

# Fresno Council of Governments Monthly State Legislative Report

## 7/10/2014

ITEM IV B

### [AB 69](#) ([Perea](#) D) **California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance mechanisms: exemption.**

**Introduced:** 1/10/2013

**Last Amend:** 7/2/2014

**Status:** 7/3/2014-Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.

**Location:** 7/3/2014-S. RLS.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 authorizes the State Air Resources Board to include the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Current state board regulations require specified entities to comply with a market-based compliance mechanism beginning January 1, 2013, and require additional specified entities to comply with that market-based compliance mechanism beginning January 1, 2015. This bill instead would exempt categories of persons or entities that did not have a compliance obligation, as defined, under a market-based compliance mechanism beginning January 1, 2013, from being subject to that market-based compliance mechanism beginning January 1, 2015, and until December 31, 2017.

#### Position

### [AB 852](#) ([Dickinson](#) D) **Driver's licenses: applications.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2013

**Last Amend:** 6/15/2014

**Status:** 6/25/2014-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (June 24). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/25/2014-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would prohibit a person from receiving financial compensation for the sole purpose of assisting an individual with a driver's license application. The bill would impose a \$2,500 civil penalty for a violation of this provision and would authorize the enforcement of this provision by the Attorney General or by the district attorney, county counsel, or city attorney of the location in which the violation occurred, as specified.

#### Position

### [AB 1179](#) ([Bocanegra](#) D) **Strategic Growth Council.**

**Introduced:** 2/22/2013

**Last Amend:** 6/17/2014

**Status:** 6/30/2014-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

**Location:** 6/17/2014-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would add the Superintendent of Public Instruction or his or her designee to the Strategic Growth Council but would authorize him or her to vote only on decisions of the council that are within the jurisdiction of that office.

#### Position

**Notes 1:** This bill was gutted and amended from an RTP bill to SGC bill.

### [AB 1331](#) ([Rendon](#) D) **Clean, Safe, and Reliable Drinking Water Act of 2014.**

**Introduced:** 2/22/2013

**Last Amend:** 6/17/2014

**Status:** 6/18/2014-Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on RLS.

**Location:** 6/18/2014-S. RLS.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** (1) Current law, the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012, if

approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$11,140,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program. Current law provides for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election. This bill would repeal these provisions. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

**Position**

**[AB 1447](#) (Waldron R) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: traffic synchronization.**

**Introduced:** 1/6/2014

**Last Amend:** 7/1/2014

**Status:** 7/1/2014-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 7/1/2014-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would authorize moneys in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be allocated, as specified, for an investment in a traffic signal synchronization component that is part of a sustainable infrastructure project if the component is designed and implemented to achieve cost-effective reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and includes specific emissions-reductions targets and metrics to evaluate the project's effect.

**Position**

**[AB 1527](#) (Perea D) Public water systems: Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.**

**Introduced:** 1/17/2014

**Last Amend:** 6/26/2014

**Status:** 6/30/2014-Withdrawn from committee. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/30/2014-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law, operative on July 1, 2014, and repealed as of January 1 of the next calendar year occurring after the State Water Resources Control Board provides notice to the Legislature and the Secretary of State and posts notice on its Internet Web site that the board has adopted a policy handbook, requires the board to establish a priority list of proposed projects to be considered for funding. This bill would require the board to give priority to funding the consolidation of public water systems based upon a service review developed by a local agency formation commission.

**Position**

**[AB 1639](#) (Grove R) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: greenhouse gas emissions limit.**

**Introduced:** 2/11/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/22/2014

**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was TRANS. on 4/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/2/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would provide that cap-and-trade revenues shall not be appropriated from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for purposes of the high-speed rail system, and would make legislative findings and declarations in that regard. This bill contains other existing laws.

**Position**

**[AB 1720](#) (Bloom D) Vehicles: bus gross weight.**

**Introduced:** 2/13/2014

**Last Amend:** 6/10/2014

**Status:** 7/3/2014-In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. May be considered on or after August 1 pursuant to Assembly Rule 77.

**Location:** 7/3/2014-A. CONCURRENCE

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law generally prohibits a publicly owned or operated transit system from procuring a transit bus whose weight on any single axle exceeds 20,500 pounds. Current law, until January 1, 2015, exempts from this prohibition a transit system that is procuring a new bus that is of the same or lesser weight than the bus it is replacing, or if it is incorporating a new fleet class into its inventory and its governing board makes certain findings. This bill would extend the operation of those exceptions until January 1, 2016, and would also, until January 1, 2016, authorize a transit system to procure a transit bus that exceeds 20,500 pounds if it is incorporating a new fleet class expansion.

**Position**

**[AB 1731](#) (Perea D) Integrated regional water management plans: funding: disadvantaged communities.**

**Introduced:** 2/14/2014

**Status:** 6/27/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(13). (Last location was S. N.R. & W. on 4/10/2014)

**Location:** 6/27/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would require in each integrated regional water management region that not less than 10% of any funding for integrated regional water management planning purposes be used to facilitate and support the participation of disadvantaged communities in integrated regional water management planning and for projects that address critical water supply or water quality needs for disadvantaged communities. This bill contains other existing laws.

**Position**

**[AB 1774](#) (Waldron R) General plan: proposed public works.**

**Introduced:** 2/18/2014

**Last Amend:** 3/28/2014

**Status:** 5/9/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(6). (Last location was L. GOV. on 4/1/2014)

**Location:** 5/9/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Under the Planning and Zoning Law, if a general plan has been adopted, each county or city officer, department, board, or commission, as specified, is required to submit a list of proposed public works for the ensuing fiscal year. The agency receiving the list of proposed public works is required to prepare, as specified, a coordinated program of proposed public works for the ensuing fiscal year. This bill would authorize the submission of the list of proposed public works projects one month prior to the start of the fiscal year and would authorize, instead of require, the agency receiving the list to prepare a coordinated program of proposed public works for the ensuing fiscal year.

**Position**

**[AB 1808](#) (Dahle R) Drinking water.**

**Introduced:** 2/18/2014

**Status:** 5/9/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(6). (Last location was PRINT on 2/18/2014)

**Location:** 5/9/2014-A. DEAD

Dead	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, requires the State Department of Public Health to administer the regulation of drinking water and public water systems, as defined, to protect public health, including the conduct of research, studies, and demonstration programs relating to the provision of a dependable, safe supply of drinking water. This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to these provisions.

**Position**

**[AB 1813](#) (Quirk D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Low-Carbon Fuel Standard.**

**Introduced:** 2/18/2014

**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/27/2014)

**Location:** 5/2/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would establish the Fuel Producer Capital Assistance Program to distribute moneys, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to liquid-transportation-fuel producers who wish to locate within the state a large-scale production facility that produces more than 3,000,000 gallons per year, as specified. The bill would establish the Fuel Producers Capital Assistance Fund and would appropriate \$100,000,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to implement the program.

**Position**

[AB 1849](#) **(Logue R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: levees.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/27/2014)

**Location:** 5/2/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would exempt from the requirements of CEQA, the maintenance, repair, or replacement of an existing levee. Because a lead agency would be required to determine the applicability of this exemption, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Position**

[AB 1874](#) **(Gonzalez D) Integrated regional water management plans: funding.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/23/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would require the Department of Water Resources to develop a streamlined application process for certain regional water management groups. The bill would require, in order to receive integrated regional water management grant funds through this streamlined application process, the specified regional water management group to file with the department a streamlined application form that includes information relating to projects to be funded by integrated regional water management grant funds.

**Position**

[AB 1959](#) **(Mansoor R) Transportation projects: comprehensive development lease agreements.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Status:** 5/9/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(6). (Last location was PRINT on 2/19/2014)

**Location:** 5/9/2014-A. DEAD

Dead	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Current law, until January 1, 2017, authorizes the Department of Transportation or a regional transportation agency to enter into a comprehensive development lease with a public or private entity for a transportation project. This bill would delete obsolete cross-references and make technical changes to these provisions.

**Position**

[AB 1961](#) **(Eggman D) Land use: planning: sustainable farmland strategy.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/22/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would require each county to develop, on or before January 2, 2018, a sustainable farmland strategy. The bill would require the sustainable farmland strategy to include, among other things, a map and inventory of all agriculturally zoned land within the county, a description of the goals, strategies, and related policies and ordinances, to retain agriculturally zoned land where practical and mitigate the loss of agriculturally zoned land to nonagricultural uses or zones, and a page on the county's Internet Web site with the relevant documentation for the goals, strategies, and related policies and ordinances, as specified.

**Position**

**[AB 1970](#) (Gordon D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Community Investment and Innovation Program.**

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/10/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would create the Community Investment and Innovation Program and would require moneys to be available from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of awarding grants and other financial assistance to eligible applicants, as defined, who submit plans to develop and implement integrated community-level greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects in their region. The bill would require the Strategic Growth Council, in consultation with the state board, to administer the program, as specified.

**Position**

**[AB 2008](#) (Quirk D) Transit village plans: goods movement.**

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/7/2014

**Status:** 7/7/2014-Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 88, Statutes of 2014.

**Location:** 7/7/2014-A. CHAPTERED

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Current law authorizes a city or county to prepare a transit village plan for a transit village development district that addresses specified characteristics. This bill would require the transit village plan to address demonstrable public benefits beyond the increase in transit usage including any 6 specified benefits. The bill would add as a public benefit the minimization of the impact of goods movement on air quality, traffic, and public safety through the provision of dedicated loading and unloading facilities for commercial space.

**Position**

**[AB 2119](#) (Stone D) Local taxes: transactions and use taxes.**

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/14/2014

**Status:** 6/30/2014-In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

**Location:** 6/30/2014-A. ENROLLMENT

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

**Summary:** Would authorize the board of supervisors of a county to levy, increase, or extend a transactions and use tax throughout the entire county or within the unincorporated area of the county, if approved by the qualified voters of the entire county if levied on the entire county, or of the unincorporated area of the county if levied on the unincorporated area of the county. This bill would require the revenues derived from the imposition of this tax to only be used within the area for which the tax was approved by the qualified voters.

**Position**

**AB 2242 (Perea D) Air Quality Improvement Program.****Introduced:** 2/21/2014**Last Amend:** 3/28/2014**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 4/1/2014)**Location:** 5/2/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law requires the primary purpose of the Air Quality Improvement Program to be the funding of projects to reduce criteria air pollutants, and to improve air quality, and to fund research to determine and improve the air quality impacts of alternative transportation fuels and vehicles, vessels, and equipment technologies

**Position****AB 2280 (Alejo D) Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities.****Introduced:** 2/21/2014**Last Amend:** 4/7/2014**Status:** 6/25/2014-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 4. Noes 2.) (June 25). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 6/25/2014-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would authorize certain local agencies, to form a community revitalization authority (authority) within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined to carry out provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law in that area for purposes related to, among other things, infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization. The bill would provide for the financing of these activities by, among other things, the issuance of bonds serviced by tax increment revenues, and would require the authority to adopt a community revitalization plan for the community revitalization and investment area that includes elements describing and governing revitalization activities.

**Position****AB 2389 (Fox D) Local government: capital investment incentive programs: corporation tax credits: qualified wages: new advanced strategic aircraft program.****Introduced:** 2/21/2014**Last Amend:** 7/2/2014**Status:** 7/3/2014-Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.**Location:** 7/3/2014-A. ENROLLED

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law requires the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, or its successor, to certify qualified manufacturing facilities for purposes of specified provisions and to carry out various oversight duties. Current law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2017. This bill would, until July 1, 2015, reduce the assessed value threshold for calculating the capital investment incentive amount from \$150,000,000 to \$25,000,000 and would define "qualified manufacturing facility" to include, among others, facilities operated by certain businesses described in specified provisions of the North American Industry Classification System Manual. The bill would transfer the duties of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

**Position****AB 2650 (Conway R) Bonds: transportation.****Introduced:** 2/21/2014**Status:** 4/28/2014-In committee: Set first hearing. Failed passage. Reconsideration granted.**Location:** 4/29/2014-A. TRANS.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would provide that no further bonds shall be sold for high-speed rail purposes pursuant to the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century, except as specifically



provided with respect to an existing appropriation for high-speed rail purposes for early improvement projects in the Phase I blended system. The bill, subject to the above exception, would require redirection of the unspent proceeds received from outstanding bonds issued and sold for other high-speed rail purposes prior to the effective date of these provisions, upon appropriation, for use in retiring the debt incurred from the issuance and sale of those outstanding bonds.

**Position**

**[AB 2651](#) (Linder R) Vehicle weight fees: transportation bond debt service.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/17/2014)

**Location:** 5/2/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law provides for the transfer of certain weight fee revenues to the Transportation Bond Direct Payment Account for direct payment of debt service on designated bonds, which are defined to be certain transportation general obligation bonds issued pursuant to Proposition 1B of 2006. This bill, notwithstanding these provisions or any other law, effective January 1, 2016, would prohibit weight fee revenue from being transferred from the State Highway Account to the Transportation Debt Service Fund or to the Transportation Bond Direct Payment Account, and from being used to pay the debt service on transportation general obligation bonds.

**Position**

**[AB 2686](#) (Perea D) Clean, Safe, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2014.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/1/2014

**Status:** 6/30/2014-Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended.

**Location:** 6/30/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law, the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$11,140,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program. Current law provides for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election. This bill would repeal these provisions. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

**Position**

Support

**[AB 2728](#) (Perea D) Vehicle weight fees: transportation bond debt service.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/24/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-A. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would, until January 1, 2019, prohibit weight fee revenues from being transferred from the State Highway Account to the Transportation Debt Service Fund, the Transportation Bond Direct Payment Account, or any other fund or account for the purpose of payment of the debt service on transportation general obligation bonds, and would also prohibit loans of weight fee revenues to the General Fund.

**Position**

**[ACA 8](#) (Blumenfield D) Local government financing: voter approval.**

**Introduced:** 2/13/2013

**Last Amend:** 4/4/2013

**Status:** 7/10/2013-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

**Location:** 6/27/2013-S. G. & F.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conf.			
								Conc.			

**Summary:** Would create an additional exception to the 1% limit for a rate imposed by a city, county, city and county, or special district, as defined, to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund specified public improvements and facilities, or buildings used primarily to provide sheriff, police, or fire protection services, that is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, city and county, or special district, as applicable. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

#### Position

### [SB 11](#)

#### ([Pavley D](#)) **Alternative fuel and vehicle technologies: funding programs.**

**Introduced:** 12/3/2012

**Last Amend:** 9/6/2013

**Status:** 9/11/2013-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

**Location:** 9/9/2013-A. TRANS.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conf.			
								Conc.			

**Summary:** Would require the state board, in consultation with the Bureau of Automotive Repair and no later than June 30, 2015, to update the guidelines for the enhanced fleet modernization program to include specified elements and to study and consider specified elements. The bill, in addition, would establish compensation for replacement vehicles for low-income vehicle owners at not less than \$2,500 and would make this compensation available to an owner in addition to the compensation for a retired vehicle. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

#### Position

### [SB 616](#)

#### ([Roth D](#)) **Aeronautics Account: California Aid to Airports Program.**

**Introduced:** 2/22/2013

**Last Amend:** 6/10/2014

**Status:** 6/24/2014-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To consent calendar. (Ayes 13. Noes 0.) (June 23). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/24/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conf.			
								Conc.			

**Summary:** Current law prohibits the California Transportation Commission from allocating funds until a federal grant offer is accepted by the public entity and authorizes the Division of Aeronautics, upon allocation of the funds by the California Transportation Commission, to pay a public entity 5% of the amount of a federal Airport Improvement Program grant. This bill would require the department to certify that, at the time a grant is issued, the department has all statements, resolutions, and other documentation required for fulfillment of grant terms and conditions. This bill would allow the recipient of the grant to begin the project for which the grant was awarded upon receipt of this certification.

#### Position

### [SB 848](#)

#### ([Wolk D](#)) **Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality, and Water Supply Act of 2014.**

**Introduced:** 1/9/2014

**Last Amend:** 7/3/2014

**Status:** 7/3/2014-Read third time and amended. Ordered to second reading.

**Location:** 7/3/2014-S. SECOND READING

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conf.			
								Conc.			

**Summary:** Current law creates the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$11,140,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program. Current law provides for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election. This bill would repeal these provisions. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

#### Position

**Notes 1:** The Senate Natural Resources Committee had an informational hearing (no votes taken) on SB 42 Lois Wolk (D-Davis) that repeals provisions of the \$11.14 billion Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act currently scheduled to go before California voters in November 2014. As a



two-year bill held in the Senate last year the measure must move to the Assembly before the end of January. Therefore, Senator Wolk recently introduced a new measure with the same language, SB 848. The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality, and Flood Protection Act of 2014 (SB 42 and now SB 848) if approved by the voters in its current form would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6.475 billion in four separate categories. The four categories include \$2 billion for Safe Drinking Water, \$2.1 billion for Water Quality and Watershed Protection, \$1.375 billion for Flood Protection and \$1 billion for Water Storage and Water System Operational Improvements. All four categories would require legislative authority to appropriate the funds.

**[SB 901](#) (Vidak R) High-speed rail: funding.**

**Introduced:** 1/16/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/7/2014

**Status:** 4/22/2014-Set, first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 1. Noes 6. Page 3236.) Reconsideration granted.

**Location:** 4/23/2014-S. T. & H.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would, subject to voter approval, amend the Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century to provide that no further bonds shall be sold for high-speed rail and related rail purposes, and would also explicitly authorize the net proceeds received from outstanding bonds issued and sold prior to the effective date of these provisions, upon appropriation, to be redirected from those high-speed rail purposes to retiring the debt incurred from the issuance and sale of those outstanding bonds. The bill would direct the Secretary of State to submit these provisions to the voters on the ballot of the November 4, 2014, statewide general election.

**Position**

**[SB 902](#) (Vidak R) High-speed rail: eminent domain.**

**Introduced:** 1/16/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/7/2014

**Status:** 4/22/2014-Set, first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 1. Noes 7. Page 3236.) Reconsideration granted.

**Location:** 4/23/2014-S. T. & H.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would prohibit the authority, or the State Public Works Board acting on behalf of the High-Speed Rail Authority, from adopting a resolution of necessity to commence an eminent domain proceeding to acquire a parcel of real property for the high-speed train system unless the resolution identifies the sources of all funds to be invested in the property, and the anticipated time of receipt of those funds, and declares that the authority, or the board, has offered to purchase the property at not less than the fair market value or the amount necessary to discharge the liens against the property, as described, whichever is greater.

