



TO: Monterey County Legislative Committee **DATE:** September 11, 2017

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RE: Legislative Program: State Advocacy Updates

Status of Legislative Session:

The Legislature returned from Summer Recess on August 21 and hit the ground running. As with previous session, there are a number of major policy issues the Legislature is trying to finalize in the final days of the legislative session, including a Housing Bond package, a Parks and Water Bond, and the Cap and Trade Expenditure Plan. All bills must be passed by the Legislature by Friday, September 15, which marks the last day of session. The Governor has 30 days to act on bills. He can sign or veto bills, or if he chooses not to take any action, they automatically become law.

Legislative Advocacy Effort Highlights:

- i. **Appropriations' Committee Actions:** On Friday, September 1, both the Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees met to take up items on the suspense file. If bills are held on the suspense file in Committee, they are considered dead for this year, but are eligible to be heard as two-year bills once the Legislature reconvene for in January 2018. The committee took the following actions on bills on importance of the County:
 - AB 26 (Caballero) – SUPPORT: Do pass 7-0.
 - AB 300 (Caballero) – SUPPORT: Do pass 7-0.
 - AB 318 (Caballero) – SUPPORT: Held in Committee.
 - AB 668 (Gonzalez-Fletcher) – SUPPORT: Do pass with amendments to make changes to the disbursement of bond proceeds, 5-2.
 - AB 696 (Caballero) – SUPPORT: Do pass 7-0.
 - SB 477 (Cannella) – SUPPORT: Held.
 - SB 649 (Hueso) – OPPOSE: Do pass with amendments to indemnify local governments and address digital equity issues.
- ii. **SCR 57 (Cannella) Memorial Highways:** Nossaman is working with Senator Cannella and the Assembly Transportation Committee to have the Resolution heard in committee in order for the bill to move forward this year. We anticipate the Committee will place the Resolution on the consent calendar.
- iii. **SB 54 (de León) Sanctuary State:** Given President Trump's recent action on DACA, the Governor, Attorney General, and the Legislature are working together to establish protections for California residents who are immigrants. Senator de León continues to work with the Administration on SB 54 to ensure the Governor's signature. The bill would prohibit state and local law enforcement agencies, including school police and security departments, from using

resources to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes.

- iv. **SB 623 (Monning) Safe & Affordable Drinking Water Fund:** SB 623 would create the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist those without access to safe and affordable drinking water. Senator Monning presented the bill to the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 23 and Nossaman testified in support on behalf of the County. As anticipated, the bill was placed on the Suspense File. The Assembly Appropriations Committee sent the bill to the Rules Committee, as a 2-year bill, noting the importance of the bill and stating the bill will be something the Legislature continues to work on next year. Nossaman will continue to stay engaged with Senator Monning and the sponsors of the bill in the final days of session, in the event that this bill does move this year.
- v. **Nitrate Trailer Bill:** Due to SB 623 (Monning) being held, the SBASG has decided to move forward with the County of Monterey Nitrogen-based Fertilizer Application Tax. The proponents of the bill have reached out to Nossaman to ensure the County is supportive of the bill introduction. In prior meetings, Senator Monning has stated that he would be supportive of the local solution, if his statewide solution isn't feasible this year. The proponents of the bill have reached out to Senator Monning's staff to request his formal support. The County has taken a support position on the trailer bill.
- vi. **SB 5 (de Leon) and AB 18 (Garcia) Park Bonds:** The Legislature is still negotiating the Park bond bills, including the amount of the bond, the preferred vehicle, and the priority of a Parks Bond versus the currently debated Housing Bond. The County took a support position on both SB 5 and AB 18. Nossaman updated the County's support letters to request that disadvantaged communities be defined using the Department of Parks and Recreation's Community FactFinder tool. Nossaman met with the County's legislative delegation again to express support and request amendments. In addition to the legislative measures, there are two proposed initiatives for the November 2018 ballot to allocate money to improve drinking water access, climate-change efforts, parks and other projects. These two initiatives are in the signature gathering process.
- vii. **Housing Bond:** The Legislature is currently working on a package of bills focused on affordable housing development. The two main vehicles are SB 2 (Atkins) and SB 3 (Beall). The Governor has announced his support for the package of bills.

SB 2 establishes the Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund. Beginning January 1, 2018, the bill imposes a \$75 fee on every real estate instrument, paper, or notice. The proposal limits the fee to \$225. The bill is pending on the Assembly Floor and the necessary 2/3rd vote in support is not confirmed. Several Democrats have spoken out about their concerns on imposing fees on people purchasing a home.

SB 3 enacts the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 and authorizes the issuance of \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for affordable housing, subject to approval by the voters, in the November 6, 2018 election. The bill was recently amended to increase the amount of the bond by \$1 million specifically for Veteran housing. The bill is currently on the Assembly floor.

A third bill, which is not being considered part of the housing package, is SB 35 (Wiener). The bill attempts to streamline environmental and permitting processes for new housing developments. The bill also mandates prevailing wage for construction workers on housing projects that have 10 or more units. Local government has expressed concerns over the bill, specifically the weakening of the environmental review process.

There are other measures that focus on housing that may be included as part of the housing package, however we understand no agreements have been made on these bills with the Governor's office.

viii. Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) related legislation

Assemblymember Kalra introduced AB 21 aimed at protecting the student DACA population in California's institutions of higher education. The bill is still a work in progress and mandates policies and procedures regarding how higher education institutions will work with immigration enforcement officials. The Governor's office is involved in the discussions on this bill. The County may want to consider supporting this bill.

ix. Receive Monterey County State Bill Track

UPCOMING LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES

- September 5-15 - Floor Session only. No committee may meet for any purpose except rules committee, bills with a rule waiver, and conference committees
- September 8 - Last day to amend on the Floor
- September 15 – Last day of 2017 legislative session
- October 15 – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills