Ballard Spahr
LLP

County of Monterey Federal Issues Track 2019-20

Measure	*Author*	*Topic*	*Brief Summary*	*Position*	Notes
Medical Marijuana appropriations rider	Blumenauer	Cannabis	Prohibits DOJ from spending funds to prevent certain states "from implementing their own State laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession or cultivation of medical marijuana"	Monitor	1/28/19 passed House as part of appropriations package to reopen the government
H.R. 1595	Perlmutter	Cannabis	SAFE Banking Act – creates a safe harbor for financial institutions to provide services to lawful, state-authorized cannabis businesses	Monitor	3/28/19 approved by Financial Services Com
H.R. 3185	***Panetta***	***Economic Development***	***Defense Language Improvement Act – authorizes the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center to confer a BA degree in foreign language***	***Support***	***7/22/19 LC support***
CAFE standards	EPA/NHTSA	Environment	EPA proposal would lower auto emission standards and revoke CA waiver to set more stringent standards	Oppose	10/25/18 comment letter submitted to regulations.gov
H.R. 978	Matsui	Environment	Clean and Efficient Cars Act of 2018 – codifies Obama fuel economy standards	Monitor	
H.R. 310 S. 1318	Huffman Feinstein	Environment	West Coast Ocean Protection Act – prohibits offshore oil and gas development	Monitor	
H.R. 3022 H.R. 3054	***Engel Olson***	***Health***	***Repeal and/or delay of Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payment reductions under the ACA***	***Support***	***7/22/19 LC Support***
S. 1895	***Alexander***	***Health***	***Lower Health Care Costs Act – extends mandatory funding for community health centers and authorizes new grant programs for local health departments***	***Support***	***7/22/19 LC Support***
McKinney-Vento program	Department of Education	Homelessness	Department of Education provides funding to local education departments to address student	Support	3/6/19 meeting with congressional delegation 5/8/19 FY2020 funding approved by House

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			homelessness issues		Appropriations Committee
H.R. 2001	Stivers	Homelessness	Homeless Children and Youth Act – expands HUD's definition of "homeless" to include all children and youth who are already verified as homeless by other educational and social services programs	Monitor	
Emergency Solutions Grant program	HUD	Homelessness	Provides grants to local governments to address homelessness issues	Support	3/6/19 meeting with congressional delegation
S. 923	Feinstein	Homelessness	Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act – provides grants to local governments for housing and homeless services	Support	4/8/19 LC Support 4/9/19 Letter to Sen. Feinstein
Census Question on Citizenship	Commerce Department	Immigration	Commerce Department intends to include a question on citizenship on the 2020 Census	Oppose	1/30/18 letter to Secretary of Commerce and congressional delegation 3/5/19 meeting with Department of Commerce and Census Bureau officials in DC 3/6/19 meeting with congressional delegation
H.R. 6	Roybal-Allard	Immigration	American Dream and Promise Act of 2019 – provides Dreamers and TPS recipients with an earned pathway to citizenship	Monitor	3/12/19 cosponsored by Panetta
S. 879	Van Hollen	Immigration	SECURE Act – provides TPS recipients with an earned pathway to citizenship	Monitor	3/26/19 cosponsored by Feinstein
S. 175 H.R. 641	Feinstein Harris Panetta	Immigration	Agricultural Worker Program Act - farmworkers who have worked in agriculture for at least 100 days in each of the past two years may earn lawful "blue card" status and potentially transition to lawful permanent residency	Support	2/11/19 LC Support 2/12/19 letters to Panetta, Feinstein & Harris 3/6/19 meeting with congressional delegation
S. 292 H.R. 541	Feinstein Harris Panetta	Immigration	Keep Families Together Act – prohibits DHS from separating undocumented children from their parents at or near the border	Support	*2/11/19 LC Support* *2/12/19 letters to Panetta, Feinstein & Harris*

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Pajaro River Flood Control Project		Infrastructure	Monterey and Santa Cruz counties are working with the Army Corps of Engineers to authorize and fund a flood control project for the Pajaro River	Support	3/2/19 NACo resolution cosponsored by Monterey and Santa Cruz counties adopted 3/5/19 meeting with Panetta
H.R. 8	Thompson	Justice	Bipartisan Background Checks Act – requires background checks for all gun sales		2/27/19 passed House
H.R. 1112	Clyburn	Justice	Enhanced Background Checks Act – closes loophole related to three day waiting period for gun sales		2/27/19 passed House
H.R. 530	Eshoo	Government	Legislation to overturn an FCC rulemaking on 5G wireless network deployment that curtails local authority	Support	3/11/19 LC Support 3/15/19 letter sent to Panetta
Area Census Office	Commerce Department	Government	The U.S. Census Bureau is opening 248 local census offices around the country to assist with the 2020 Census	Support	10/1/18 letter to U.S. Census Bureau in support of opening a census office in Monterey County 11/13/18 response letter received from U.S. Census Bureau denying request 1/16/19 Panetta letter to Commerce 3/5/19 meeting with Department of Commerce and Census Bureau officials in DC 3/6/19 meeting with congressional delegation
S. 4	Harris	Tax	LIFT Middle Class Act – establishes a refundable middle class tax credit of up to $3,000 for individuals and $6,000 for married couples	Support	4/8/19 LC Support 4/9/19 Letter to Sen. Harris
S. 1895	*Gardner Feinstein*	*Water*	*Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act – extends water storage and recycling programs authorized by the WIIN Act*	*Support*	*7/22/19 LC Support*
Interlake Tunnel Project		*Water*	*WIIN Act Section 4007 water storage funding opportunity through Bureau of Reclamation*		*7/1/19 call with Bureau of Reclamation 7/3/19 call with WRA and County staff*
Salinas Valley Water Project		Water	Biological Opinion for project has been rescinded by NOAA/NMFS		2/28/19 update provided to Rep. Panetta staff

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