

ITEM IV E

Fresno Council of Governments Monthly State Legislative Report
7/20/2015

AB 1

(Brown D) Drought: local governments: fines.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 6/16/2015

Status: 7/13/2015-Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 62, Statutes of 2015.

Location: 7/13/2015-A. CHAPTERED

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

Summary: Would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from imposing a fine under any ordinance for a failure to water a lawn or having a brown lawn during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions.

Position

AB 2

(Alejo D) Community revitalization authority.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 7/7/2015

Status: 7/15/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 2.) (July 14). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/15/2015-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.

Position

AB 4

(Linder R) Vehicle weight fees: transportation bond debt service.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 1/16/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would, notwithstanding specified provisions or any other law, until January 1, 2020, 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

AB 6

(Wilk R) Bonds: transportation: school facilities.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 4/21/2015-In committee: Set, second hearing. Failed passage. Reconsideration granted.

Location: 4/20/2015-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 1 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. These provisions would become effective only upon approval by the voters at the next statewide election.

Position

AB 21

(Perea D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: scoping plan.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 5/5/2015

Status: 6/30/2015-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 6/30/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Would require the State Air Resources Board in preparing its scoping plan to consult with specified state agencies regarding matters involving energy efficiency and the facilitation of the electrification of the transportation sector. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

[AB 23](#)

(Patterson R) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance mechanisms: exemption.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 3/23/2015-In committee: Set, first hearing. Failed passage. Reconsideration granted.

Location: 3/23/2015-A. NAT. RES.

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 would instead exempt those 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 through December 31, 2020.

Position

[AB 28](#)

(Chu D) Bicycle safety: rear lights.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 4/22/2015

Status: 6/30/2015-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 6/30/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Current law requires that a bicycle operated during darkness upon a highway, a sidewalk where bicycle operation is not prohibited by the local jurisdiction, or a bikeway, as defined, be equipped with a red reflector on the rear that is visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. This bill would require that a bicycle operated under those circumstances be equipped with a red reflector, a solid red light, or a flashing red light on the rear that is visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle.

Position

[AB 33](#)

(Quirk D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Energy Sector Emissions Reduction Advisory Council.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 6/23/2015

Status: 7/15/2015-SEN. E.Q. Vote - Do pass as amended, and re-refer to the Committee on Appropriations.

Location: 7/15/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Would establish the EnergySector Emissions Reduction Advisory Council in state government and would require the council to recommend strategies for the electricity sector for incorporation into the scoping plan prepared by the state board, based on conclusions of specified analyses, including, among others, an analysis of the various strategies that could be implemented to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases from the electricity sector and integrate increasing amounts of renewable energy into the electricity grid.

Position

[AB 61](#)

(Allen, Travis R) Shuttle services: loading and unloading of passengers.

Introduced: 12/12/2014

Last Amend: 4/20/2015

Status: 5/15/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was TRANS. on 4/21/2015)

Location: 5/15/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would allow local authorities to permit shuttle service vehicles, as defined, to stop for the loading or unloading of passengers alongside specified curb spaces upon agreement between a transit system operating buses engaged as common carriers in local transportation and a shuttle service provider, as defined. The bill would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to not replace public transit services.

Position

[AB 156](#)

(Perea D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: disadvantaged communities.

Introduced: 1/20/2015

Last Amend: 7/1/2015

Status: 7/15/2015-SEN. E.Q. Vote - Do pass as amended, and re-refer to the Committee on Appropriations.

Location: 7/15/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Current law requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to identify disadvantaged communities and requires the Department of Finance, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board and any other relevant state agency, to develop, as specified, a 3-year investment plan for the moneys deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Current law requires the 3-year investment plan to allocate a minimum of 25% of the available moneys in the fund to projects that provide benefits to disadvantaged communities. This bill would require the state board to prepare and post on its Internet Web site a specified report on the projects funded to benefit disadvantaged communities. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position

Support

Notes 1: Fresno Chamber of Commerce supported in February

[AB 194](#)

(Frazier D) High-occupancy toll lanes.

Introduced: 1/28/2015

Last Amend: 7/2/2015

Status: 7/15/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 0.) (July 14). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/15/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Current law provides that the Department of Transportation has full possession and control of the state highway system. Current law authorizes the department to construct exclusive or preferential lanes for buses only or for buses and other high-occupancy vehicles. This bill would authorize a regional transportation agency, in cooperation with the department, to apply to the California Transportation Commission to develop other toll facilities, as specified

Position

[AB 227](#)

(Alejo D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 2/3/2015

Last Amend: 4/15/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was BUDGET. on 4/16/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law provides for loans of revenues from various transportation funds and accounts to the General Fund, with various repayment dates specified. This bill, with respect to any loans made

to the General Fund from specified transportation funds and accounts with a repayment date of January 1, 2019, or later, would require the loans to be repaid by December 31, 2018. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

Position

[AB 232](#) (Obernolte R) State responsibility areas: fire prevention fees.

Introduced: 2/4/2015

Last Amend: 7/14/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-Re-referred to Com. on RLS. pursuant to Senate Rule 29.10(c).

Location: 7/16/2015-S. RLS.

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

Summary: Would, for a period of 5 years, extend the time when the annual fire prevention fee is due and payable from 30 to 60 days from the date of assessment by the State Board of Equalization and authorize the petition for redetermination to be filed within 60 days after service of the notice of determination, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position

[AB 251](#) (Levine D) Public works: public subsidies.

Introduced: 2/9/2015

Last Amend: 7/8/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling.

Location: 7/16/2015-A. ENROLLMENT

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

Summary: Would provide that a public subsidy is de minimis if it is both less than \$250,000 and less than 2% of the total project cost. The bill would specify that those provisions do not apply to a project that was advertised for bid, or a contract that was awarded, before July 1, 2016.

Position

[AB 291](#) (Medina D) California Environmental Quality Act: local agencies: notice of determination: water.

Introduced: 2/11/2015

Last Amend: 6/10/2015

Status: 7/17/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/10/2015)

Location: 7/17/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: CEQA requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. This bill would authorize a local agency, for certain water projects, to file the notice with the county clerk of the county in which the local agency's principal office is located, along with any required payment to the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and with the Office of Planning and Research, and to transmit a copy of the notice to the county clerks of the counties in which the water project is located, as specified.

Position

[AB 323](#) (Olsen R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: roadway improvement.

Introduced: 2/13/2015

Last Amend: 4/6/2015

Status: 7/6/2015-Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 52, Statutes of 2015.

Location: 7/6/2015-A. CHAPTERED

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

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), until January 1, 2016, exempts a project or an activity to repair, maintain, or make minor alterations to an existing roadway, as defined, if the project or activity is carried out by a city or county with a population of less than 100,000 persons to improve public safety and meets other specified requirements. This bill would extend the above exemption to January 1, 2020.

Position

[AB 400](#) (Alejo D) Department of Transportation: changeable message signs.

Introduced: 2/19/2015

Last Amend: 6/17/2015

Status: 7/7/2015-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 7/7/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Would require the Department of Transportation, by June 30, 2016, to update its internal policies to allow displays of safety, transportation-related, and voting-related messages on changeable message signs, as defined , subject to approval by the United States Department of Transportation, as provided .

Position

[AB 448](#) (Brown D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments.

Introduced: 2/23/2015

Status: 6/29/2015-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 6/29/2015-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

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

Summary: Current property tax law requires the county auditor, in each fiscal year, to allocate property tax revenue to local jurisdictions in accordance with specified formulas and procedures, and generally provides that each jurisdiction shall be allocated an amount equal to the total of the amount of revenue allocated to that jurisdiction in the prior fiscal year, subject to certain modifications, and that jurisdiction's portion of the annual tax increment, as defined. This bill would modify these reduction and transfer provisions, for the 2015-16 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, by providing for a vehicle license fee adjustment amount calculated on the basis of changes in assessed valuation.

Position

[AB 518](#) (Frazier D) Department of Transportation.

Introduced: 2/23/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/5/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law authorizes a local agency to enter into an agreement with the appropriate transportation planning agency, the Department of Transportation, and the California Transportation Commission, to use its own funds to develop, purchase right-of-way, and construct a project within its jurisdiction if the project is included in the adopted state transportation improvement program and funded from specified sources. This bill would delete that provision requiring the department to compile information and report to the Legislature. This bill contains other current laws.

Position

[AB 692](#) (Quirk D) Low-carbon transportation fuels.

Introduced: 2/25/2015

Last Amend: 6/2/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 2.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/16/2015-S. APPR.

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 requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit to be achieved by 2020 equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions levels of 1990. Pursuant to the act, the state board has adopted the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard regulations. This bill, commencing January 1, 2017, would require at

least 3% of the aggregate amount of transportation fuel purchased by state agencies that are buyers of transportation fuel to be procured from very low carbon transportation fuel sources. The bill would require the percentage to be increased by 1% each year thereafter until January 1, 2024.

Position

[AB 904](#) (Perea D) Air Quality Improvement Program: Clean Reused Vehicle Rebate Project.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 7/13/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 1.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/16/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Would require the State Air Resources Board to establish the Clean Reused Vehicle Rebate Project, as a part of the Air Quality Improvement Program, to provide rebates or other incentives for the acquisition of an eligible used vehicle, as defined; the replacement or refurbishment of a battery and related components for an eligible used vehicle or an extended warranty for the battery or related components; or an extended service warranty to cover unexpected vehicle repairs not covered by the manufacturer's warranty related to unique problems in eligible used vehicles, as specified.

Position

[AB 922](#) (Gallagher R) Sales and use taxes: exemption manufacturing.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 3/26/2015

Status: 5/11/2015-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

Location: 4/6/2015-A. REV. & TAX

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

Summary: Current law exempts from sales and use taxes, on and after July 1, 2014, and before January 1, 2022, the gross receipts from the sale of, and the storage, use, or other consumption of, qualified tangible personal property purchased by a qualified person for use primarily in manufacturing, processing, refining, fabricating, or recycling of property, as specified; qualified tangible personal property purchased for use by a contractor for specified purposes, as provided; and qualified tangible personal property purchased for use by a qualified person to be used primarily in research and development, as provided. This bill would delete that repeal date, thereby extending the application of the exemption indefinitely. The bill, on or after January 1, 2023, would limit the exemption to a qualified person that is located in a county, city and county, or metropolitan statistical area that had an unemployment rate of 10% or more in the previous calendar quarter.

Position

[AB 946](#) (Ting D) Electric vehicle charging stations.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 4/21/2015

Status: 5/29/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 4/28/2015)

Location: 5/29/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to implement the Alternative and Renewable Fuel Vehicle Technology Program to provide financial assistance to develop and deploy innovative technologies that transform California's fuel and vehicle types to help attain the state's climate change policies. Current law includes within the program alternative and renewable fuel infrastructure, fueling stations, and equipment. This bill would specify that alternative and renewable fuel infrastructure includes electric vehicle charging infrastructure in disadvantaged communities.

Position

[AB 1005](#) (Gordon D) Electric vehicles: infrastructure: charging systems.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 3/26/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was U. & C. on 4/28/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to encourage and support the widespread deployment of electric vehicles, protect competitive markets for electric vehicle charging equipment and network charging services from unfair competition, support consumer choice, and encourage and support private investment in the equipment and services, and would make legislative findings and declarations in that regard. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

AB 1009 (Garcia, Cristina D) Local government: redevelopment: revenues from property tax override rates.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Status: 5/28/2015-In committee: Held under submission.

Location: 5/28/2015-A. APPR.

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

Summary: Would authorize a city or county that levies a property tax rate, approved by the voters of a city or county to make payments in support of pension programs and levied in addition to the general property tax rate, to make a request to an oversight board to prohibit revenues derived from that property tax rate from being deposited into a Redevelopment Property Tax Fund. This bill would authorize an oversight board to deny this request based on substantial evidence that a former redevelopment agency made a pledge of revenues that specifically included revenues derived from the imposition of that property tax rate.

Position

AB 1015 (Bloom D) Parking: car share vehicles.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 4/23/2015

Status: 7/2/2015-Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 41, Statutes of 2015.

Location: 7/2/2015-A. CHAPTERED

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

Summary: Would authorize a local authority to, by ordinance or resolution, designate certain streets or portions of streets for the nonexclusive parking privilege of motor vehicles participating in a car share vehicle program or ridesharing program.

Position

AB 1030 (Ridley-Thomas D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 7/7/2015

Status: 7/7/2015-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/7/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Current law requires moneys in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to be used to facilitate the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and, where applicable and to the extent feasible, to foster job creation by promoting in-state greenhouse gas emissions reduction projects carried out by California workers and businesses. This bill would require priority be given to projects involving hiring that support the targeted training and hiring of workers from disadvantaged communities for career-track jobs.

Position

AB 1033 (Garcia, Eduardo D) Infrastructure financing.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was J., E.D. & E. on 3/19/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: The Bergeson-Peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Act establishes the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, to be governed by a specified board of directors. The act makes findings and declarations, provides definitions, and authorizes the board to take various actions in connection with the bank, including the issuance of bonds, as specified. This bill, among other things, would revise the definition of economic development facilities to include facilities that are used to provide goods movement and would define goods movement-related infrastructure.

Position

[AB 1043](#) (Salas D) Highways: State Highway Route 43.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Status: 6/29/2015-In committee: Referred to APPR. suspense file.

Location: 6/29/2015-S. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

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

Summary: Current law requires certain transportation funds made available for transportation capital improvement projects to be programmed and expended in specified amounts for interregional improvements and regional improvements. Current law specifies the state highway routes that are included in the interregional road system and the state highway routes that are eligible interregional and intercounty routes. This bill would include State Highway Route 43 as an eligible interregional and intercounty route.

Position

Support

[AB 1062](#) (Bonta D) Environmental Justice Small Grant Program.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 4/7/2015

Status: 7/17/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/11/2015)

Location: 7/17/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law establishes the Environmental Justice Small Grant Program under the jurisdiction of the California Environmental Protection Agency, and prescribes specific criteria and procedures for the implementation of the program. Current law requires that grants be awarded on a competitive basis for projects that are based in communities with the most significant exposure to pollution. This bill would additionally include physical projects, including planning, engineering, and construction, monitoring or filtering technology, and environmental assessments that improve the environment or the environmental health of the community, or that address a specific environmental justice need, among the purposes for which a grant may be awarded.

Position

[AB 1068](#) (Allen, Travis R) California Environmental Quality Act: priority projects.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/19/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would authorize each Member of the Legislature to nominate one project within his or her respective district each year, and the Governor to designate those projects as priority projects if the projects meet specified requirements. The bill would require the Governor to provide a notice of the designation to the appropriate lead agency and to the Office of Planning and Research. The bill would require the lead agency to notify the public and interested stakeholders of the designation, as specified, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

Position

[AB 1087](#) (Grove R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: high-speed rail.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 4/20/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would provide that the continuous appropriations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the High-Speed Rail Authority are for specified components of the initial operating segment and Phase I blended system, as described in the authority's 2012 business plan, of the high-speed train system that shall be constructed as specified.

Position

[AB 1176](#) (Perea D) Vehicular air pollution.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Last Amend: 7/7/2015

Status: 7/15/2015-SEN. E.Q. Vote - Do pass as amended, and re-refer to the Committee on Appropriations.

Location: 7/15/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Would establish the Advanced Low-Carbon Diesel Fuels Access Program, to be administered by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, in consultation with the State Air Resources Board, for the purpose of reducing the greenhouse gas emissions of diesel motor vehicles by providing capital assistance for projects that expand advanced low-carbon diesel fueling infrastructure in communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and additionally where the greatest air quality impacts can be identified. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position

[AB 1265](#) (Perea D) Transportation projects: comprehensive development lease agreements.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Last Amend: 4/29/2015

Status: 5/29/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/6/2015)

Location: 5/29/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law authorizes the Department of Transportation and regional transportation agencies, as defined, to enter into comprehensive development lease agreements with public and private entities, or consortia of those entities, for certain transportation projects that may charge certain users of those projects tolls and user fees, subject to various terms and requirements. These arrangements are commonly known as public-private partnerships. This bill would provide that a lease agreement shall not be entered into under these provisions on or after January 1, 2030, and would delete obsolete cross-references and make technical changes to these provisions.

Position

[AB 1364](#) (Linder R) California Transportation Commission.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/23/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law vests the California Transportation Commission with specified powers, duties, and functions relative to transportation matters. Current law requires the commission to retain independent authority to perform the duties and functions prescribed to it under any provision of law. This bill would exclude the California Transportation Commission from the Transportation Agency and establish it as an entity in the state government. The bill would also make conforming changes.

Position

[AB 1482](#) (Gordon D) Climate adaptation.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Last Amend: 7/9/2015

Status: 7/9/2015-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/9/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Would require the Natural Resources Agency, by July 1, 2017, and every 3 years thereafter, to update the state's climate adaptation strategy, as provided. The bill would require the agency, in coordination with the Strategic Growth Council, to address the impacts of climate change and climate adaptation by reviewing and coordinating existing grants and programs to maximize specified objectives, including, among others, establishing policy, guidelines, and guidance at the state level to inform planning decisions and ensuring that state investments consider climate change impacts, as well as promote the use of natural systems and natural infrastructure, whenever feasible, when developing physical infrastructure to address adaptation.

Position

[ABX1 1](#) (Alejo D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 6/23/2015

Status: 6/24/2015-From printer.

Location: 6/23/2015-A. PRINT

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

Summary: Current law provides for loans of revenues from various transportation funds and accounts to the General Fund, with various repayment dates specified. This bill, with respect to any loans made to the General Fund from specified transportation funds and accounts with a repayment date of January 1, 2019, or later, would require the loans to be repaid by December 31, 2018. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

Position

[ABX1 3](#) (Frazier D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 7/9/2015

Status: 7/10/2015-From printer.

Location: 7/9/2015-A. PRINT

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

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Transportation to improve and maintain the state's highways, and establishes various programs to fund the development, construction, and repair of local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure in the state. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish permanent, sustainable sources of transportation funding to maintain and repair the state's highways, local roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure.

Position

[ABX1 4](#) (Frazier D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 7/9/2015

Status: 7/10/2015-From printer.

Location: 7/9/2015-A. PRINT

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

Summary: Current law establishes various programs to fund the development, construction, and repair of local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure in the state. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish permanent, sustainable sources of transportation funding to improve the state's key trade corridors and support efforts by local governments to repair and improve local transportation infrastructure.

Position

[ACA 4](#) (Frazier D) Local government transportation projects: special taxes: voter approval.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Last Amend: 7/16/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Read second time and amended.

Location: 7/16/2015-A. 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 sales and use tax imposed pursuant to the Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law or a transactions and use tax imposed in accordance with the Transactions and Use Tax Law by a local government for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects, as defined, requires the approval of 55% of its voters voting on the proposition. The measure would also make conforming and technical, nonsubstantive changes.

Position

[SB 1](#) ([Gaines R](#)) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance mechanisms: exemption.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 4/7/2015-April 15 set for second hearing canceled at the request of author.

Location: 1/15/2015-S. E.Q.

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.

Position

[SB 5](#) ([Vidak R](#)) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: market-based compliance mechanisms: exemption.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 4/16/2015-April 15 set for second hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 2. Noes 5. Page 648.) Reconsideration granted.

Location: 1/15/2015-S. E.Q.

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

Summary: Under the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, current State Air Resources 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 through December 31, 2020.

Position

[SB 6](#) ([Galgiani D](#)) Parole: medical parole: compassionate release.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 5/29/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/28/2015)

Location: 5/29/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would exempt from medical parole eligibility and compassionate release eligibility a prisoner who was convicted of the first degree murder of a peace officer or a person who had been a peace officer, as provided. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position

[SB 9](#) ([Beall D](#)) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 7/16/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/16/2015-A. APPR.

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

Summary: Would modify the purpose of the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program to delete references to operational investments and instead provide for the funding of transformative capital improvements, as defined, that will modernize California's intercity, commuter, and urban rail systems and bus and ferry transit systems to achieve certain policy objectives, including reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, expanding and improving transit services to increase ridership, and improving transit safety.

Position

[SB 13](#)

(Pavley D) Groundwater.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 7/6/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.

Location: 7/16/2015-A. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Summary: Would specify that the State Water Resources Control Board is authorized to designate a high- or medium-priority basin as a probationary basin. This bill would provide a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency 90 or 180 days, as prescribed, to remedy certain deficiencies that caused the board to designate the basin as a probationary basin. This bill would authorize the board to develop an interim plan for certain probationary basins one year after the designation of the basin as a probationary basin.

Position

[SB 16](#)

(Beall D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 6/1/2015

Status: 6/1/2015-Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 6/1/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Would create the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program to address deferred maintenance on the state highway system and the local street and road system. The bill would provide for the program to be authorized every 5 years by the Legislature, and would provide that authorization for the 2015-16 through 2019-20 fiscal years. The bill would require the California Transportation Commission to identify the estimated funds to be available for the program and adopt performance criteria to ensure efficient use of the funds.

Position

[SB 25](#)

(Roth D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocation: vehicle license fee adjustments.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Status: 7/16/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/16/2015-A. APPR.

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

Summary: Would modify specified reduction and transfer provisions for a city incorporating after January 1, 2004, and on or before January 1, 2012, for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, by providing for a vehicle license fee adjustment amount calculated on the basis of changes in assessed valuation. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

[SB 32](#)

(Pavley D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: emissions limit.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 6/1/2015

Status: 7/14/2015-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 3.) (July 13). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 7/14/2015-A. APPR.

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

Summary: Would require the State Air Resources Board to approve statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits that are the equivalent to 40% below the 1990 level to be achieved by 2030 and 80% below the 1990 level to be achieved by 2050, as specified. The bill would authorize the state board to adopt an interim greenhouse gas emissions level target to be achieved by 2040. The bill also would state the intent of the Legislature for the Legislature and appropriate agencies to adopt complementary policies that ensure the long-term emissions reductions advance specified criteria. The bill would make conforming changes.

Position

SB 39

(Pavley D) Vehicles: high-occupancy vehicle lanes.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 4/8/2015

Status: 5/22/2015-Referred to Com. on TRANS.

Location: 5/22/2015-A. TRANS.

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

Summary: Current federal law, until September 30, 2017, authorizes a state to allow specified labeled vehicles to use lanes designated for high-occupancy vehicles (HOVs). Current law authorizes the DMV to issue no more than 70,000 of those identifiers. This bill would increase the number of those identifiers that the DMV is authorized to issue to an unspecified amount. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

Position

SB 40

(Gaines R) Air Quality Improvement Program: vehicle rebates.

Introduced: 12/1/2014

Last Amend: 4/6/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was T. & H. on 4/6/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would require incentives for qualifying zero-emission, battery-electric passenger vehicles under the Clean Vehicle Rebate Project of the Air Quality Improvement Program to be limited to passenger vehicles with a manufacturer's suggested retail price of \$40,000 or less. The bill would require the rebate for qualifying vehicles to be \$3,500, subject to availability of funds.

Position

SB 45

(Mendoza D) Workforce development: federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Introduced: 12/12/2014

Last Amend: 3/9/2015

Status: 7/17/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was L. & E. on 5/14/2015)

Location: 7/17/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would require the state, in conformity with WIOA and after consultation with local boards and chief elected officials, to identify planning regions. The bill would require local boards and chief elected officials to prepare regional plans for those planning regions, as specified. By imposing this requirement on local government, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would also require the board to aid the Governor in facilitating system alignment across the core programs of WIOA, as defined, and make related and conforming changes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

SB 64

(Liu D) California Transportation Plan.

Introduced: 1/5/2015

Last Amend: 6/24/2015

Status: 7/8/2015-July 8 set for first hearing. Placed on APPR. suspense file.

Location: 7/8/2015-A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

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

Summary: The California Transportation Commission is required to adopt and submit to the Legislature, by December 15 of each year, an annual report summarizing the commission's prior-year decisions in allocating transportation capital outlay appropriations, and identifying timely and relevant transportation issues facing the state. This bill would require that the annual report also include specific, action-oriented, and pragmatic recommendations for legislation to improve the transportation system.

Position

[SB 158](#) (Huff R) Transportation projects: comprehensive development lease agreements.

Introduced: 2/3/2015

Last Amend: 3/26/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was T. & H. on 4/7/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would authorize the Department of Transportation or a regional transportation agency to enter into a comprehensive development lease on or after January 1, 2017, for a proposed transportation project on the state highway system if a draft environmental impact statement or draft environmental impact report for the project was released by the department in March 2015 for public comment. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position

[SB 189](#) (Hueso D) Clean Energy and Low-Carbon Economic and Jobs Growth Blue Ribbon Committee.

Introduced: 2/9/2015

Last Amend: 6/29/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-From committee: Do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 1.) (July 13).

Location: 7/16/2015-A. APPR.

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

Summary: Would create the Clean Energy and Low-Carbon Economic and Jobs Growth Blue Ribbon Committee in the California Environmental Protection Agency, comprising 7 members appointed by the Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Senate Committee on Rules, as provided. The bill would prescribe the terms and qualifications of committee members and would require the committee to hold its first meeting on or before December 1, 2016.

Position

[SB 254](#) (Allen D) State highways: relinquishment.

Introduced: 2/18/2015

Last Amend: 6/2/2015

Status: 7/17/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was TRANS. on 6/15/2015)

Location: 7/17/2015-A. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Current law provides for the California Transportation Commission to relinquish to local agencies state highway segments that have been deleted from the state highway system by legislative enactment or have been superseded by relocation, and in certain other cases. This bill would revise and recast these provisions to delete the requirement that the portion to be relinquished be deleted from the state highway system by legislative enactment or superseded by relocation.

Position

[SB 321](#) (Beall D) Motor vehicle fuel taxes: rates: adjustments.

Introduced: 2/23/2015

Last Amend: 5/27/2015

Status: 7/13/2015-July 13 set for first hearing. Placed on REV. & TAX. suspense file.

Location: 7/13/2015-A. REV. & TAX SUSPENSE FILE

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

Summary: Would, for the 2015-16 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, require the State Board of Equalization, on or before July 1, 2015, or March 1 of the fiscal year immediately preceding the applicable fiscal year, as specified, to adjust the excise tax rate on motor vehicle fuel in a manner as to generate an amount of revenue equal to the amount of revenue loss attributable to the exemption, based on estimates made by the board that reflect the combined average of the actual fuel price over the previous 4 fiscal years and the estimated fuel price for the current fiscal year, and continuing to take into account adjustments required by existing law to maintain revenue neutrality for each year. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

[SB 357](#) (Hall D) Private railroad car tax.

Introduced: 2/24/2015

Status: 5/28/2015-May 28 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Location: 5/28/2015-S. APPR.

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

Summary: Under the Private Railroad Car Tax Law, the State Board of Equalization assesses and taxes private railroad cars operated upon railroads in this state. In making an assessment, the board is required to determine the average number of each class of private railroad cars physically present in the state in the calendar year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the tax is imposed upon the basis of car days. This bill would instead require the board, in making the assessment, to determine the physical presence of private railroad cars in the state in the calendar year immediately preceding the fiscal year in which the tax is imposed upon the basis of mileage.

Position

[SB 516](#) (Fuller R) Transportation: motorist aid services.

Introduced: 2/26/2015

Last Amend: 7/1/2015

Status: 7/16/2015-In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Location: 7/16/2015-S. CONCURRENCE

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

Summary: Current law authorizes the establishment of a service authority for freeway emergencies in any county if the board of supervisors of the county and the city councils of a majority of the cities within the county adopt resolutions providing for the establishment of the service authority. Current law authorizes a service authority to impose a fee of \$1 per year on vehicles registered in the counties served by the service authority. This bill would require each service authority to determine how those moneys received by it are to be used by the service authority for the implementation, maintenance, and operations of a motorist aid system, including call boxes.

Position

Support

[SB 698](#) (Cannella R) Active Transportation Program: school zone safety projects.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Status: 5/1/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.Q. on 3/19/2015)

Location: 5/1/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Would continuously appropriate an unspecified amount from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the State Highway Account in the State Transportation Fund for purposes of funding school zone safety projects within the Active Transportation Program. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position

[SB 760](#) (Mendoza D) Distressed watershed: urban greening.

Introduced: 2/27/2015

Last Amend: 5/11/2015

Status: 5/29/2015-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/28/2015)

Location: 5/29/2015-S. 2 YEAR

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

Summary: Proposition 1 makes available \$100,000,000 of the bond proceeds, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for projects to protect and enhance an urban creek and its tributaries that meets certain requirements. This bill would require a public agency receiving an appropriation from the \$100,000,000 to give priority to projects that are located in, or directly adjacent to, a disadvantaged community within a distressed watershed and that may also provide greenspace or other venues for physical activities.

Position

SBX1 1 (Beall D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 6/22/2015

Last Amend: 7/14/2015

Status: 7/14/2015-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on T. & I.D.

Location: 7/14/2015-S. T. & I.D.

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

Summary: Would create the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program to address deferred maintenance on the state highway system and the local street and road system. The bill would require the California Transportation Commission to adopt performance criteria to ensure efficient use of the funds available for the program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

SBX1 2 (Huff R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

Introduced: 6/30/2015

Status: 7/1/2015-From printer.

Location: 6/30/2015-S. T. & I.D.

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

Summary: Would provide that those annual proceeds shall be appropriated by the Legislature for transportation infrastructure, including public streets and highways, but excluding high-speed rail. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position

SBX1 3 (Vidak R) Transportation bonds: highway, street, and road projects.

Introduced: 7/1/2015

Status: 7/2/2015-From printer.

Location: 7/1/2015-S. T. & I.D.

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 1 blended system. The bill, subject to the above exception, would require redirection of the unspent proceeds 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

SBX1 4 (Beall D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 7/7/2015

Status: 7/8/2015-From printer. Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 7/8/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Transportation to improve and maintain the state's

highways, and establishes various programs to fund the development, construction, and repair of local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure in the state. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish permanent, sustainable sources of transportation funding to maintain and repair the state's highways, local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure.

Position

SBX1 5 (Beall D) Transportation funding.

Introduced: 7/7/2015

Status: 7/8/2015-From printer. Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 7/8/2015-S. THIRD READING

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

Summary: Current law establishes various programs to fund the development, construction, and repair of local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure in the state. This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to establish permanent, sustainable sources of transportation funding to improve the state's key trade corridors and support efforts by local governments to repair and improve local transportation infrastructure.

