

County of Monterey Federal Bill/Issues Track 2024 (118th Congress, Session 2)

Measure	Sponsor(s)	Topic	Title	Position	Notes
H.R. 2891 S. 1323	Joyce (OH) Merkley	Cannabis	SAFE Banking Act - establishes a safe harbor for financial institutions that provide services to cannabis businesses	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 953 S. 388	Sherrill Warren	Education	Child Care for Every Community Act	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 433	Panetta	Environment	California Central Coast Conservation Act- To establish a moratorium on oil and gas leasing on public land on the Central Coast of California	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 470 S. 22	Huffman/ Panetta Feinstein/ Padilla/ Butler	Environment	West Coast Ocean Protection Act of 2023 - To amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the outer Continental Shelf off the coast of California, Oregon, and Washington	Recommend Support	
S. 24 H.R. 516	Feinstein/ Padilla/ Butler Lieu	Housing	Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act	Recommend Support	
H.R. 1065 S. 448	Barragan Padilla	Infrastructure	Outdoors for All Act	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 715 S. 494	Fitzpatrick Murphy	Judiciary	Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2023	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 2403	Clyburn	Judiciary	Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2023	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional

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S. 188	Feinstein	Public Lands	Wildfire Emergency Act	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 1083 S. 414	Hayes Tester	Veterans	Caring for Survivors Act	Support	5/15/23 LC Support 5/16/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 1097 S. 633	Panetta Padilla	Veterans	Everett Alvarez, Jr. Congressional Gold Medal Act	Support	
H.R. 2400 S. 1165	Tonko Baldwin	Judiciary/ BOP	The Reentry Act	Support	9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 3074 S. 971	Trone Cassidy	Judiciary/ BOP	The Due Process Continuity of Care Act	Support	9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 1511 S. 2606	Lofgren/ Panetta Padilla/ Feinstein/ Butler	Immigration	Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929	Support	9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
S. 2202	Feinstein/ Padilla	Infrastructure	Restore Aging Infrastructure Now (RAIN) Act	Support	9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 4127 S. 2704	Panetta /Lofgren Padilla	Agriculture	Fair Access to Agriculture Disaster Programs Act	Support	9/11/23 LC Support 9/14/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 3372	Johnson (SD)	Transportation	To amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a safety data collection program for certain 6-axle vehicles, and for other purposes	Oppose	9/11/23 LC Oppose 9/12/23 Signed coalition letter

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S. Res. 400	Padilla/ Butler	Commemorative	A resolution honoring the life and legacy of Dianne Feinstein, the late Senator for the State of California	Support	12/11/23 LC Support 12/21/23 Letter sent to congressional delegation
S. 3565 H.R. 6929	Welch Clarke	Infrastructure/ Communication	Affordable Connectivity Program Extension Act of 2024	Support	1/25/24 LC Support 1/29/24 Letter sent to congressional delegation
H.R. 6944	Schiff/ Lofgren	Financial Services	Incorporating National Support for Unprecedented Risks and Emergencies (INSURE) Act	Recommend Support	

Other Issues	Brief Summary	Action Taken
FY24 Community Project Funding Requests Requested local project funding in the FY24 appropriations process		Three project requests advanced to the full House for consideration; one additional project request advanced to the full Senate for consideration
Winter Storms – Federal Response	Since the levee breach on the Pajaro River on March 10, 2023, Pajaro has suffered devastating damages. The subsequent winter storms have compounded the impact on the area, and county officials and representatives have been working around the clock to secure assistance for county residents and businesses. From a federal perspective, Senator Padilla, Senator Feinstein, Congressman Panetta, and Congresswoman Lofgren have all been highly engaged with me, and have rendered assistance in securing a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration for nine California counties, including Monterey County. Gov. Gavin Newsom sent the request on March 28, 2023. President Biden signed the declaration on April 3, 2023, and it paved the way for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide federal aid to local governments and individuals impacted by storms in February and March.	Active and continued communication and engagement with the federal delegation to ensure that Monterey’s interests and needs are shared and considered in any federal decision-making

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<p>FY23 Community Project Funding Update: Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) and South County Family Justice Center (FJC)</p>	<p>The Monterey County Water Resources Agency received a \$900,000 earmark for the Castroville Seawater Intrusion Project (CSIP) in the FY23 spending bill for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Monterey County Water Resources Agency is engaged with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to move forward with the application process and other requirements to access the grant funding.</p> <p>The County also received a \$250,000 earmark in the FY23 Agriculture/Rural Development spending bill for the establishment of a Family Justice Center in King City. The Monterey County District Attorney’s Office submitted the application in late April and has been responding to follow-up inquiries since that time. Additionally, the DA’s office is working closely with the County’s USDA representative throughout this process.</p>	<p>Regular communication with the federal delegation and county personnel to ensure that the described challenges were corrected/addressed and that the process continues to move forward smoothly</p>
<p>FEMA Denial of Non-Congregate Shelter</p>	<p>Following the Pajaro Levee breach in March, over 500 residents were sheltering at the Santa Cruz Fairgrounds shelter in Watsonville, along with other temporary housing options. Monterey County conducted assessments to review alternatives and determined that initiating NCS was in the best interest of the survivors and taxpayers. Prior to the initiation of non-congregate sheltering, the County had exhausted all local resources to continue congregate sheltering.</p> <p>FEMA provides Public Assistance funding to local government applicants for costs related to emergency sheltering of survivors. The County has received conflicting guidance regarding eligibility to reimbursement of expenses related to NCS pursuant to Public Assistance funding.</p>	<p>Close coordination with Ms. Lofgren’s office regarding conflicting guidance the County has received in relation to the FEMA non-congregate shelter (NCS) for displaced Pajaro residents. Ms. Lofgren’s office will continue to work with the county and advocate on our behalf with FEMA.</p>