptions: manufacturing.	Oppose	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 2120</a>	<a href="#">Ward</a> D	Transportation finance: federal funding: bridges.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 2179</a>	<a href="#">Grayson</a> D	COVID-19 relief: tenancy.	Support	CHAPTERED

<a href="#">AB 2201</a>	<a href="#">Bennett</a> D	Groundwater sustainability agency: groundwater extraction permit: verification.	Oppose	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 2256</a>	<a href="#">Quirk-Silva</a> D	Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy: reports.	Co-Sponsored	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 2339</a>	<a href="#">Bloom</a> D	Housing element: emergency shelters: regional housing need.	Support If Amended	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 2387</a>	<a href="#">Garcia, Eduardo</a> D	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">AB 2449</a>	<a href="#">Rubio, Blanca</a> D	Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.	Support If Amended	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 2509</a>	<a href="#">Fong</a> R	Vehicles: vehicle license fee and registration fees: exemptions.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">AB 2724</a>	<a href="#">Arambula</a> D	Medi-Cal: alternate health care service plan.	Oppose	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">AB 2898</a>	<a href="#">Fong</a> R	Property taxation: exemption: principal residence: veterans and their unmarried surviving spouses.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 6</a>	<a href="#">Caballero</a> D	Local planning: housing: commercial zones.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 418</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Pajaro Valley Health Care District.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 443</a>	<a href="#">Hertzberg</a> D	Emergency medical services (EMS): prehospital EMS.	Oppose	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 489</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Flood management projects: state funding: Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 496</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Flood control: water development projects: Pajaro River.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 833</a>	<a href="#">Dodd</a> D	Community Energy Resilience Act of 2022.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 843</a>	<a href="#">Glazer</a> D	Taxation: renters' credit.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 852</a>	<a href="#">Dodd</a> D	Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 949</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Veterans: California Central Coast State Veterans Cemetery.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 1100</a>	<a href="#">Cortese</a> D	Open meetings: orderly conduct.	Support	CHAPTERED
<a href="#">SB 1148</a>	<a href="#">Laird</a> D	Cannabis: licenses: California Environmental Quality Act.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 1237</a>	<a href="#">Newman</a> D	Licenses: military service.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 1281</a>	<a href="#">Bradford</a> D	Cannabis taxes.	Support	DID NOT PASS
<a href="#">SB 1326</a>	<a href="#">Caballero</a> D	Cannabis: interstate agreements.	Support	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE
<a href="#">SB 1338</a>	<a href="#">Umberg</a> D	Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Court Program.	Concerns	PASSED THE LEGISLATURE

<a href="#">SJR 8</a>	<a href="#">Caballero D</a>	Social Security Disability Insurance: disabled adult child benefit.	Support	CHAPTERED
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- d. California’s Water Supply Strategy:** In August, the Governor released a new document outlining policy and investment goals for water related issues in California. The document is fairly high level, but specific to the goals of the administration. There are still many questions about how the document’s goals will be implemented and what type of investments will be made. The County’s water projects are aligned with many of the Strategy’s goals on water storage, affordability, and safe clean drinking water. Nossaman has set up a meeting with the Governor’s office to discuss the County’s water projects and how these projects can help implement the new Strategy.
- e. Veterans Home Updates:** The County’s Director of Military/Veteran’s Affairs has been very active working on this project. In recent discussions with the Director, Nossaman has recommended getting feedback from the LC Committee regarding a potential informational hearing or press conference to highlight the need for a Veteran’s home in California, and specifically why it should be located in Monterey County. We would like direction on these ideas to gain additional legislation attention and support for the project.
- f. Propositions on the November 2022 Ballot:** Nossaman has provided summaries of the propositions that will be on the November 2022 ballot for voters. The information below was taken from the Legislative Analyst’s Office (LAO). Nossaman is not providing any suggestions on positions, but the LC Committee is welcome to suggest positions to the Board of Supervisors on any of these proposals.
- **Proposition 1:** Proposition 1 changes the California Constitution to say that the state cannot deny or interfere with a person’s reproductive freedom and that people have the fundamental right to choose:
    - Whether or not to have an abortion.
    - Whether or not to use contraceptives.
  - **Proposition 26:** Proposition 26 allows in-person sports betting at racetracks and tribal casinos. It requires that racetracks and casinos that offer sports betting make certain payments to the state—such as to support state regulatory costs. The proposition also allows additional gambling—such as roulette—at tribal casinos. Finally, it adds a new way to enforce certain state gambling laws.
  - **Proposition 27:** Proposition 27 allows tribes or gambling companies to offer online sports betting. It requires tribes and gambling companies that offer online sports betting to make certain payments to the state for specific purposes—such as to support state regulatory costs and to address homelessness. The proposition also creates a new online sports betting regulatory unit. Finally, it provides new ways to reduce illegal online sports betting.
  - **Proposition 28:** Proposition 28 provides additional funding for arts and music education in public schools. The state would provide additional funding specifically for arts education in public schools. This amount would be above the constitutionally required amount of funding for public schools and community colleges.
  - **Proposition 29:** Proposition 29 requires on-site licensed medical professional at kidney dialysis clinics and establishes other state requirements. Chronic dialysis clinics would be required to have a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant on-site during all patient treatment hours.
  - **Proposition 30:** Proposition 30 would provide funding for programs to reduce air pollution and prevent wildfires by increasing tax on personal income over \$2 million. Taxpayers would pay an additional tax of 1.75 percent on personal income above \$2 million annually. The