Position

SBX1 6 (Runner R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: transportation expenditures.

Introduced: 7/13/2015

Status: 7/14/2015-From printer.

Location: 7/13/2015-S. T. & I.D.

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

Summary: Would delete the continuous appropriations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the high-speed rail project, and would prohibit any of the proceeds from the fund from being used for that project. The bill would continuously appropriate the remaining 65% of annual proceeds of the fund to the California Transportation Commission for allocation to high-priority transportation projects, as determined by the commission, with 40% of those moneys to be allocated to state highway projects, 40% to local street and road projects divided equally between cities and counties, and 20% to public transit projects.

Position

Total Measures: 66

Total Tracking Forms: 67

Washington Friday Report

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

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For Congress, a very busy first week after the July 4th recess—and lots to get done before the big August break. For the White House, no break at all in the action – here’s the highlights!

More Movement on Replacing “No Child Left Behind”



On Wednesday, by a vote of 218-213, the House passed the *Student Success Act* (H.R. 5), a bill to replace the *No Child Left Behind* law, with significant changes that would reduce the federal role in education. The bill replaces the federal accountability system based on tests with state-led accountability systems, prevents the Education Department from “coercing” states into adopting Common Core or any other common standards or assessments, replaces 69 federal programs with a single Local Academic Flexible Grant, and allows Title I funds to follow low-income children to either traditional public or charter schools. The House bill has been under a White House veto threat since early February and has little, if any, Democratic support. For more, click on [Student Success Act Press Release](#) or [White House Veto Threat](#).

Meanwhile, the Senate is considering and voting on amendments to its NCLB reauthorization, approved unanimously in June by the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, titled the *Every Child Achieves Act* (S. 1177). The bill, championed by Chairman **Lamar Alexander** and Ranking Member **Patty Murray**, allows states to design accountability systems that must meet minimum federal parameters, maintains several federally-required tests, and ends the federal test-based accountability system of NCLB, among other reforms. On Tuesday, the White House endorsed the bipartisan approach of the Senate bill, but urged the Senate to allow more regulatory authority for the Department of Education and to cap the amount of time spent annually on standardized testing. For more, click on [Every Child Achieves Act Press Release](#), [Senator Alexander on the House Bill](#), [Senator Murray on the House Bill](#), or [White House Statement](#). *We are encouraged by these legislative developments on Capitol Hill – it’s good to see both the House and Senate working on an important reauthorization at the same time with an agreement between all parties possible. We’ll keep you up to date on the education reauthorization progress!*

Senate Transportation Reauthorization Possibly Soon

Senate Majority Leader **Mitch McConnell** said that his chamber will likely consider a transportation reauthorization bill next week and said that it won’t include a gas tax increase. He also was skeptical about the Senate being able to find the resources to fund the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee’s six-year *DRIVE Act*, and said he is considering an alternative proposal. Current funding expires on July 31. We spent much of the week on Capitol Hill discussing transportation and as of today the absence of a consensus approach is very evident. We’ll keep you updated on next steps.

Progress Report: Climate Change Task Force

On Thursday, the White House released a progress report, highlighting some of the key actions taken by the Administration to support the recommendations of the State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience, which were compiled and delivered to the President in November 2014.

The White House also announced a series of new actions focused on enhancing resilience in the communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change that includes over \$25 million in private and public investments. New actions and investments include: (1) an interagency two-year **Resilience AmeriCorps Pilot Program** that will recruit, train, and embed AmeriCorps VISTA members in up to 12 communities in 2016; (2) expanding investment in HUD’s **National Disaster Resilience Competition**; and (3) a **Climate Resilience and Urban Opportunity Initiative** in low-income communities. For more, click on [Climate Task Force Progress Report](#).

Solar Power Access for Low-Income Americans

On Tuesday, the Obama Administration announced a new initiative to increase access to solar energy for all Americans, in particular, low- and moderate- income communities, while expanding opportunities to join the solar workforce. States, cities, businesses, and organizations are making their own, independent commitments to put in place more than 260 solar energy projects in low- and moderate- income communities or to further community solar. These include 22 additional **Public Housing Authorities** and affordable housing providers, such as the **Fresno Housing Authority** and the East Bay Asian Local Development Corporation. A **National Community Solar Partnership** has been launched between federal agencies and other partners such as: the **National League of Cities**, the **State of California**, and the **Solar Electric Power**

Association. For more, click on [White House Solar Power Access Fact Sheet](#).

Final Rule on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing

On Wednesday, following the Supreme Court's ruling on fair housing, which we covered in last week's *Friday Report*, HUD announced that it will publish a final rule in the *Federal Register* to equip communities that receive HUD funding with data and tools to help them meet long-standing fair housing obligations in their use of HUD funds. This "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule" clarifies and simplifies existing fair housing obligations for HUD grantees to analyze their fair housing landscape and set locally-determined fair housing priorities and goals. For more, click on [Press Release](#), [Text of Final Rule](#), [Executive Summary](#), or [Fact Sheet](#).

Housing Vouchers and the Homeless

On Tuesday, HUD released the short-term results of its *Family Options Study*, examining how homeless families in emergency shelters responded to various interventions designed to help them exit homelessness. HUD found that 18 months after enrolling into the study and being randomly assigned one of four interventions, the families offered a Housing Choice Voucher experienced significantly better outcomes than those families randomly assigned to any of the three other options. For more, click on [Family Options Study Press Release](#).

FTA Pilot Program for Expedited Project Delivery

On Tuesday, the Federal Transit Administration announced that it is establishing a **Pilot Program** for Expedited Project Delivery under *MAP-21*, and invites Expressions of Interest to become one of the three selected participants in the program. The purpose of the program is to increase innovation, improve efficiency and timeliness of project implementation, and encourage new revenue streams for new fixed guideway projects and core capacity improvement projects. Expressions of Interest must be submitted to FTA by **August 1**. For more, click on [Pilot Program](#). *We also sent many of you a grant memo on this separately, earlier today. Click on the link in our "Grants This Week" box for more.*

White House May Veto Homeland Security Spending

On Tuesday, White House OMB Director **Shaun Donovan** sent a letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee, expressing serious concerns about its FY16 Homeland Security spending bill, which was marked up by the full committee on June 18, by a vote of 26-4. As with other appropriations bills, the primary concern is that the bill adheres to sequestration funding levels, which the Director said would put national security at "unnecessary risk." The House is currently working on its Homeland Security bill. For more, click on [White House Letter](#).

Greening America's Capitals

EPA released summaries from its *Greening America's Capitals Program*, which helps state capitals develop environmentally friendly neighborhoods that incorporate green infrastructure strategies and inspire state leaders to expand this work elsewhere.

Those who received assistance were: **Madison**, WI (*congratulations Mayor Paul Soglin and team*); Olympia, WA; Lansing, MI; and Montpelier, VT. For more, click on [Greening America's Capitals Summaries](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on the [CNCS AmeriCorps State and National FY 2015 Partnership Challenge](#) and [FTA Pilot Program for Expedited Project Delivery](#). Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

White House on the Export-Import Bank

In the wake of Congress's failure to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank for the first time in history last week, the White House released a Fact Sheet showing how businesses and workers in every state will be negatively affected. *There will be efforts to revive the Ex-Im reauthorization – we'll keep you updated.* For more, click on [Ex-Im Fact Sheet](#).

Secretary Castro at CGI

HUD Secretary **Julian Castro** spoke to the Clinton Global Initiative at a session, entitled, "*The Map of Making it in America*," discussing the challenges faced by those left out of the economic recovery. HUD, along with other partners, proposed a CGI Commitment to Action for the "SEED" project, which will leverage federal investments with national and local partners to create and expand programs to increase energy-literacy, STEM education, and related workforce training for public housing and low-income residents. For more, click on [Secretary Castro at CGI](#).

COPS Office on YouTube!

As you know, last year the COPS program celebrated its 20th Anniversary, having been established in the "*Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994*." The COPS Office recently logged a number of interesting videos focusing on the 20th Anniversary and have made them available on YouTube. For more, click on [COPS Office YouTube 20th Anniversary](#).

County Health Data

HHS has released the number of Qualified Health Plan selections by county for 37 states that are participating in the ACA marketplaces. For more, click on [County-Level Data](#).

Senator Barbara Boxer Nears Retirement

As she approaches the end of her term in 18 months, we thought you would be interested in this profile of EPW Ranking Member and former Chairman Senator **Barbara Boxer** of California who has spent almost half her life on Capitol Hill! For more, click on [Senator Boxer Profile](#).

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

Washington Friday Report

Volume XVII, Issue 27

July 2, 2015

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Equality, ACA, Housing, FY16, Overtime, HTF Bill
- 2 WOTUS, Community-Police, Broadband, Climate
- 2 Grants, Online Sales Tax, Food, Music, Happy 4th

Here's your Washington Friday Report, one day early as the Independence Day weekend begins. And what a week it was, with three historic Supreme Court rulings coming very late last week and lots of other important developments, all highlighted below for your review - Happy Fourth of July!

Equality



On Friday last week, in the case of *Obergefell v. Hodges*, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled 5-4 that the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution requires a state to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-state.

While the ruling is now well known, we wanted to make sure you had a chance to read the opinion itself, linked below, and to especially see the poignant words of Associate Justice **Anthony Kennedy**, writing for the majority who said: In the words of the majority, *"It would misunderstand these men and women to say they disrespect the idea of marriage. Their plea is that they do respect it, respect it so deeply that they seek to find its fulfillment for themselves. Their hope is not to be condemned to live in loneliness, excluded from one of civilization's oldest institutions. They ask for equal dignity in the eyes of the law. The Constitution grants them that right."* For more, click on [Supreme Court Ruling](#), [Statement by President Obama](#), or [Statement by Vice President Joe Biden](#).

ACA: Subsidies Legal in All States

On Thursday last week, in the case of *King v. Burwell*, the Supreme Court ruled 6-3, with Chief Justice **John Roberts** writing for the majority, that premium subsidies under the Affordable Care Act are available to all, even if you live in a state that did not set up a health insurance exchange. These subsidies are the key mechanism of the ACA that has allowed millions of Americans to obtain insurance they otherwise might not have been able to afford. **President Obama** said, *"After more than 50 votes in Congress to repeal or weaken this law... after multiple*

challenges to this law before the Supreme Court – the Affordable Care Act is here to stay." For more, click on [Supreme Court Ruling](#), [Fact Sheet](#), [President Obama's Statement](#), or [HHS Secretary Burwell's Statement](#).

SCOTUS Supports HUD Fair Housing Rule

On Thursday, in the case of *Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs v. The Inclusive Communities Project, Inc.*, the Supreme Court ruled 5-4 that HUD may now move forward on enforcing its *Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule*, which guards against certain forms of housing discrimination, such as predatory lending, exclusionary zoning, and development policies that limit affordable housing. For more, click on [Supreme Court Ruling](#), [HUD Secretary Castro's Statement](#), [Attorney General Lynch's Statement](#), [White House Statement](#), or [Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule](#).

In other housing news, HUD published a revised program notice for its **Rental Assistance Demonstration**, which includes a solicitation for public comment on HUD's changed eligibility and selection criteria, with comments due by **July 27**. In addition, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) released an amendment to its *Opening Doors* strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. For more, click on [Revised Program Notice for RAD](#), [USICH Press Release](#), or [Summary of USICH Changes to Opening Doors](#).

FY16 Appropriations

Insights and analysis on the thorny FY16 appropriations process continues. Look for our **FY16 Appropriations Process Special Report** coming your way early next week.

Proposed Rule to Expand Overtime Pay

On Tuesday, the White House announced that the Labor Department would propose a long-awaited overtime rule that is estimated to raise wages for nearly 5 million workers as early as 2016. The proposed rule will raise the salary level under which most workers qualify for overtime pay whenever they work more than 40 hours in any given week, from \$23,660 to \$50,440. For more, click on [White House Fact Sheet](#) or [Labor Department Overtime Website](#).

Senate Committee Approves Six-Year Transportation Bill

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has unanimously approved a six-year surface transportation reauthorization, called the *DRIVE Act* (S. 1647). The bill proposes to spend \$278 billion on transportation projects over

the six-year period, or about \$46 billion a year, which is slightly above current *MAP-21* spending levels. However, the bill doesn't contain a proposal to fill the looming Highway Trust Fund shortfall. About \$92 billion in new revenues or additional cuts would be needed over six years to address the shortfall, and Senate Finance Chairman **Orrin Hatch** called the bill a "*pie-in-the-sky dream*." Similar to a mechanism devised for the WRRDA bill last year, the Senate's bill contains the "next best thing to earmarks," authority for FHWA to submit a list of "*projects of high importance*" to the House and Senate authorizing committees, which would then approve \$350 million worth of those projects annually. For more, click on [DRIVE Act Press Release and Summary](#), [Senators Inhofe and Boxer's Statement](#), or [Secretary Anthony Foxx Statement](#). In other transportation news, FTA announced a notice of proposed rulemaking that would improve the process for testing the **safety and reliability of new transit buses** funded with federal dollars. Public comments are due by **August 24**. For more, click on [FTA Transit Buses Proposed Rule](#).

WOTUS Clock Starts to Tick

On Monday, EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' final rule, to define "Waters of the United States" in the *Clean Water Act*, was published in the Federal Register. This means that the rule is planned to become effective and enforceable on **August 28, 2015**. It will be considered for judicial review on **July 13**. For more, click on [WOTUS](#). *As you'll note from our appropriations updates, EPA is barred from implementing the rule by amendments in several appropriations bills, but the President is unlikely to sign such a measure if it comes to his desk.*

Community-Police Relations

Attorney General **Loretta Lynch** delivered remarks at the Community Policing Convening at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute this week. The meeting was coordinated by the Major Cities Chiefs Association, police executives, and law enforcement leaders for the first in a series of leadership roundtable discussions to identify strategies to implement the recommendations from the *President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing*. These regional meetings will culminate in a national forum at the White House late this month. *We will update you on when additional information is available.* The COPS Office has also released a short film titled, *Not In Our Town: A Bowling Green Legacy*, highlighting their positive response to incidents of hate. For more, click on [Attorney General Lynch's Remarks](#), [COPS Office Roundtables](#), or [Short Film](#).

Broadband Opportunity Council

FCC Chairman **Tom Wheeler** delivered remarks at the Brookings Institution, highlighting the continuing work of the President's Broadband Opportunity Council, calling broadband the, "*defining infrastructure of the 21st century*." For more, click on [Broadband](#).

Climate Change and the Environment

The Obama Administration has announced new actions and investments of more than \$110 million to support workers,

farmers, and rural communities suffering from drought and to combat wildfires in the western United States. In addition, the White House released a Fact Sheet showing how the Administration is announcing additional actions to protect our communities from the health impacts of climate change that cannot be avoided. Lastly, we thought you would be interested in an article featured in the *Washington Post* showing how once-profitable curbside recycling programs have now become a strain on city budgets across the nation. For more, click on [Drought](#), [Health and Climate Change](#), or [Curbside Recycling](#).

Grants This Month



In June, we sent many of you grant notices on the [NEA FY16 Our Town Grant Program](#), the [Skills for Success Program](#), the [Investing in Innovation Fund](#), [NEH Media Projects Grants](#), and [EPA Region 5 Wetland Program Development Grants](#). *Please contact Jen Covino with any questions about grants.*

House Online Sales Tax Dispute

As of now, there are two major competing proposals in the House to broaden states' authority to collect state and local sales taxes on interstate online transactions: Judiciary Chairman **Bob Goodlatte's Online Sales Simplification Act** and Oversight and Government Reform Chairman **Jason Chaffetz's Remote Transactions Parity Act**. House Majority Leader **Kevin McCarthy** told reporters, "*I am telling them to work it out in [the Judiciary] committee... Committees are where the expertise is. And they should have a bill come out of the committee.*" Chairman Chaffetz is a member of the Utah congressional delegation and next week we will accompany Salt Lake City Mayor **Ralph Becker**, President of the National League of Cities, to a meeting with the Chairman to discuss this legislation. *We will provide you with an update on the latest developments regarding this high priority.*

Local Foods, Local Places

On Tuesday, the Obama Administration invited communities to participate in the second year of *Local Foods, Local Places*, a federal initiative providing direct technical support to build strong local food systems as part of a community's emerging economic action plans. Applications are due by **September 15**. For more, click on [Local Foods, Local Places](#).

♪♪ Music of the Month ♪♪

Our telephone's hold music for the month of July is the beautiful album "Love Has Come for You" by **Edie Brickell** and **Steve Martin**. *Call us and enjoy!*

Happy Independence Day!



We wish you and your family a very happy and safe 4th of July holiday weekend. America is 239 years old tomorrow.

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

Washington Friday Report

Volume XVII, Issue 26

June 26, 2015

SPECIAL REPORT

THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS 83rd ANNUAL MEETING SAN FRANCISCO, JUNE 19 - 22, 2015

Overview

From June 19-22, we attended the 83rd U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) Annual Meeting, held in San Francisco. The Conference featured many federal officials who spoke to Mayors about urban policy and developments important to local governments. The nearly 277 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 the last act of his one-year USCM Presidential term, before handing the gavel over to Baltimore Mayor **Stephanie Rawlings-Blake** at the end of the meeting. The following is a summary of what we saw and heard. For more, click on [83rd Annual Meeting Website](#), with videos, or [Meeting Wrap-Up Press Release](#).

Policies Adopted

More than 100 resolutions were adopted by the Mayors, covering a wide range of topics including **My Brother's Keeper**, **Ending Veterans' Homelessness**, **Moving to Work**, **Transportation Reauthorization**, **Ending Sequestration**, **Climate Change**, and **Municipal Broadband**, along with dozens of other subjects. For more, click on [USCM Adopted Resolutions](#).

Appropriations This Week

There was significant activity on appropriations in Congress, this week. The Senate considered its Transportation-HUD and Labor-HHS bills, while the House began debate on its Interior-EPA bill. We will have a Special Report for you on this busy appropriations week on Tuesday. *In the meantime, please contact us directly if you have any questions about Congressional spending bills.*

From the Podium

• President Barack Obama



President Obama spoke to the Mayors in the wake of the tragedy in Charleston, where a racist hateful man took the lives of nine worshippers in the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The

President condemned the awful nature of the attack in a place of worship and said, *"These tragedies have become far too commonplace."* He acknowledged Charleston Mayor **Joe Riley**, who was back in his hometown to help heal his community. The President also spoke about the need for meaningful reform of the nation's gun laws, saying, *"I am not resigned"* to the status quo, believing that public policy will eventually follow public opinion. On working with Mayors to achieve mutual policy goals, he said, *"On America's most important economic priorities... cities are not standing still. You are moving forward. So I want to say two things to you. Number one – thank you... Second, I also want to say don't stop now, because we've still got a lot more work to do."* The President spoke about the progress that has been made on a wide range of topics, including climate change, My Brother's Keeper, clean energy, the minimum wage, and high-tech manufacturing. He stressed the importance of promoting new infrastructure investments, boosting domestic programs, and ending homelessness. He ended by saying, *"I'm a city guy,"* and that no one's zip code should determine their destiny. For more, click on [President's Remarks](#) or [President Obama Video](#).

• Hillary Clinton



In a moving speech to the Conference, former Secretary of State and current presidential candidate **Hillary Clinton** spoke passionately and openly about race relations and the deep disparities that still remain between the races, more than a half century after the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act were enacted. *"My heart is bursting for them [the victims in Charleston]... For me and many others, one immediate response was to ask how it could be possible that we as a nation still allow guns to fall into the hands of people whose hearts are filled with hate."* She said that, *"Race remains a deep fault line in America"* and that, in response, *"we need to be cities, states and a country too busy to hate"* and work to tear down barriers and obstacles to promote racial and economic equality. She spoke about her past work with Mayors, including her *"dear friend"* **Tom Menino** and *"our friend"* **Joe Riley**. She declared, *"If I am president, America's Mayors will always have a friend in the White House."* She believes that we need to institute *"Flexible Federalism"* that empowers and connects communities, and that Mayors are a vital part of the *"Four Fights"* at the center of her campaign: (1) Building an economy for tomorrow, not yesterday, (2) Strengthening America's families, (3) Harness all of our power, our smarts, and our values to continue to lead the world, and (4) Revitalizing our democracy back here at home. For more, click on [Secretary Clinton's Remarks](#) or [Clinton Video](#).

- **Martin O'Malley**

Former Governor and Mayor **Martin O'Malley**, also a candidate for the Presidency, also spoke on the Charleston shooting, calling it "*another senseless gun massacre in America.*" He called on states to "*retire the Confederate flag to a museum.*" He also spoke about a number of issues, including revitalizing cities, reducing unemployment, passing immigration reform, and raising the minimum wage. For more, click on [Governor O'Malley Video](#).

- **Nancy Pelosi**

House Minority Leader **Nancy Pelosi** welcomed the Mayors to San Francisco, speaking about the need to increase investment in infrastructure and broadband. For more, click on [Leader Pelosi Video](#).

- **Mayor Joe Riley**



Charleston Mayor **Joe Riley** joined the Conference via teleconference from his hometown, and was honored with USCM's highest honor, the Award for Distinguished Public Service. He has served as Charleston's Mayor since 1975. For more, click on [Mayor Riley Video](#).

- **Mayor Rahm Emanuel**



Chicago Mayor **Rahm Emanuel** spoke to the Conference about the importance of education, saying that there are two economies: one for skilled labor, one for unskilled. While education at all levels should be promoted, he emphasized the need to invest in preschool and the post-High School years as particularly important. For more, click on [Mayor Emanuel Video](#).

- **Mayor Ralph Becker**

Salt Lake City Mayor **Ralph Becker**, who serves as President of the **National League of Cities**, thanked the Conference for closely working with NLC on many issues, in line with the theme of his Presidency, "*Connecting.*" For more, click on [Mayor Becker Video](#).

At the Committees, Task Forces, Workshops, and Seminars

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

Labor Secretary **Thomas Perez** spoke to the Committee about the "*skills super-highway*" needed to boost workforce development. He talked about the need to make community college more affordable, the need to focus on "*career pathways*" more than individual jobs, and the benefits of Registered Apprenticeships. Tacoma Mayor **Marilyn Strickland** talked about the link between transportation and job opportunities.

- **Children, Health, and Human Services**

Michael Botticelli, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, spoke to the Committee about the national opioid epidemic and outlined federal resources available to help Mayors combat this pressing issue on-the-ground, especially in the Northeast and Midwest, where the epidemic is most pronounced.

- **Hunger and Homelessness Task Force**

The Task Force, Chaired by Santa Barbara Mayor **Helene Schneider**, focused on work being done in her city and others, like Albuquerque and Anaheim, to reduce homelessness. **Amy**

Sawyer with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, talked about the progress made, and work left to be done, since the Council's comprehensive "*Opening Doors*" strategy was released in June 2010.

- **Mayors and Police Chiefs Task Force**



At the Task Force, White House Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Director **Jerry Abramson** joined Fresno Mayor **Ashley Swearingin** and

Gary, IN Mayor **Karen Freeman-Wilson** to discuss the findings of the Report of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing and the importance of improving relationships between law enforcement and their communities.

- **Veterans Affairs Task Force**

Patrick O'Brien, Director of the Defense Department's Office of Economic Adjustment, advised Task Force members to contact his office if they hear of a pending base closure, or contract or workforce reduction in their community. His office continues to follow BRAC discussions in Congress closely.

- **Technology and Innovation Task Force**

Megan Smith, U.S. Chief Technology Officer, highlighted the work that cities are engaging in around the country to promote tech literacy, including *Code Louisville*. She called on cities to lift up IT employees that might be "*buried*" in the lower levels of government, and include them in the conversation at the executive levels. She expressed concern about the increasing "*vendorizing*" of tech at all levels of government – local, state, and federal.

- **Ports and Exports Task Force**

Steven Stockton, Director of Civil Works for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, spoke to the Task Force about the importance that inland waterways and barges play in promoting U.S. exports, especially since the enactment of WRRDA.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Tacoma Mayor **Marilyn Strickland**, who was elected by her fellow Mayors to serve as a *Trustee* for the Conference, which means membership on the Executive Committee of the organization. Congratulations also to Carmel Mayor **Jim Brainard**, whose city won an Outstanding Achievement Award in the *City Livability Awards* Program. Congratulations to Louisville Mayor **Greg Fischer**, whose city also won an Outstanding Achievement Award in the *City Livability Awards* Program, as well as a Large City Honorable Mention in the *Mayors' Climate Protection Awards*. For more, click on [USCM Election Results](#), [City Livability Award Winners](#), and [Mayors' Climate Protection Award Winners](#).

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.*

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

Washington Friday Report

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June 18, 2015

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Online Sales Tax, HUD 50th, USCM, Appropriations
- 2 Broadband in PHAs, Repatriation, HTF Hearings
- 2 Grants, WOTUS, Paid Leave Analysis, Tax Extenders

A very busy week in Washington and it's only mid-day Thursday! Progress on internet sales tax, appropriations and much more – here's the details.

Online Sales Tax Bill Introduced by Congressman Chaffetz



On Monday, Rep. **Jason Chaffetz** introduced the *Remote Transactions Parity Act* (RTPA), H.R. 2775, his legislative response to the *Marketplace Fairness Act* (MFA). MFA passed the Senate by a final vote of 69-27 in May 2013, and was championed by Sen. **Mike Enzi**. RTPA, which will be referred to the House Judiciary Committee because of its interstate commerce nexus, would bring sales tax parity to e-retailers and brick-and-mortar stores. RTPA's policy changes align closely with MFA's, authorizing the collection of remote sales tax by 45 states with statewide sales taxes and Alaska. Enactment of an online sales tax bill would generate at least an estimated \$23 billion in new tax revenue for states nationwide, benefitting local governments as well. RTPA's "small seller exemption" would be phased in slowly, exempting small businesses from enforcement with less than \$10 million in sales in the first year, phasing to \$5 million in the second year, and \$1 million in the third. The bill calls for states to give remote sellers the software needed to collect and remit the taxes due and requires them to pay for set-up, installation, and maintenance costs on the software.

Congressman **Chaffetz** said, "A broad coalition of large and small businesses, online and brick-and-mortar retailers, and state and local government leaders asked Congress to modernize our nation's outdated sales tax collection framework." Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member **Ron Wyden** said on the Senate floor, on Tuesday, that RTPA represents an "even bigger and more unwieldy" proposal than MFA. RTPA would create a "privatized, tax-collecting bureaucracy that not a single voter in America has approved," warning that it "could put sensitive data about businesses and their customers into the crosshairs" of hackers. For more, including bill text and a list of supporters, click on [RTPA Introduced](#). We'll continue to track this closely!

50 Years of HUD



On Monday, courtesy of Salt Lake City Mayor **Ralph Becker**, we attended an event hosted by the Urban Institute in recognition of HUD's 50th Anniversary this year, featuring Mayor Becker, HUD Secretary **Julian Castro** and other local leaders and experts, who reflected on their shared history, discussed the current state of opportunity in American cities, and looked ahead to the challenges facing urban communities in the next 50 years. For more, including video, click on [Fifty Years of Housing and Urban Development](#).

U.S. Conference of Mayors 83rd Annual Meeting

The *Friday Report* is coming to you one day early this week, since our team will be on the ground in San Francisco tomorrow for the U.S. Conference of Mayors' 83rd Annual Meeting! Speakers at the meeting will include President **Barack Obama**, former Secretary of State **Hillary Clinton**, and other senior federal officials speaking on a wide range of topics of interest to local governments. We will have a complete report on all the activity for you, next week! For more, click on [Recent USCM Agenda](#).

Busy Week of Appropriations

Both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees considered or released details on several of its FY16 spending bills, this week. On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Committee released the text of its \$153 billion Labor-HHS-Education bill. Overall, the **Education Department** would receive \$64.4 billion, which is \$2.8 billion below the FY15 level. Funding for **Head Start** would increase by about \$192 million, to \$8.8 billion. The **Child Care and Development Block Grant** would receive \$2.4 billion in level discretionary funding. However, **IDEA** special education grants to states would receive \$12 billion, an increase of more than \$500 million from the FY15 level. The **Corporation for National and Community Service**, which runs AmeriCorps, would receive level funding of \$687.8 million. The House's Agriculture spending bill proposes \$6.5 billion in discretionary funding for the **Women, Infants, and Children** (WIC) food program, which is a cut of \$139 million from FY15. For more, click on [House FY16 Labor-HHS-Ed](#) or [House FY16 Agriculture](#).

Following up from last week's *Friday Report*, on Tuesday, the full House Appropriations Committee approved its FY16

Interior-EPA bill by a vote of 30-21. However, on Monday evening, the White House sent a letter to the Committee expressing concerns with the bill's low spending levels. For more, click on [House FY16 Interior-EPA](#) or [White House Letter of Concern](#).

On Tuesday, the Senate Appropriations Interior-EPA Subcommittee marked up its FY16 spending bill, which provides \$292 million for the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**, a cut of \$14 million from FY15 levels. The House bill cuts LWCF by \$61 million. It provides a total of \$1.8 billion for the **Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Funds**. Like the House bill, the Senate bill blocks implementation of EPA's **Clean Water Rule** and states could opt out of the **Clean Power Plan** without repercussions. Overall, **EPA** would receive \$7.6 billion, a cut of \$539 million from FY15. For more, click on [Senate FY16 Interior-EPA Markup](#) or [Bill Summary](#).

On Tuesday, the Senate Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee approved its FY16 spending bill, which provides \$47.09 billion to the agency overall, an increase of \$765 million from FY15 levels. The bill provides \$2.53 billion for **FEMA State and Local First Responder Grant Programs**, including \$600 million for the **Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)**, which includes an increase to \$25 million for the non-profit set-aside. **Fire** and **SAFER** grants would receive \$680 million. All these DHS state and local appropriations represent level funding from FY15. For more, click on [Senate FY16 Homeland Security](#).

Broadband in Public Housing

HUD is seeking input, in advance, on a new *"Digital Opportunity Demonstration"* that it will announce in more detail, later. The demonstration is being designed to test the effectiveness of collaborative efforts by government, industry, and nonprofit organizations to accelerate broadband internet adoption and use in HUD-assisted homes. Approximately 20 HUD-assisted communities, selected from across the country, are anticipated to participate in the demonstration. For more, click on [Digital Opportunity Demonstration](#).

Primer on Repatriation

There has been a lot of talk in recent months of using a *"repatriation tax"* on the estimated \$2 trillion in cash that U.S. companies have stored overseas to fund transportation projects. We thought you would be interested in this primer from CQ on what it is – and what it isn't. For more, click on [Repatriation](#).

Hearings on Transportation Revenue Options

On Wednesday, the House Ways and Means Committee held a hearing examining revenue options to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent and sustain long-term federal transportation spending. Chairman **Paul Ryan** said, *"We're not going to raise gas taxes, plain and simple... We know a longer-term solution is inactionable right now. It seems to me a general fund transfer is unavoidable."* After the hearing, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Select Revenue Measures **David Reichert** announced that his subcommittee will hold a hearing on "repatriation" as a funding mechanism next week, on **June 24**, which is also the same day

that the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee is marking up its six-year policy bill. For more, click on [Chairman Ryan's Hearing Website](#), [Hearing Video](#), [Chairman Ryan Statement](#), [Repatriation Hearing Announcement](#), [Senate EPW Hearing](#), or [Study of Long-Term HTF Financing](#).

Today, the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Sen. **Orrin Hatch**, held a hearing on transportation with the ominous title, *"Dead End, No Turn Around, Danger Ahead: Challenges to the Future of Highway Funding,"* featuring former Transportation Secretary **Ray LaHood** and other experts. In his statement, Secretary **LaHood** said, *"It is important to understand that these local and statewide [transportation] efforts cannot replace the federal government's responsibility. Devolution is not the answer. The role of the federal government in promoting interstate commerce is clearly stated in the Constitution."* For more, click on [Senate Finance Hearing Website](#) or [Overview of HTF Revenue Options](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on [NEH Media Projects Grants](#) and [EPA Region 5 Wetland Program Development Grants](#).

Please contact Jen Covino with any questions about grants.

Waters of the U.S.

On Monday, we participated in a meeting to discuss EPA's final Clean Water Rule at USCM headquarters, hosted by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, along with other policy experts. The Conference and other local government groups remain concerned about the potential for a well-spring of new citizen lawsuits that could result from the new rule, stemming from ambiguous definitions of terms such as "dry land" and "water conveyance." For more, click on [Summary of Rule's Effects](#) or [Local Governments' Letter](#).

Paid Leave Analysis Competition

On Monday, we listened to a teleconference with Labor Secretary **Tom Perez**, who announced a new \$1.25 million grant competition under the Paid Leave Analysis program, which is intended to support research and analysis needed to explore, develop, implement and/or improve paid family and medical leave programs at the state and municipal levels. Applications are due by **July 15**. For more, click on [Lead on Leave Website](#), [Press Release](#), or [Grant Opportunity](#).

Tax Extenders May be Addressed by Autumn

On Tuesday, speaking to The Wall Street Journal CFO Network, House Ways and Means Chairman **Paul Ryan** addressed the annual ritual of "tax extenders," saying, *"We want to do this as early as possible, in the fall."* These provisions include: the alternative fuel tax credit and empowerment zone tax incentives.

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

Washington Friday Report

Volume XVII, Issue 24

June 12, 2015

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 Appropriations, Startups, Mayor Swearingin on Exports
- 2 WOTUS, TSA Review , IED –Shooter Guidance, WRRDA
- 2 Grants, Trucks, FCC, Trains, A Triple Crown Winner!

Full steam ahead on appropriations this week, heading to an inevitable fall clash with the White House, which made its own news this week with “Startup in a Day.” Here’s the details.

Senate Advances FY16 Commerce-Justice Bill

On Thursday, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved its \$51 billion FY16 Commerce-Justice-Science spending bill. Based on our preliminary reading of the bill text, the **COPS Office** would remain funded, with \$212 million overall. Based on our reading, of that amount, \$187 million would be for the **Hiring Program**, \$11 million would fund DEA anti-meth activities, \$7 million would fund competitive grants to state law enforcement agencies to combat meth, and \$7 million would fund competitive grants to state law enforcement to combat heroin and opioid abuse. The bill allocates \$2.3 billion for **state and local law enforcement** and crime prevention grant programs. The bill provides \$382 million for **Byrne JAG** grants, approximately \$166 million for initiatives that will address **Rape Kit** and other DNA evidence backlogs, and \$41 million in support for Drug Courts. The **Economic Development Administration** would receive \$250 million for FY16. During its mark-up, the Committee voted 27-3 to include an amendment from Senator **Barbara Mikulski** directing the Justice Department to take no action against states where marijuana use for medical purposes is legal, similar to an amendment adopted by the House last week. For more, click on [Senate FY16 CJS Bill Advances](#).

House Narrowly Passes FY16 THUD Bill

By a vote of 216-210, the House narrowly passed a \$55.3 billion FY16 Transportation-HUD spending bill that adheres to the budget caps of the 2011 law that ended the “*fiscal cliff*” crisis, and would deeply cut important transportation and housing programs. **TIGER** would be cut by \$400 million, down to \$100 million; **Amtrak** would be cut by \$251 million, down to \$1.14 billion; the **Federal Transit Administration** would be cut by \$161 million, down to \$10.7 billion; **Choice Neighborhoods** would receive only \$20 million, about 92 percent less than the President’s FY16 request; **HOME** would be cut by \$233 million, down to \$767 million; the **Public Housing Capital Fund** would be cut by 15 percent, or \$289 million, from FY15 levels; and

CDBG would receive level-funding. An amendment by Rep. **Jeff Denham** prohibits federal funding for California High-Speed Rail. For more, click on [House Passes FY16 THUD Bill](#).

House FY16 Interior-Environment Bill Introduced

On Tuesday, the House Appropriations Committee released details of its \$30.2 billion FY16 Interior-Environment spending bill. Overall, the **EPA** would receive \$7.4 billion, a cut of \$718 million from FY15 levels. The bill prevents EPA from implementing its **Clean Water Rule**, also known as the WOTUS rule. EPA would also be prohibited from implementing new greenhouse gas regulations for new and existing **power plants**. The **Bureau of Land Management** would receive \$1.1 billion, a \$30 million increase, and the **National Park Service** would receive \$2.7 billion, a \$53 million increase. The **Land and Water Conservation Fund** would receive about \$245 million, a cut of nearly \$61 million from FY15 levels. The **National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities** would each receive \$146 million. The bill was marked-up in subcommittee on Wednesday. For more, click on [House FY16 Interior-Environment](#).

“Startup in a Day” Initiative

On Thursday, the White House and the Small Business Administration (SBA), in coordination with the National League of Cities, announced the launch of the Startup in a Day initiative, a partnership with U.S. cities to develop online tools that let entrepreneurs discover and apply – in less than a day – for local, state, and federal requirements needed to start a business. Eleven cities have already signed on to the “Startup in a Day Pledge,” including: Fresno and Salt Lake City. The SBA will announce a \$1.5 million competition for seed grants, either under a “Small Start Model” or a “Dream Big Model,” to cities committed to building Startup in a Day solutions. For more, click on [White House Fact Sheet](#) or [SBA Startup in a Day Competition](#).

Mayor Swearingin on Exports



Mayor Swearingin talks about cities before the PEC

On Wednesday, the President’s Export Council, comprised of leaders in business, and federal, state and local government, and other sectors, met at the White House to discuss a variety of issues related to trade. Fresno Mayor **Ashley Swearingin** represented the U.S. Conference of Mayors at the meeting, and spoke about the Trade Promotion Authority measure being debated in

Congress. She emphasized how increasing trade and exports also increases economic development and job opportunities in Fresno and all cities. For more, click on [President's Export Council Website](#), [Video from the Meeting](#), or [Fresno Bee Article](#).

Clean Water Rule Under Fire

On Thursday, we participated in a webinar, presented by EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as an overview of the final Clean Water Rule, which supposedly clarifies which "Waters of the United States" can be regulated by EPA under the Clean Water Act. The presenters emphasized that in the Clean Water Rule, "We're focusing on streams, not ditches" and that local wastewater treatment systems would not be affected by the new regulation. They also gave some more details on the specific timeline of implementation. The rule was signed on May 27 and has been transmitted to the Federal Register, which is formatting the rule now. The rule should appear there "in the next two to three weeks" and will be in effect 60 days after it appears. For more, click on [EPA Clean Water Rule Website](#).

Many in Congress, however, strongly disagree. The House FY16 Interior-EPA Appropriations bill blocks implementation of the rule. On Wednesday, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee approved, on a party-line vote, the *Federal Water Quality Protection Act* (S. 1140), which would, in the words of Sen. **John Barrasso**, "prevent EPA from using the WOTUS rule as a tool to control land or isolated water. I look forward to working with my colleagues to achieve a veto proof majority of the bill." On May 12, the House passed a similar bill, the *Regulatory Integrity Protection Act* (H.R. 1732), by a vote of 261-155. For more, click on [Senate EPW Bill Blocks WOTUS](#).

Focus on TSA Problems

In the wake of details being leaked from a scathing internal review showing that screeners failed to detect 67 out of 70 attempts to bring fake explosives and weapons through airport checkpoints, on Tuesday, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee held a hearing to review TSA operations, featuring Homeland Security Inspector General **John Roth**, among other expert witnesses. In his prepared testimony, Mr. Roth said, "We identified vulnerabilities [in airport screening] caused by human and technology-based failures. Although the results of those tests are classified, I welcome the opportunity to brief the Members of this Committee regarding our findings in the appropriate closed setting." For more, click on [TSA Oversight Hearing](#).

IED and Active Shooter Guidance for First Responders

On Tuesday, the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Health Affairs released a 73-page report to help First Responders react to situations involving an improvised explosive device (IED) or an active shooter incident. For more, click on [First Responder Guidance](#).

How's WRRDA Implementation Going?

On Wednesday, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on the one-year anniversary of the

enactment of the *Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) of 2014*, featuring Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, **Jo-Ellen Darcy**. WRRDA featured a number of reforms and new initiatives and the committee was eager to hear how implementation was coming along. For more, click on [One Year of WRRDA](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you grant notices on the Department of Education's [Skills for Success Program](#) and [Investing in Innovation Fund](#).

Please contact [Jen Covino](#) with any questions about grants.

DOT Concerned About Truck Safety

Though the House already passed its FY16 THUD bill, which contains language that modifies truck regulations, late last week, DOT sent a letter to Congress urging them not to enact any of those rules right now, warning that, "the Department believes that current data limitations are so profound that the results cannot accurately be extrapolated to predict national impacts [on trucking]." For more, click on [Trucking Letter](#).

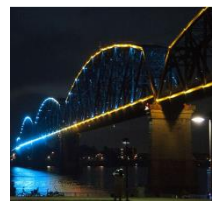
House FY16 Bill Would Block Net Neutrality Rule

On Wednesday, the House Appropriations Committee released a Financial Services bill prohibiting the Federal Communications Commission from "implementing net neutrality" until certain court cases are resolved and requiring newly proposed regulations to be made publicly available for 21 days before the Commission votes on them. For more, click on [House Bill Would Block Net Neutrality Rule](#).

Speeding Trains

On Wednesday, the Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing titled, "Passenger Rail Safety: Accident Prevention and On-Going Efforts to Implement Train Control Technology." The day before, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) issued a safety advisory recommending actions that passenger railroads take to prevent trains from speeding. For more, click on [FRA Safety Advisory](#) or [Senate Hearing on Speeding Trains](#).

Louisville Celebrates American Pharoah's Triple Crown



Last week, American Pharoah made history at the Belmont Stakes by becoming horse racing's first Triple Crown winner since 1978 and only the 12th ever to sweep the Kentucky Derby, Preakness, and Belmont. Louisville Mayor **Greg Fischer** declared Saturday as "American Pharoah Day" and lit the Big Four Bridge in turquoise and yellow to celebrate. He said, "It's time for a Triple Crown and the mighty Pharoah is the horse to do it." For more, click on [American Pharoah Day](#) or [Bridge Lighting](#).

Please contact [Len Simon](#), [Brandon Key](#), [Jen Covino](#), or [Stephanie McIntosh](#) with any questions.

Washington Friday Report

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June 5, 2015

INSIDE THIS WEEK

- 1 FY16 CJS and THUD Bills, Transportation, WOTUS
- 2 TSA, Fracking Effects, Western Drought, FRA
- 2 Grants, Aging Conference, Lifeline, Infill Report

Continued progress on appropriations this week, but an uncertain path to conclusion as we head towards summer. Here's those highlights and more for your review!

House FY16 Commerce-Justice and THUD Bills Advance

On Wednesday, by a vote of 242-183, the House passed its FY16 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill with a total of \$51.4 billion in discretionary funding, an increase of \$1.3 billion from FY15. An amendment by Rep. **Joaquin Castro** (TX) was adopted by voice vote, which increases the bill's Community Trust Initiative, which provides grants for police body cameras and other 21st Century Policing Task Force initiatives, by \$10 million. An amendment by Rep. **Dave Reichert** (WA) increases the Byrne JAG program by \$100 million. An amendment by Rep. **Steve Cohen** (TN) increases funding for DOJ Sexual Assault Kit grants by \$4 million. An amendment by Reps. **Dana Rohrabacher** and **Sam Farr** (CA), adopted 242-186, prohibits federal funds from being used to supersede state laws on the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana in states where it has been made legal.

Despite the amendments, the majority of the bill's policy represents deep cuts to key Justice Department components, such as the **COPS Office**, as we reported to you in the May 15 and May 22 *Friday Reports*. The White House has already issued a veto threat against the bill, "*and any other legislation that implements the current Republican budget framework, which blocks the investments needed for our economy to compete in the future.*" The bill, in its current form, also seems unlikely to move forward in the Senate, where Democrats there, under Minority Leader **Harry Reid**, are pursuing a strategy of blocking all spending bills until a new agreement is reached that lifts top-line spending caps above current "sequestration" spending levels. For more, click on [House FY16 CJS Summary and Amendments](#) or [White House CJS Veto Threat](#).

On Wednesday, the House began voting on amendments to its FY16 Transportation-HUD (THUD) bill, and was able to resolve most of them and will return to the bill Tuesday. In the wake of the Amtrak derailment in Philadelphia on May 13, rail safety was a major theme during floor debate on the bill's amendments. Like

the CJS bill, the THUD bill is also threatened by a White House veto, primarily due to the larger debate about overall FY16 spending caps. For more, click on [White House THUD Veto Threat](#).

Debate Intensifies Over Transportation Patches



On Tuesday, at a private bicameral meeting of Democratic leaders, Senate Minority Whip **Dick Durbin** suggested an aggressive idea to push the ball forward in Congress on finding a long-term transportation funding solution: filibuster any transportation extension lasting longer than 30 days, that isn't a multi-year spending bill. This would force Republican leaders in both chambers to come up with about \$2 billion a month to keep the Highway Trust Fund afloat, a politically painful process. It's a risky strategy that Democratic Chairmen and Rank-and-File have not coalesced around yet, since it could lead to a mid-summer shutdown of highway maintenance and construction projects, but the idea is gaining significant attention. Current transportation spending runs out on July 31.



On Thursday, Senate Finance Chairman **Orrin Hatch** and Environment and Public Works Chairman **James Inhofe** started pitching to reporters, the idea of a 7-month highway funding patch to the end of December, an idea promoted last month by Senator Hatch and House Ways and Means Chairman **Paul Ryan**, which would cost about \$11 billion in new spending or new cuts. Senator **Inhofe** said, "*I want to make sure we have a six-year, robust highway bill. That means we have to have that extension until December... It looks like we are going to have to go until the end of the calendar year.*" Senator **Hatch** said, "*The Democrats want to play politics with it. They want to extend it month by month. I guess they think they can make us look foolish.*" On a seven-month patch, Senator **Dick Durbin** said, "*I'm going to oppose that.*" *We will keep you up to date on all the latest drama in the Senate!*



Concern About EPA "Waters" Rule

After a preliminary review of EPA's final "Waters of the U.S." rule, the National Association of Counties (NACo) found that there are several areas of the rule that are unclear and

potentially problematic for counties and other local governments. While the final rule attempts to exempt certain ditches, many county-owned ditches may still fall under federal regulation. NACo's bottom line: since ditches can now be classified as tributaries, and the new definition of tributaries includes ditches – what is truly exempt? For more, click on [NACo's Preliminary Analysis of WOTUS](#).

Shake-Up at TSA after Scathing Internal Review

On Monday, Homeland Security Secretary **Jeh Johnson** reassigned then-Acting Administrator for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), **Melvin Carraway**, to serve in the Office of State and Local Law Enforcement at DHS headquarters. Acting Deputy Director, **Mark Hatfield**, will lead TSA until a new Acting Administrator is appointed. Secretary Johnson urged swift Senate confirmation of the President's nomination for Coast Guard Vice Admiral **Pete Neffenger**. Secretary Johnson's actions came after he received a preliminary briefing showing that TSA failed 67 out of 70 times to detect fake bombs and weapons smuggled through security by TSA's own "Red Team." For more, click on [Secretary Johnson Reacts to TSA Security Screening](#) or [Swift TSA Shake-Up](#).

Fracking and Drinking Water

On Thursday, EPA released a draft assessment on the potential impacts of hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," activities on drinking water resources in the U.S. It shows that while fracking activities in the U.S. are carried out in a way that have not led to widespread, systemic impacts on drinking water resources, there are potential vulnerabilities in the water lifecycle that could impact drinking water. The assessment follows the water used for hydraulic fracturing from water acquisition, chemical mixing at the well pad site, well injection of fracking fluids, the collection of hydraulic fracturing wastewater (including flowback and produced wastewater), and wastewater treatment and disposal. For more, click on [EPA's Assessment of the Effects Fracking on Drinking Water](#).

Drought Conditions in the West

On Tuesday, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, Chaired by Sen. **Lisa Murkowski**, held a hearing to receive testimony on the status of drought conditions throughout the western United States and actions states and others are taking to address them. Deputy Secretary of the Department of the Interior, **Michael Connor**, testified that the actions taken by his Department will, "help increase the amount of water that can be transferred to areas of the state [of California] that have the greatest need for additional water supplies." For more, click on [Western Drought Status Hearing](#).

Sarah Feinberg Nominated to Officially Lead FRA



President Obama has nominated **Sarah Feinberg** to be the next Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). Transportation Secretary **Anthony Foxx** said, "Throughout her time at DOT she has been immersed in issues related to rail safety, including the safe

transportation of crude by rail. Her attention to detail and passion for the work continues to impress not just me, but safety experts, Members of Congress and the staff at FRA." On Tuesday, she testified to the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee about the Amtrak derailment in Philadelphia. For more, click on [FRA Administrator Nominated](#) or [Amtrak Derailment Hearing](#).

Grants This Week



This week, we sent many of you a grant notice on the [NEA FY16 Our Town Grant Program](#). Please contact *Jen Covino* with any questions about grants.

White House Conference on Aging

Health and Human Services Secretary **Sylvia Mathews Burwell** announced that the 2015 White House Conference on Aging will be held on **July 13**. The White House has held a Conference on Aging each decade since the 1960s to identify and advance actions to improve the quality of life of older Americans. This year marks the 50th anniversary of Medicare, Medicaid, and the Older Americans Act, as well as the 80th anniversary of Social Security. The conference will bring together government officials, members of the public, caregivers, older Americans, business leaders, and community leaders to discuss a vision for aging in the next decade. For more, click on [White House Conference on Aging](#).

Modernizing FCC's Lifeline Program

FCC Chairman **Tom Wheeler** shared with his fellow commissioners a set of comprehensive proposals to restructure and modernize the FCC's Lifeline program so that it can efficiently and effectively help low-income consumers afford access to essential communications services in the 21st Century, including broadband. The proposals seek comment on how to modernize Lifeline while further combatting waste and better targeting the program to those who need it most. For more, click on [Modernizing Lifeline](#).

Strategies to Attract Infill Development

EPA has released a report presenting 30 strategies communities can use to attract infill development. Infill development occurs in a built-up neighborhood, often using vacant land or rehabilitating existing properties, and can bring many benefits, including financial savings for municipalities, increased property values for residents and businesses, easier travel, reduced pollution, and economic stabilization of neighborhoods. Many of the strategies in the report stem from a task force assembled in Fresno, California, under the leadership of Mayor **Ashley Swearingin**, as part of the Strong Cities, Strong Communities (SC2) initiative. For more, click on [Strategies to Attract Infill Development](#).

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