**Position**

**[SB 927](#) (Cannella R) Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2014.**

**Introduced:** 1/29/2014

**Status:** 4/22/2014-Set, second hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 3. Noes 6. Page 3211.) Reconsideration granted.

**Location:** 2/6/2014-S. N.R. & W.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would rename the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012 as the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2014 and make conforming changes. The bill would instead authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$9,217,000,000 by reducing the amount available for projects related to drought relief and water supply reliability, as specified. The bill would remove the authorization for funds to be available for ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects, and would increase the amount of funds available for emergency and urgent actions to ensure safe drinking water supplies in disadvantaged communities and economically distressed areas.

**Position**

[SB 990](#)**(Vidak R) Transportation funds: disadvantaged small communities.****Introduced:** 2/12/2014**Last Amend:** 4/21/2014**Status:** 4/29/2014-Set, second hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 3. Noes 8. Page 3312.) Reconsideration granted.**Location:** 4/29/2014-S. T. & H.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would require no less than 5% of funds available for regional improvement projects to be programmed in the regional transportation improvement program for disadvantaged small communities, as defined. In programming these moneys, the bill would require regional transportation agencies and county transportation commissions to prioritize funding congestion relief and safety needs. This bill contains other related provisions.

**Position**[SB 1048](#)**(Roth D) Vehicles: weight limits.****Introduced:** 2/18/2014**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was T. & H. on 2/27/2014)**Location:** 5/2/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law generally prohibits the total gross weight in pounds imposed on the highway by a group of 2 or more consecutive axles from exceeding a specified weight, depending on the distance in feet between the extremes of a group of 2 or more consecutive axles, and the number of axles. This bill would, notwithstanding any other law, exclude from the total gross weight any weight added to a ready mix concrete truck resulting from compliance with a regulation of the State Air Resources Board, up to an amount not to exceed 1,000 pounds of additional gross vehicle weight.

**Position**[SB 1077](#)**(DeSaulnier D) Vehicles: mileage-based fee pilot program.****Introduced:** 2/19/2014**Last Amend:** 6/25/2014**Status:** 6/25/2014-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 6/25/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would establish a Mileage-Based Fee (MBF) Task Force within the California Transportation Commission, as specified. The bill would require the task force to study MBF alternatives to the gas tax and to make recommendations to the Department of Transportation and the commission on the design of a pilot program, as specified. The bill would also authorize the task force to make recommendations on the criteria to be used to evaluate the pilot program. The bill would require the task force to consult with specified entities and to consider certain factors in carrying out its duties.

**Position**[SB 1080](#)**(Fuller R) Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012.****Introduced:** 2/19/2014**Status:** 5/9/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(6). (Last location was RLS. on 2/27/2014)**Location:** 5/9/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law creates the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$11,140,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance a safe drinking water and water supply reliability program. Current law provides for the submission of the bond act to the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to reduce the \$11,140,000,000 bond.

## Position

### [SB 1122](#) (Pavley D) Sustainable communities: Strategic Growth Council.

**Introduced:** 2/19/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/5/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law authorizes moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be allocated for the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions in this state through specified investments, including funding to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through strategic planning and development of sustainable infrastructure projects. This bill would additionally authorize the council to manage and award financial assistance for the purpose of supporting the implementation of sustainable communities strategies or alternative planning strategies, to be funded from moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would require the council to adopt guidelines for the use of the funds by recipients.

## Position

### [SB 1151](#) (Cannella R) Vehicles: school zone fines.

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Last Amend:** 6/23/2014

**Status:** 6/23/2014-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/23/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would require that an additional fine of \$35 be imposed if specified violations relating to rules of the road and driving under the influence occurred when passing a school building or school grounds, as specified, and the highway is posted with a standard "SCHOOL" warning sign and an accompanying sign notifying motorists that increased penalties apply for traffic violations that are committed within that school zone. The bill would require that these additional fines be deposited in the State Transportation Fund for purposes of funding school zone safety projects within the Active Transportation Program.

## Position

**Notes 1:** Safe Routes to School Legislation

### [SB 1156](#) (Steinberg D) California Carbon Tax Law of 2014.

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Status:** 4/2/2014-Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

**Location:** 3/6/2014-S. G. & F.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would require the State Board of Equalization to administer and implement the carbon tax, and would require revenues from the tax to be deposited in the Carbon Tax Revenue Special Fund in the State Treasury. The bill would exempt suppliers of fossil fuels subject to the tax from regulations imposed by the State Air Resources Board under the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 relative to the compliance obligation in the second compliance period under which suppliers of specified fuels are required to obtain allowances for carbon-dioxide-equivalent emissions under the cap-and-trade program adopted by the State Air Resources Board.

## Position

**Notes 1:** Senator Steinberg has abandoned his SB 1156 as proposed for a long term Cap and Trade revenue plan which we will expect to see in trailer bill language in the not to distant future.

### [SB 1183](#) (DeSaulnier D) Vehicle registration fees: surcharge for bicycle infrastructure.

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Last Amend:** 6/25/2014

**Status:** 6/25/2014-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/25/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would authorize a city, county, or regional park district to impose and collect, as a special tax, a motor vehicle registration surcharge of not more than \$5 for bicycle infrastructure purposes until January 1, 2025. The bill would require the Department of Motor Vehicles to administer the surcharge and to transmit the net revenues from the surcharge to the local agency. The bill would require the local agency to use these revenues for improvements to paved and natural surface trails and bikeways, including existing and new trails and bikeways and other bicycle facilities, and for associated maintenance purposes.

**Position**

**[SB 1194](#) (Hueso D) Solid waste: plastic products.**

**Introduced:** 2/20/2014

**Last Amend:** 4/21/2014

**Status:** 5/2/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(5). (Last location was E.Q. on 4/21/2014)

**Location:** 5/2/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Dead	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would require each manufacturer of plastic products , as defined, to include specified information in either an Internet Web site that is available to the public or as part of a specified annual report, with regard to whether the manufacturer has established a sustainability policy or has established or implemented goals to reuse, recover, and reduce the use of plastic.

**Position**

**[SB 1268](#) (Beall D) Natural Resources Climate Improvement Program.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/7/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

**Location:** 5/23/2014-S. DEAD

Desk	Policy	Dead	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would establish the Natural Resources Climate Improvement Program, which would be administered by the State Air Resources Board, in coordination with the Natural Resources Agency, to assist in the development and implementation of highly leveraged, regionally integrated natural resources projects that maximize greenhouse gas emissions reductions or sequestration. The bill would authorize moneys from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the state board to implement the Natural Resources Climate Improvement Program.

**Position**

**[SB 1418](#) (DeSaulnier D) Vehicle weight fees: transportation bond debt service.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Last Amend:** 5/1/2014

**Status:** 5/23/2014-Held in committee and under submission.

**Location:** 5/23/2014-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Current law provides for the transfer of certain weight fee revenues to the Transportation Bond Direct Payment Account for direct payment of debt service on designated bonds, which are defined to be certain transportation general obligation bonds issued pursuant to Proposition 1B of 2006. Current law also provides for loans of weight fee revenues to the General Fund to the extent the revenues are not needed for bond debt service purposes, with the loans to be repaid when the revenues are later needed for those purposes, as specified. This bill would repeal these provisions, thereby retaining the weight fee revenues in the State Highway Account. The bill would make other conforming changes in that regard.

**Position**

**Notes 1:** Similar to AB 2728 (Perea) but this bill would restore weight fee revenues permanently effective July 1, 2014

**[SB 1433](#) (Hilli D) Local Agency Public Construction Act: transit design-build contracts.**

**Introduced:** 2/21/2014

**Status:** 6/24/2014-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (June 23). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/24/2014-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would include in the definition of "transit operator" any other local or regional agency responsible for the construction of transit projects, thereby extending the design-build procurement authorization. The bill would eliminate the requirement that the project cost exceed a specified amount. The bill would delete the repeal date, thus extending the operation of these provisions indefinitely. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

**Position**

**[SCA 4](#) (Liu D) Local government transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval.**

**Introduced:** 12/3/2012

**Last Amend:** 8/28/2013

**Status:** 8/29/2013-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 8/29/2013-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would provide that the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects requires the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition, if the proposition proposing the tax includes certain requirements. This measure would prohibit a local government from expending any revenues derived from a special transportation tax approved by 55% of the voters at any time prior to the completion of a statutorily identified capital project funded by revenues derived from another special tax of the same local government that was approved by a 2/3 vote. The measure would also make conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.

**Position**

**[SCA 6](#) (DeSaulnier D) Initiative measures: funding source.**

**Introduced:** 12/3/2012

**Status:** 5/24/2013-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

**Location:** 5/24/2013-S. THIRD READING

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would prohibit an initiative measure that would result in a net increase in state or local government costs, other than costs attributable to the issuance, sale, or repayment of bonds, from being submitted to the electors or having any effect unless and until the Legislative Analyst and the Director of Finance jointly determine that the initiative measure provides for additional revenues in an amount that meets or exceeds the net increase in costs.

**Position**

**[SCA 8](#) (Corbett D) Transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval.**

**Introduced:** 12/14/2012

**Last Amend:** 5/21/2013

**Status:** 8/29/2013-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 8/29/2013-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would provide that the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for transportation projects requires the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition , if the proposition proposing the tax includes certain requirements . The measure would also make conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.