revenue collected from this additional tax would support zero-emission vehicle programs and wildfire response and prevention activities.

- **Proposition 31:** Proposition 31 would prohibit the retail sale of certain flavored tobacco products. In-person stores and vending machines could not sell most flavored tobacco products and tobacco product flavor enhancers.

**g. Governor's Actions and Executive Orders:** The following actions have been taken by the Governor since the last Legislative Committee meeting.

- September 8 - Governor Newsom Proclaims State of Emergency in Riverside, El Dorado and Placer Counties Due to Fires.
- September 6 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced that California has secured a Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help ensure the availability of vital resources to suppress the Fairview Fire burning in Riverside County. Cal OES issued an emergency alert to targeted counties urging for immediate energy conservation tonight to protect public health and safety amidst ongoing record heat. As a result, the state's energy grid reflected a significant drop in energy use. With triple-digit temperatures forecasted through Friday, Governor Gavin Newsom extended emergency actions taken last week to bring more energy online and reduce demand on the grid during the record-setting heat wave across the western U.S. The prolonged heat wave is on track to be California's hottest and longest for September and is projected to set a new record high for demand on the state's energy grid with a load forecast of 51,276 megawatts.
- September 2 - Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency for Siskiyou County to support the response to the rapidly-spreading Mill Fire.
- September 1 - Governor Newsom gave an update on extreme heat and grid reliability.
- August 31 - California and the western U.S. begin to endure a heat wave that will strain the electrical grid with increased demands. In response, Governor Gavin Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency to temporarily increase energy production and reduce demand. The California Independent System Operator has called a Flex Alert asking Californians to reduce their electricity consumption between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. to save power and reduce the risk of outages.
- August 29 - As hot, dry conditions and strong winds continue to fuel dangerous wildfire conditions across the West, Governor Gavin Newsom announced the deployment of firefighting resources to Oregon to help combat the Rum Creek Fire.
- August 25 - Cal OES continues to support safe, in-person learning by distributing 13.5 million COVID-19 test kits and pieces of PPE to California schools.
- August 16 - Cal OES and the California Military Department announced the creation of the first all-hazards fire engine strike team - known as Team Blaze - operated by a state military department.
- August 15 - Low-interest federal disaster loans were available to California businesses and residents affected by the Oak Fire were from the U.S. Small Business Administration.
- August 11 - Governor Gavin Newsom announced California's latest actions to increase water supply and adapt to more extreme weather patterns caused by climate change. The actions, outlined in a strategy document published by the Administration called "California's Water Supply Strategy, Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future" calls for investing in new sources of water supply, accelerating projects and modernizing how the state manages water through new technology.

**h. State Bill Track:** See attached. The State Bill Track is a list of legislative, budgetary, and other issues the County of Monterey has taken position or otherwise engaged in advocacy upon. A full list of County legislative advocacy letters can be found at: [Legislative Advocacy Letters](#).