## Position

### [SCA 9](#)

**(Corbett D) Local government: economic development: special taxes: voter approval.**

**Introduced:** 12/18/2012

**Last Amend:** 5/21/2013

**Status:** 6/27/2013-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

**Location:** 6/27/2013-S. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

**Summary:** Would provide that the imposition, extension, or increase of a special tax by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for community and economic development projects, as specified, requires the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition , if the proposition proposing the tax contains specified requirements . The measure would also make conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.

## Position

**Total Measures: 49**

**Total Tracking Forms: 49**



# Washington Friday Report

Volume XVI, Issue 27

July 3, 2014

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 HTF, Senator Casey, Civil Rights, VA Secretary
- 2 Medicaid, Landfills, EDA, E-Rate, Grants, Choice
- 2 Youth Violence, Kellyn and Elias, Happy Fourth!

*Here's a special pre-July 4th Thursday version of your Friday Report. Congress headed home last Friday for its July 4th recess, but there were plenty of fireworks here all week. Here are some of the highlights for your review. Action resumes when they come back Tuesday for the critical July push.*

### DOT Announces HTF Shortfall Contingency Plan

On Tuesday, Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx** sent letters to state transportation departments and transit agencies outlining steps that U.S. DOT will soon be forced to take to manage the impending insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), if Congress fails to act soon to boost it. Secretary Foxx said, "There is still time for Congress to act on a long term solution. Our transportation infrastructure is too essential to suffer continued neglect, and I hope Congress will avert this crisis before it is too late." The Department's most recent projections show that the shortfall will reach a critical point in the Trust Fund's Highway Account in just a few weeks, requiring the Department to institute cash management procedures for highways at that time, with a similar cash management plan to follow for the HTF's Mass Transit Account when it is expected to reach a similar point this Fall. Starting in August, reimbursements to States will be limited to the available cash in the Trust Fund, and new revenues will be added every two weeks as money from the gas tax flows into the Fund. For more, click on [Press Release](#), [Letter to State DOTs](#), or [Letter to Transit Agencies](#).

According to the Congressional Budget Office, lawmakers will need to find a total of \$8.1 billion to make sure that the Highway Trust Fund and Mass Transit Account have enough money to reimburse states and transit agencies for construction costs through the end of this year. This takes into account the \$4 billion minimum safe cushion that U.S. DOT says it needs to pay all contractor bills that states could submit for their highway and bridge projects without running the account to zero. The Mass Transit Account, according to U.S. DOT, requires a minimum cushion of \$1 billion to meet its obligations, which they estimate will be reached by October. CBO said that account would need another \$1.5 billion by the end of December to stay above its safe threshold level. For more, click on [CBO Letter](#).

### A Conversation with Senator Casey



Courtesy of our friends at **Riverlife Pittsburgh**, we had the opportunity to have a great conversation with Senator **Bob Casey** on Monday night. Senator Casey is a key member of a number of Senate Committees, including Finance, and is therefore involved in helping to save transportation funding in the weeks ahead. He says that he is hopeful the Congress will enact a "patch" prior to the August recess and looks forward to a longer term solution in the lame-duck session of Congress. Senator Casey and his staff have been terrific to work with over the years and we appreciated the chance to chat with him informally in Pittsburgh on Monday.

### The Civil Rights Act At 50



We thought you would appreciate seeing President Obama's official Proclamation on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Under the leadership of President **Lyndon Johnson**, its passage was the culmination of decades of work on the part of many, and perhaps the shining example in the 20<sup>th</sup> century of the White House and Congress acting in a bipartisan, bicameral manner to address a vital national concern. To read the Proclamation, click on [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#).

### A New Leader for the VA

**President Obama** has nominated former Procter and Gamble CEO **Robert McDonald** as Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. At Procter & Gamble, Mr. McDonald, an Army veteran and West Point graduate, oversaw more than 120,000 employees, selling products in more than 180 countries, and in more than 2 million stores. His managerial experience with large organizations is one of the main reasons he was tapped to lead the troubled agency.

President Obama said that, upon the recommendation of a panel of experts, he will later nominate the next leader of the Veterans Health Administration. In his remarks, Mr. McDonald said, "At the VA, the veteran is our customer, and we must all focus – all day, every day – on getting them the benefits and care that they've so earned. That's the only reason we're here." For more, click on [Nomination Video](#) or [Remarks by the President and Mr. McDonald](#).

## Medicaid Expansion and the States

Yesterday, the Council of Economic Advisers released a report, *"Missed Opportunities: The Consequences of State Decisions Not to Expand Medicaid,"* which details the effects of state decisions regarding Medicaid expansion on access to care, financial security, overall health and well-being of residents, and state economies. To date, 26 states and the District of Columbia have chosen to expand Medicaid coverage, and since the beginning of the Affordable Care Act's first open enrollment period, 5.2 million people have gained Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage in these states. The analysis uses the best evidence from the economics and health policy literatures to quantify several important consequences of states' decisions not to expand Medicaid. For more, click on [Medicaid Expansion](#).

## EPA Landfill Regulations Proposed

The Environmental Protection Agency is proposing updates to its air standards for new municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills. These updates would require certain landfills to capture additional landfill gas, which would reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and help further reduce pollution that harms public health. The agency is also seeking broad public feedback on how and whether to update guidelines for existing landfills. The proposal would require new MSW landfills subject to the rule to begin controlling landfill gas at a lower emissions threshold than currently required. Under the proposal, landfills would capture two-thirds of their methane and air toxics emissions by 2023 – 13 percent more than required under current rules. For more, click on [EPA Landfill Regulations](#).

## EDA Annual Report

The Commerce Department's Economic Development Administration's FY13 Annual Report is now available to view online. In FY13, EDA awarded approximately \$360 million to support 670 locally-driven economic development projects in communities across the United States. The agency also led two key manufacturing initiatives for the Commerce Department in 2013: the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) and the Make it in America Challenge. EDA is now headed by **Jay Williams**, former Mayor of Youngstown, White House Intergovernmental Deputy Director and Executive Director of the Auto Community Recovery Office at the Labor Department. We look forward to working with him on your behalf. For more, click on [EDA Annual Report](#).

## Impacts of the New E-Rate Proposal

On Tuesday, the FCC released a report showing the state-by-state impacts of Chairman **Tom Wheeler's** proposal to modernize the federal E-Rate program to increase connectivity to the Internet through Wi-Fi networks. Nationwide, the proposal would increase funding for Wi-Fi 75 percent for rural schools and 60 percent for urban schools, allowing an additional 44 million students and 16,000 libraries to have access to Wi-Fi services by 2019, all within existing program funding. The FCC is tentatively set to vote on the E-rate modernization proposal at its Open Meeting on July 11. *We'll update you.* For more, click by [E-Rate Report](#).

## Grants This Week



We recently sent many of you grant notices on [HHS Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

## HUD Choice Neighborhoods

HUD has awarded a combined \$119.7 million to four communities to redevelop severely distressed public or HUD-assisted housing and bring comprehensive neighborhood revitalization to blighted areas through the *Choice Neighborhoods Initiative* implementation grants. The funds are intended to transform these distressed neighborhoods into sustainable, mixed-income housing areas with connection to key assets and services and to support positive outcomes for the families living there. For more, click on [Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants](#).

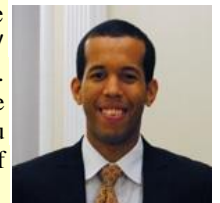
## Reducing Youth Violence

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released a report that provides information, evidence-based strategies, and action steps to help community leaders and members, public health professionals, families, and young people reduce or prevent youth violence. For more, click on [CDC: Reducing Youth Violence](#).

## Thanks, Kellyn and Congratulations, Elias!



**Kellyn Blossom**, a friend to all of us who work with the Obama administration, has left her position as White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs to obtain a Masters at Harvard's JFK School. She wrote last week, *"It has truly been an honor and I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to work with such wonderful, passionate, committed public servants across the country."* Kellyn was one of the best we've ever worked with at the White House – *Kellyn, the honor was ours!* She'll have a brilliant career ahead of her. **Elias Alcantara**, a great member of the White House IGA team who many of you have come to know over the last couple of years, moves up to take Kellyn's slot.



## Happy Fourth of July



*We wish you and your loved ones a very happy July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday! And don't forget – this year with the DC fireworks, you get the great **Frankie Valli of the Four Seasons (Jersey Boys)**! – Catch it all on your PBS station tomorrow night.*

*Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.*

## Washington Friday Report 2

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1660 L Street, N.W. • Suite 501 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 659-2229 • Fax (202) 659-5234 • [len.simon@simoncompany.com](mailto:len.simon@simoncompany.com)

# Washington Friday Report - USCM

Volume XVI, Issue 26

June 27, 2014

*Your regular two-page Friday Report is three pages this week. Our first two pages cover the 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting as we promised we'd do last week. Page Three is a bonus page wrapping-up of the week's most important developments. Hope you find it all helpful!*

## **SPECIAL REPORT**

### **THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS 82<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING DALLAS, JUNE 20 - 23, 2014**

#### **Overview**

From June 20-23, we attended the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Annual Meeting, held in Dallas. The Conference featured many federal officials who spoke to Mayors about urban policy and developments important to local governments. The nearly 250 Mayors adopted dozens of resolutions to guide the activities of the Conference and its staff for the year ahead. Sacramento Mayor **Kevin Johnson** oversaw the meeting as President, having taken the position in April when then-Mayor **Scott Smith** of Mesa had to step down early in order to run for Governor of Arizona. The following is a summary of what we saw and heard. For more, click on [82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Website](#), including video, or [Meeting Wrap-Up Press Release](#).

#### **Resolutions**

About 260 pages worth of resolutions were adopted by the Mayors, covering a wide range of topics from **Early Learning** to **COPS Funding**, **My Brother's Keeper**, **Veterans**, and **Net Neutrality**, along with dozens of other subjects. For more, click on [USCM Adopted Resolutions](#) or [USCM Climate Protection Agreement](#).

#### **Plenary Sessions**

- USCM President **Kevin Johnson** brought to the Conference a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. In his inaugural address, he set the tone of the conference by explaining the concept of "**Cities 3.0**." He said, "*Today, we are entering the era of Cities 3.0. In this era, the city is a hub of innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology.*" **Education** will be his "top priority" during his USCM Presidency, calling on all Mayors to take a leadership role on the issue. For more, click on [USCM President Kevin Johnson's Inaugural Address](#).
- A special plenary session was held on **Educational Excellence**, including Mayors **Greg Fischer** of Louisville, **Marilyn Strickland** of Tacoma, **Mick Cornett** of Oklahoma

City, and **Gregory Ballard** of Indianapolis. Mayor **Fischer** highlighted his city's partnerships with private-sector entities in support of "**55,000 Degrees**" in postsecondary education by 2020. Mayor **Strickland** discussed her experience as the State of Washington's "**Education Mayor**," who has worked to promote both public and charter schools in her state.

- Continuing the theme of education, both **Jackie Bezos**, President of the Bezos Family Foundation, and Education Secretary **Arne Duncan**, participated in a plenary breakfast to promote the effectiveness of **early childhood learning**.
- Congresswoman **Eddie Bernice Johnson** of Dallas, who has served on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee since 1992, called on Congress to pass a six-year **transportation reauthorization**.
- EPA Administrator **Gina McCarthy**, Energy Secretary **Ernest Moniz**, and White House Intergovernmental Affairs Director **David Agnew** participated in a panel on **Climate Change**. They discussed the Administration's "Climate Action Plan," which was focuses heavily on mitigation. New York City Mayor **Bill de Blasio** discussed work being done in America's largest city to prepare for Climate Change.
- Journalist **Maria Shriver** spoke to the Conference about the importance of empowering lower-income working women, especially those with families.
- Mayor **Johnson** moderated a panel to discuss Sports, Race, & Politics, including NBA Champion **Kareem Abdul-Jabbar**, former NFL Wide Receiver **Michael Irvin**, Philadelphia Mayor **Michael Nutter**, and **Roland Martin**. Mr. Abdul-Jabbar said, "*The ability of sports to help people overcome ignorance and lack of knowledge of other people is huge.*"

#### **Policy Committee Speakers**

- **Children, Health, and Human Services**
  - HHS Director of Intergovernmental Affairs **Paul Dioguardi** discussed local achievements following the implementation of the *Affordable Care Act*. Members also heard from **Laura Speer** of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.
- **Criminal and Social Justice**
  - Houston Mayor **Annis Parker** chaired the Criminal and Social Justice Standing Committee Meeting, which featured remarks on city responses to the gun violence crisis from Mayors **Martin Walsh** of Boston and **Michael Nutter** of Philadelphia.
- **Environment**
  - **Joseph Goffman**, EPA's Associate Administrator for Climate, spoke about the Administration's recently-released "*Clean Power Plan*" to reduce carbon emissions from existing power plants.



- **Metro Economies**

- **Bob Ibanez**, CDFI Fund Program Manager with the Treasury Department's New Market Tax Credits Program, talked about the important work being done by Community Development Enterprises across the country.

- **Community Development and Housing**

- **Laura Green Zeilinger**, Executive Director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness updated Committee members on her agency's efforts with ending veteran homelessness being a top priority.

- **Jobs, Education, and the Workforce**

- The Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division Administrator **David Well** highlighted the need to increase the national minimum wage to \$10.10 in order to help working families.

- **Tourism, Arts, Parks, Entertainment, and Sports**

- **T. Kevin Flanery**, President of Churchill Downs in Louisville, KY, described the \$200 million economic impact that the Kentucky Derby has on his state, as well as other ways in which the venue is used.

### Task Forces, Councils, Workshops, and Seminars

- **Council on Metro Economies and the New American City**

- A variety of issues, ranging from the housing market to metro economies' global impact, were discussed. Tacoma Mayor **Marilyn Strickland** offered an overview of on-going sustainable redevelopment efforts in her city.

- **Educational Excellence Task Force**

- Department of Education Deputy Secretary **Jim Shelton** provided an overview of the Administration's *My Brother's Keeper* Initiative. He stressed the need to "*strengthen cradle-to-career pathways.*"

- **Forum: Helping out Returning Veterans Find Jobs and Resettle in Local Communities**

- Louisville Mayor **Greg Fischer** chaired the panel and strongly urged his fellow Mayors to help change cultural attitudes toward veterans in order to better honor their military service.

- **Forum: Innovations in Transportation**

- Mayor **Jim Brainard** of Carmel discussed the benefits that roundabout intersections have had on traffic flow, environmental quality, and safety in his city. Mayor **Ralph Becker** talked about the work being done in Salt Lake City to build streetcars and complete streets.

- **Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force**

- Fresno Mayor **Ashley Swearengin**, Chair of the Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force, was joined by White House Office of National Drug Control Policy Acting Director **Michael Botticelli**, COPS Office Director **Ron Davis**, and Boston Mayor **Martin Walsh** for a discussion of comprehensive national efforts to support addiction recovery in response to the heroin epidemic.

- **Veterans Affairs Task Force**

- **Laura Green Zeilinger** of USICH called on Mayors to commit to ending veteran homelessness in their cities by the end of 2015.

- **Food Policy Task Force**

- The Food Policy Task Force, chaired by Madison Mayor **Paul Soglin**, convened on Sunday. Dr. **Ricardo Salvador**,

from the Union of Concerned Scientists, spoke of the *Affordable Care Act* and its potential opportunities to improve community health and food systems.

- **Forum: Financing Urban Progress**

- Mayor **Ed Lee** spoke about San Francisco's 10-Year Capital Plan, and how disciplined capital management can be used to generate revenue for infrastructure projects.

- **Forum: Just Press Go: The Keys to Driving Innovation in America's Cities**

- Louisville Mayor **Greg Fischer** summarized his experiences using LouieStat, as a platform for achieving informed management decisions.

- **Immigration Reform Task Force**

- **R. Gil Kerlikowske**, Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, spoke about the leadership role that Mayors are taking at the local level to handle illegal border crossings, particularly in light of the recent influx of child migrants from Central America.

- **Energy Independence and Climate Protection Task Force**

- The task force, co-chaired by Mayor **Jim Brainard**, focused on the role cities can play to reduce the impact of climate change. **Rohan Patel**, Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs at the White House, discussed the findings of the Administration's third National Climate Assessment.

- **Workshop: Navigating the Quicksand of Entitlements**

- San Jose Mayor **Chuck Reed** talked about the efforts being made in California, with his leadership, to confront the growing burden of city employee pension costs.

- **Metro Exports and Ports Task Force**

- US Army Corps of Engineers Senior Adviser **Larry Prather** provided an overview of WRRDA. The Task Force also heard from Ambassador **Ron Kirk**, former U.S. Trade Representative. Kirk recapped the Administration's robust enforcement efforts to protect America's trade rights in support of U.S. businesses and workers.

### Congratulations!

- Mayor **Greg Fischer** of Louisville: The large city winner of Google's "Get Your Business Online City Challenge."

- Mayor Fischer was also elected to serve as a USCM Trustee

- Mayor **Jim Brainard** of Carmel, Co-Chair of the USCM Climate Protection Task Force, and Mayor **Ralph Becker**, of Salt Lake City, for their leadership roles in renewing the Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement.

- Mayor **Ashley Swearengin** of Fresno, who served as Chair of the Nominating Committee.

- Mayor **Marilyn Strickland** of Tacoma, elected to the USCM Advisory Board (2014-2015).

### Conclusion

The U.S. Conference of Mayors' Annual Meeting was a whirlwind of activity, with prominent speakers from multiple federal agencies and important policy discussions on a wide range of issues. *We hope the information in this report is helpful, and we are happy to be your liaison to the Conference if you would like additional information on any topic.*

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### Minibus: Floor Action Stalled

We reported to you, last week that the Senate was moving forward with a package of three FY15 appropriations bills: Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transportation-HUD, known as a “minibus.” But Senate Majority Leader **Harry Reid** effectively pulled this \$126.2 billion spending package after Republicans and Democrats were unable to agree on how to proceed with amendments. Republicans insisted on a simple-majority threshold for the approval of amendments while Democrats insisted on a 60-vote threshold. It is unclear when or if the Senate will move forward on approving additional measures, including Energy-Water and Interior-Environment, but this latest move on the “minibus” indicates that Congress could be headed toward another round of short-term “Continuing Resolutions” later in the year to keep the federal government funded, even while Appropriations Committees in both the House and Senate continue to mark up their bills. For more, click on [Majority Leader Reid on Appropriations](#).

### Senate Appropriations FY15 Homeland Security

Yesterday, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its FY15 Homeland Security bill. It provides \$1.5 billion for **state and local preparedness grant programs**, level funding with FY14. It provides \$340 million each for the **Fire Equipment Grant Program** and **Firefighter Hiring Grant Program**. For more, click on [Committee Markup](#) or [Bill Summary](#).

### House GOP Leadership Election Results

Updating you from last week, House Republicans have officially elevated California Rep. **Kevin McCarthy** to serve as Majority Leader, and Louisiana Rep. **Steve Scalise** to serve as Majority Whip, both starting on July 31. For more, click on [Rep. McCarthy Statement](#) or [Rep. Scalise Statement](#).

### My Brother's Keeper



On Wednesday, courtesy of Rancho Cordova Police Chief **Michael Goold**, we were pleased to attend a White House briefing featuring a number of Administration leaders on “*My Brother's Keeper Moving Forward: Men of Color and Health*.” For more, including Agenda and Fact Sheets, click on [White House Event: My Brother's Keeper](#).

### Net Neutrality and Anti-Trust Law

The House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial, and Antitrust Law held a hearing on Net Neutrality featuring FTC Commissioner **Joshua Wright** and former FCC Commissioner **Robert McDowell**, among others. For more, click on [Net Neutrality Hearing](#).

### Community Inclusion for Persons with Disabilities

On Tuesday, the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions held a hearing on ensuring community living

choice for all people with disabilities. For more, click on [Disabilities Hearing](#).

### Highway Fiscal Cliff Update

With time running short, Congress is kicking into a higher gear to address the looming shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund. Yesterday, the Senate Finance Committee held a hearing on a proposed \$9 billion short-term stopgap bill, but canceled an anticipated vote on it to offer a compromise bill to the Committee's Republicans. Work is expected to resume on the week of July 7. For more, click on [Committee Hearing](#) or [Summary of Modified Senate Finance Stopgap Bill](#). U.S. DOT also sent a signed letter to the heads of all state DOTs, warning them that the agency will have to delay highway funding reimbursements if Congress doesn't act to boost the HTF. For more, click on [U.S. DOT Letter to State DOTs](#).

Senators **Bob Corker** and **Chris Murphy** have unveiled bipartisan legislation that would increase the federal gasoline and diesel taxes by 12 cents over the next two years, and then index it to inflation. This would provide enough funding to offset current MAP-21 spending levels over the next 10 years and replace all of the buying power the federal gas tax has lost since it was last raised in 1993. For more, click on [Corker-Murphy Gas Tax Increase](#).

### Budget Committee Spreads Wings

A recent article highlights how Senate Budget Committee Chairman **Patty Murray** has been able to broaden the panel's attention to include education, infrastructure, and research. For more, click on [Senator Murray Broadens Focus of Budget Committee](#).

### New E-Rate Proposal Does Not Increase Funding

FCC Chairman **Tom Wheeler** is circulating an “*E-Rate Modernization Order*.” However, the proposal does not increase overall funding to the E-Rate program. For more, click on [FCC E-Rate Modernization](#).

### Marketplace Fairness - Online Sales Tax Link?

Senator **Michael Enzi**, a champion in his chamber for the *Marketplace Fairness Act*, said he would support a push to link the bill to a pending extension of the temporary moratorium on new Internet access charge levies that expires on November 1, known as the *Internet Tax Freedom Act*. He told reporters, “*I think the only way that it gets done is both of them together. I think if they combine the two, both pass.*”

### Cities Toughening Curfews

The *New York Times* recently featured Baltimore as one of a number of cities that has imposed strict curfews on minors, mainly to cut down on teenage violence. For more, click on [Curfews](#).

*Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.*

### Washington Friday Report 3

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# Washington Friday Report

Volume XVI, Issue 25

June 18, 2014

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Climate, USCM, House GOP, FY14 Appropriations
- 2 Transportation, HUD, Waters Rule, Hearings, Grants
- 2 WRRDA, Tacoma, Pay for Success, NEA Chair

*Intense work on both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue as the summer, followed by the fall mid-term elections, looms with Congress and the White House both looking to rack up the wins wherever the can. Here's the highlights for your review. Happy Wednesday – your Friday Report two days early as we head off to the Mayor's Annual Meeting in Dallas!*

### National Disaster Resilience Competition

While delivering the commencement address to new graduates at UC Irvine, **President Obama** announced the *National Disaster Resilience Competition*. The purpose is to support innovative resilience projects at the local level while encouraging communities to adopt policy changes and activities that plan for the impacts of extreme weather and climate change and rebuild affected areas to be better prepared for the future. Of the \$1 billion made available for this competition, provided through HUD's Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds, about \$820 million will be available to all states and local governments that experienced a Presidentially-declared major disaster in 2011, 2012, and 2013. States in the Hurricane Sandy-affected region will be eligible to compete for approximately \$180 million, to help address critical housing needs. For more, click on [Fact Sheet: National Disaster Resilience Competition](#). We anticipate that more details from HUD will be forthcoming.

In a related area, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on "*Climate Change: The Need to Act Now*," featuring four former Republican EPA Administrators: **William Ruckelshaus**, EPA's first Administrator; **Todd Whitman**, who has also served as New Jersey's Governor; **William Reilly**, and **Lee Thomas**. For more, click on [Senate EPW Climate Change Hearing](#).

Tomorrow, the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy and Power Subcommittee will hold a hearing to review the EPA's proposed carbon dioxide emission regulations for existing power plants. EPA's Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation, **Janet McCabe**, will testify. For more, click on [Hearing on EPA's Clean Power Plan](#).

### U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting - Dallas

As we noted, this week's *Friday Report* is being sent to you today because we're heading to Dallas this afternoon for the U.S. Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting which many of you will be attending as well. It is a meeting jam-packed with many important speakers and presentations -- we'll have a full report for you next week. In the meantime, click on [USCM 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting Website](#) for all the details on the meeting.

### The House GOP Leadership

House Whip **Kevin McCarthy** appears to have wrapped up the race for Majority Leader to succeed Rep. **Eric Cantor**. The only issue now is how big his margin will be during tomorrow's caucus voting. *We'll have the wrap-up and implications of that, along with the other leadership races, in our report for you next week!*

### Appropriations Moving

This week, the Senate is moving forward with its first real floor test for appropriations bills, by working toward passage of an FY15 spending package of three bills, known as a "minibus." The Senate minibuss package will include spending bills for Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, and Transportation-HUD. The White House issued a statement that is generally supportive of the minibuss, while being critical of specific provisions of the bill. Both Appropriations Chairwoman **Barbara Mikulski** and Majority Leader **Harry Reid** have said that the minibuss will be open for relevant amendments on the Senate floor, which opens the door for Senators of both parties to add provisions they may favor. For more, click on [Senate CJS/THUD/Ag "Minibus" Summary](#) or [White House Statement](#). *We'll be watching the process closely!*

On Tuesday, the Senate Appropriations Energy-Water Subcommittee marked up its FY15 spending bill. The \$34.2 billion bill recommends \$5.13 billion for the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**, \$100 million for the Bureau of Reclamation to address the exceptional drought conditions in many parts of the West, and other spending provisions. When the bill comes before the full committee next week, on Thursday, Senator **John Hoeven** plans to offer an amendment that would prevent the EPA from finalizing rules defining the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act. The House bill already contains provisions that prevent the rules from being finalized. *(See the next page for more information on the "Waters of the United States" rulemaking.)* For more on the E&W mark-up, click on [Senate FY15 Energy-Water Subcommittee Markup](#).



## Transportation Update

As we mentioned in the June 6 *Friday Report*, House leadership recently came up with a novel plan to finance a short-term extension of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF), by eliminating most Saturday service by the U.S. Postal Service. It looks like that plan has been shelved. A senior House Republican aide told reporters, *"The proposal to end six-day mail delivery was not well received by a large portion of the Republican conference and appears to be dead. Other, more viable options are now being considered."* Among them, House leaders are now looking at the idea of "pension smoothing" to shore up the fund, a complex accounting change that would result in companies contributing less to pension plans, thereby paying more in taxes. This tactic was last used to generate revenue as part of the December 2013 Ryan-Murray budget agreement. Meanwhile, the Senate Finance Committee remains open to a wide range of options, possibly including repatriated foreign corporate profits. Deadline: End of July. Likely outcome: a six month patch. *We'll keep you updated!*

The Congressional Budget Office has released a couple of useful documents explaining the Highway Trust Fund and how it works. For more, click on [The Highway Trust Fund and the Treatment of Surface Transportation Programs in the Federal Budget](#) or [Slideshow Explaining Cost Estimates for Legislation Funding Transportation Programs](#).

### Comings and Goings at HUD

San Antonio Mayor **Julián Castro** appeared Tuesday for his nomination hearing before the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee. He was questioned by the Senators on his record in San Antonio, along with Administration policies, HUD operations on community development and housing, and the future of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. As Mayor Castro prepares to take the reins at HUD, outgoing HUD Secretary **Shaun Donovan**, heading to OMB, participated in an "exit interview" with the *Washington Post*, reflecting on his years as Secretary. For more, click on [Housing Nomination Hearing](#) or [Shaun Donovan on his HUD Legacy](#).

### EPA's "Waters of the U.S." Proposed Rule

Over the past couple of weeks, we've sat in on teleconferences hosted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and by EPA to discuss the proposed rule on the definition of "Waters of the U.S." under the Clean Water Act. At USCM, it was explained that the definition remains quite expansive and still covers a myriad of artificial and natural waterways. During EPA's briefing, staff emphasized their goal of drawing "bright lines" between covered waters and non-covered waters, and that they are open for public comments until **October 20**, 2014. For more, click on [EPA Waters of the U.S. Website](#).

### Up on the Hill

Yesterday, the Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing examining the role that bio-based products are playing in helping to revitalize American manufacturing, and how that is helping to grow the economy and create jobs. For more, click on [Bio-Based Manufacturing](#).

Today, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Aviation Subcommittee held a hearing on airport financing and development. Witnesses included top federal aviation officials, including FAA's Deputy Associate Administrator for Airports, **Ben De Leon**, as well as private sector experts. For more, click on [Airport Financing and Development Hearing](#).

Today, the House Homeland Security Committee held a hearing on the critical role of first responders. The purpose was to share lessons learned from past attacks and it included witnesses from the field of emergency management. For more, click on [Lessons Learned from First Responders](#).

### Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [HUD Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants](#), [NPS LWCF Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program](#), and [ED GEAR UP Program Partnership Grants](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

### Water Resources Development Overview

The recently-enacted *Water Resources Reform and Development Act* can benefit your community. For your review, we've prepared a memo on some of the new provisions in the law and existing resources from the Army Corps of Engineers that you can use to develop water resources in your area. For more, click on [WRRDA 2014 Overview](#).

### Tacoma Fights Pollution

Congratulations to our friends Mayor **Marilyn Strickland**, the Tacoma City Council, and staff for having recently been featured in the *New York Times* for work that the City has undertaken to fight pollution and clean its waters. Tacoma has excelled in using data to continually monitor outflows to the Puget Sound to better understand the sources of water pollution. For more, click on [Tacoma Fights Pollution](#).

### Pay for Success and Social Impact Bonds

The Urban Institute released several new publications on Pay for Success financing and Social Impact Bonds, which have generated immense interest, particularly in the educational community, as a way to improve outcomes by shifting risk and generating new capital for social programming. For more, click on [Urban Institute's PFS and SIBs Website](#).

### Jane Chu Confirmed as NEA Chairman

**Jane Chu**, head of the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City, MO has been confirmed by the Senate to serve as Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. For more, click on [Jane Chu Confirmed as NEA Chairman](#).

*Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.*

## Washington Friday Report 2

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# Washington Friday Report

Volume XVI, Issue 24

June 13, 2014

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 House Leader, Secretary Foxx, THUD, FY14 Funds
- 2 WRRDA, Student Loans, OMB, Hearings, Grants
- 2 Common Core, Mobility, NMTC, Walkability, Deficit

*The first defeat in a primary of a House Majority Leader in more than 100 years was not only the vote heard around the world Tuesday night, but one that will have an impact for the rest of the year and beyond. Here's the highlights from a tremendously intense week in Washington.*

### The Primary Vote Heard Around the World



It was one primary for one Congressional seat but the ramifications will be significant and quite possibly long lasting. Majority Leader **Eric Cantor's** loss, to a primary opponent who ran to his right, will have the effect of making the House GOP caucus risk-averse for the rest of this congressional session, and perhaps longer. The

compromises necessary for enactment of immigration reform or the Marketplace Fairness Act, as examples, might be tough to obtain. The quick consolidation by House Majority Whip **Kevin McCarthy** of the votes to succeed Rep. Cantor as Majority Leader indicates a strong desire on the part of House Republicans for leadership stability, but the implications for policy remain murky and the outlook for progress, cloudy at best. *We'll keep you up to date on developments.*



### A Meeting with Secretary Foxx



Yesterday, we participated in a meeting with DOT Secretary **Anthony Foxx** and several Congressional leaders to discuss prospects for transportation. Secretary Foxx gave an overview of the Administration's *GROW America Act*, primarily speaking of its freight and environmental streamlining provisions. The

Secretary stressed that something needs to be done to address the "twin crises" surrounding short-term and long-term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.

Senator **Tom Carper**, a member of both the Senate EPW and Finance Committees, says Congress will likely find a patch for the Highway Trust Fund to address solvency for approximately six months. He thinks that Congress may be more willing to act on a long-term solution during the post-November "lame duck" session. Rep. **Earl Blumenauer**, who organized the meeting and Rep. **Richard Hanna**, a majority House member, also participated. Rep. Hanna expressed doubts regarding a House proposal to use savings from Postal Service reform to patch up the Highway Trust Fund.

### Trouble in the House THUD Bill

On Tuesday night, the House passed its FY15 Transportation-HUD appropriations bill by a nearly party-line vote of 229-192. The \$52 billion house bill is smaller than the \$54.4 billion appropriated in the Senate's bill. An amendment by Rep. **Aaron Schock** bars the issuance of Section 8 vouchers for levels above 120 percent of an area's fair market rental value. An amendment by Rep. **Paul Gosar** blocks HUD from implementing its proposed "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing" rule. By a vote of 227-186, the House adopted an amendment by Rep. **Jeff Denham** to prohibit federal funding for California High-Speed Rail. Even before adoption of these amendments, the White House issued a statement in strong opposition to the House THUD bill. The Senate THUD bill does not back these controversial provisions. For more, click on [House Passes FY15 THUD Bill](#) or [White House Statement](#).

### Appropriations Moving Forward

On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Committee's Energy and Water Subcommittee approved, by voice vote, its \$34 billion FY15 Energy-Water appropriations bill. That bill funds the Army Corps of Engineers programs as well as Department of Energy programs. The bill also prohibits any changes to federal jurisdiction under the **Clean Water Act** (see information on a related hearing on p.2). For more, click on [House FY15 Energy-Water Bill Summary](#).

The House was expected to vote this week on FY15 Agriculture appropriations totaling \$20.9 billion, but that was pulled following Majority Leader **Eric Cantor's** surprise primary loss. It is possible that this bill and other non-defense appropriations bills, may not be considered under later this summer. The White House issued a veto threat against the Agriculture appropriations bill because of provisions that would require waivers of new nutrition standards for some school districts. For more, click on [House FY15 Agriculture Bill Summary](#) or [White House Veto Threat](#).

On Tuesday, the Senate Appropriations Committee's Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee approved its \$156.773 billion FY15 spending bill, which is overall level-funding from FY14. It increases funding for **Head Start** by \$145 million, to \$8.74 billion; level-funds **LIHEAP** at \$3.39 billion; and level-funds the **Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)** at nearly \$668 million. For more, click on [Senate FY15 Labor-HHS-Education Bill Summary](#).

On Wednesday, the House Appropriation Committee's Homeland Security Subcommittee approved its \$39.2 billion spending bill. The bill adds an additional \$15 million to ICE's **Criminal Alien Program**, bringing the FY15 total to \$353 million. For more, click on [House FY15 Homeland Security Appropriations](#).

### WRRDA Signed Into Law

On Tuesday, **President Obama** signed the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014*, into law. For more, click on [White House Blog Post and Video](#), [President's Remarks](#), [House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Statement](#), or [Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Statement](#). In next week's Friday Report, we will include an overview report of how WRRDA 2014 provisions can be used for financing water projects.

### Tackling Student Loan Debt

On Monday, **President Obama** directed the Education Department to propose regulations that would help students pay off their loans more quickly. On a related front, a bill, offered by Senator **Elizabeth Warren** to allow students to refinance their loans at today's lower interest rates, failed to advance in the Senate on Wednesday. For more, click on [White House Blog Post](#), [Presidential Memo](#), or [Senator Warren Statement](#).

### Secretary Donovan's OMB Confirmation Hearings

On Wednesday, HUD Secretary **Shaun Donovan**, nominated to become the next Director of OMB, was questioned in two separate confirmation hearings in the Senate. That brings him two steps closer to confirmation. For more, click on [Homeland Security Committee Hearing](#) or [Budget Committee Hearing](#).

### A Busy Week of Hill Hearings

On Tuesday, the House Budget Committee, chaired by Rep. **Paul Ryan**, held a hearing titled, "*A Progress Report on the War on Poverty: Reforming Federal Aid*," featuring expert witnesses. Chairman Ryan has been skeptical about the effectiveness of antipoverty programs. For more, click on [Chairman Ryan's Opening Statement](#) or [Witness Testimony](#).

On Wednesday, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a hearing dealing with the proposed expanded definition of "**Waters of the U.S.**" which has generated both support and concern around the country. For more, click on ["Waters of the U.S." Hearing](#). We'll have more on this issue in next week's Friday Report!

On Thursday, the Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on how child nutrition programs can help to address some of the biggest challenges facing the nation, including economic vitality, and the health of children and families. For more, click on [Child Nutrition Programs Hearing](#).

On Tuesday, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's Oversight Subcommittee, chaired by Senator **Cory Booker**, held a hearing focusing on EPA's Superfund program. For more, click on [EPA Superfund Oversight Hearing](#) or [Senator Booker Statement](#).

On Monday, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a field hearing to discuss juvenile justice reform and actions taken by the Justice Department, with testimony from OJJDP Administrator **Robert Listenbee, Jr.** For more, click on [Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act Hearing](#).

### Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [NIJ FY14 Developing Knowledge About What Works to Make Schools Safe](#) and [CNCS 2015 RSVP Competition](#).

Please contact Jen Covino with any questions about grants.

### Bill Gates and Common Core

**Bill Gates** and his foundation played a key role in the push for policymakers in states across the country to adopt the Common Core standards. For an overview of their role, click on [Bill Gates and Common Core](#).

### FTA Mobility Guidance

FTA recently published instructions and guidance under the **Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Program**. For more, click on [FTA Circular](#).

### New Markets Tax Credit Report

The New Markets Tax Credit Coalition released its 2014 progress report, showing how NMTC created 54,000 jobs in 2013. For more, click on [NMTC Report](#).

### Walkable Urbanism

Smart Growth America is set to release a new report, "*Foot Traffic Ahead: Ranking Walkable Urbanism in America's Largest Metros*." For more, and to register for next week's live-streamed event, click on [SGA Walkable Urbanism](#).

### Deficit Keeps Getting Lower

CBO estimates that the federal deficit has fallen 30 percent in FY14 so far, marking the smallest deficit since 2008. For more, click on [CBO Monthly Budget Review – May 2014](#).

Please contact Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh with any questions.

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# Washington Friday Report

Volume XVI, Issue 23

June 6, 2014

## INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Emissions, Appropriations, Vet Homelessness
- 2 Transportation, MPOs, Ports, Grants, Big Shoes
- 2 New Starts, Service, Makers, Ed, Mayor Swearingin

*A big week for the Administration and Congress – on the White House side, the long-awaited carbon emissions rule and a new push on veterans homelessness and up on the Hill, major action on two appropriations bills. Here's the highlights of those actions and more for your review.*

### National Carbon Pollution Standards Proposed

On Monday, the EPA proposed an historic rule known as the *Clean Power Plan*, which would, for the first time, cut carbon pollution from existing power plants. The proposal aims to cut carbon emission from the power sector by 30 percent nationwide below 2005 levels, which is equal to the emissions from powering more than half the homes in the U.S. for one year. EPA plans to finalize the standards by June 2015. In Congress, it's likely that the FY15 Interior-Environment Appropriations bill will be a target for opponents of EPA's proposed rule to try and attach policy provisions that at least would weaken the rule's impact, particularly in the Senate where sixty votes are needed on the floor to move a bill forward.

For more, click on [EPA Press Release](#), [EPA Carbon Pollution Standards Website](#), [EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy's remarks](#), or [EPA Fact Sheets](#), or download all fifty [EPA Carbon Pollution Standards State-by-State Fact Sheets](#) that are packaged into a single ZIP file. For more statements from across the political spectrum, click on [President Obama's Weekly Address](#), [White House Blog Post](#), or a collection of [Congressional Statements](#).

### Senate FY15 THUD Appropriations

Yesterday, the full Senate Appropriations Committee approved, by a vote of 29-1, its FY15 Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill. The bill provides a total of \$54.4 billion in discretionary spending. **TIGER grants** would receive \$550 million in FY15, well above the \$100 million provided in the House FY15 THUD bill. In FY14, TIGER received \$600 million, so if the Senate's plan prevails, this would result in at least a \$50 million reduction for the program next year. However, Senate Appropriators gave strong support to DOT

management of the TIGER program in response to last week's GAO report that was critical of the agency's management standards. In the Senate THUD bill report, it says, "*the Committee appreciates that the program now has a strong leadership team that is committed to the program's accountability.*" Under the bill, **transit programs** would receive \$11.1 billion, \$309 million above the FY14 level; and **transit capital investment grants** would receive \$2.163 billion, an increase of \$221 million above FY14. CDBG would receive \$3.02 billion, \$10 million below FY14. The House THUD bill funds CDBG at \$3 billion. **Section 8 tenant-based rental assistance** would receive \$19.6 billion, \$385 million above FY14; **project-based rental assistance** would receive \$9.7 billion, \$200 million below FY14; **HUD-VASH vouchers** would receive level-funding of \$75 million; **Choice Neighborhoods** would receive level funding of \$90 million; and **HOME** would receive \$950 million, \$50 million below FY14. For more, click on [Senate FY15 THUD Summary and Statements](#).

### Senate FY15 CJS Appropriations

Yesterday, the full Senate Appropriations Committee approved, by a vote of 30-0, its FY15 Commerce, Justice, and Science (CJS) Appropriations bill. The bill provides a total of \$51.2 billion in discretionary spending. **State and local** programs within DOJ would receive \$2.3 billion, \$11 million below FY14; **Byrne JAG grants** would receive \$376 million; **COPS Hiring grants** would receive \$181 million; **Violence Against Women Act** programs would receive \$430 million; and **juvenile justice and mentoring grants** would receive \$258 million. The **Economic Development Administration (EDA)** would receive \$235 million. For more, click on [Senate FY15 CJS Summary and Statements](#).

### Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness



On Wednesday, we were honored to accompany Mayors **Paul Soglin** and **Ralph Becker** to an event at the White House hosted by First Lady **Michelle Obama**, announcing the *Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness*. Mayor Becker, seated behind FLOTUS, told the group how Salt Lake City ended veteran homelessness earlier this year. The goal of the Challenge is to encourage Mayors and local leaders, in partnership with the federal government, to commit to ending veterans homelessness in their communities by the end of 2015. Also in attendance were

outgoing HUD Secretary **Shaun Donovan** and Acting VA Secretary **Sloan Gibson**. For more, click on [Fact Sheet: Ending Veteran Homelessness](#), [Remarks by the First Lady](#), or [Video of the Event](#) with opening remarks by Mayor Becker.

### Transportation: In Search of a Revenue Source

Senate Finance Chairman **Ron Wyden** said yesterday that he is working with members of his committee to come up with a plan to bolster Highway Trust Fund (HTF) revenues by the end of June. He asked members to come back to Congress early next week with their preferences for revenue ideas so that the Committee can come to a “*bipartisan agreement*” by the end of the month. There are strong indications, though, that generating revenue by repatriating corporate taxes from overseas, an idea proposed by the Obama Administration, is already off the Senate table. Chairman **Wyden** and Ranking Member **Orrin Hatch** say they will keep looking at HTF options, without diverting revenues from repatriation, which they may want to use for tax reform.

Meanwhile, leaders in the House have come up with their own surprising method of boosting the HTF – by ending most Saturday mail deliveries through the U.S. Postal Service, along with other reforms. This plan would extend the life of the HTF to May 2015, but so far it has received a chilly reception. For more, click on [House Leadership’s HTF Plan](#).

On Wednesday, Senate Budget Chairwoman **Patty Murray** provided an analysis on, “*Averting a Crisis in the Highway Trust Fund*,” warning that a lack of action soon by Congress to shore it up “*would be damaging for families, businesses, and the economy*.” Additionally, a letter signed by six Chicago-area members of Congress to the leaders of the House Ways and Means Committee calls on them to support the prioritization of the transit tax parity benefit in any future tax extender package under consideration. For more, click on [Senate Budget: Averting a Crisis](#) or [Transit Tax Parity Benefit](#).

On Tuesday, the Senate Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security held a hearing titled, “*Surface Transportation Reauthorization: Examining the Safety and Effectiveness of our Transportation Systems*.” For more, click on [Senate Transportation Safety Hearing](#).

### New MPO Rules

On Monday, DOT issued a proposed rulemaking on revisions to the regulations governing the development of metropolitan transportation plans and programs for urbanized areas, state transportation plans and programs, and the congestion management process. Comments before **September 2**. For more, click on [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) or [Policy Guidance](#).

### Port Security Hearing

On Wednesday, the Senate Homeland Security Committee held a hearing evaluating port security, featuring top leaders from the Administration. For more, click on [Port Security](#).

### Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [DOJ OJDP AntiGang Strategies](#), [FTA Ladders of Opportunity Initiative](#), or [ED Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

### Big Shoes to Fill at HUD

The *Washington Post* editorial board recently wrote on the legacy of good work that HUD Secretary **Shaun Donovan** will leave for his agency, and the work left undone that will be handed off to his successor, San Antonio Mayor **Julián Castro**. For more, click on [Unfinished Work at HUD](#).

### GAO Annual Report on Capital Investment Grant Projects

GAO has issued its annual report on the 32 New Starts, Small Starts, and Very Small Starts projects funded by FTA from 2005 to 2013. For more, click on [GAO Capital Investment Grants Report](#).

### Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service 2015

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), has announced **April 7, 2015** as the third annual Mayors Day of Recognition for National Service. During this year’s Mayors Day, more than 1,760 communities recognized their local volunteers during events or in other ways. For more, click on [CNCS Newsletter](#).

### White House Maker Faire

The White House has announced that its first-ever Maker Faire will be held on **June 18** to celebrate the rise of the Maker Movement, which shows how new tools for home-grown production are boosting innovation and entrepreneurship in manufacturing across the country. For more, click on [Maker Faire](#).

### Communities Leading on Early Learning

The Education Department notes this week how communities are making commitments to early education, showcasing Salt Lake County, whose innovative “*results-based-financing*” effort has been led by County Mayor **Ben McAdams**. For more, click on [Locals Leading on Early Learning](#).

### Congratulations, Mayor Swearengin!



Congratulations to our friend, Fresno Mayor **Ashley Swearengin**, who came out on top in Tuesday’s primary election for California’s Controller. *We wish her all the best in the general election in November!*

Please contact *Len Simon, Brandon Key, Jen Covino, or Stephanie McIntosh* with any questions.

### Washington Friday Report 2

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1660 L Street, N.W. • Suite 501 • Washington, D.C. 20036 • (202) 659-2229 • Fax (202) 659-5234 • [len.simon@simoncompany.com](mailto:len.simon@simoncompany.com)