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Suspense File Outcomes Set Up Final Weeks in Legislature

More than 500 bills received an “aye” or “no” vote in a few short hours today as the Senate and Assembly fiscal committees took up “suspense file” measures that are keyed as having a notable fiscal impact on the state. In the Assembly alone, the proposed laws requested over \$881 million in funding. From here, bills continue into the final weeks of floor debate in each house or are held in Committee without forward progress. The Legislature has until August 31 to act on the floor and send legislation to the Governor’s desk.

Bills are often passed from suspense with significant amendments that are not yet in print or with agreements between a bill author and stakeholders to make changes on the floor. Please contact the [CSAC legislative staff](#) with any questions on the following key bills or any others that [CSAC is tracking](#).

[Here's a list of some of the Suspense File Action.](#)

No Place Like Home – The Sequel

The second act to implement the financing portion of the new No Place Like Home program was released on Tuesday in the form of twin budget bill vehicles: AB 1628 and SB 858.

These bills, both approved by the budget committees in their respective houses this week, outline the path for diverting Mental Health Services Act funds to finance and repay up to \$2 billion in bonds. The proceeds from those bonds will be available to counties for building or refurbishing permanent supportive housing units for those who are chronically homeless and living with mental illness.

[Read more](#)

BSCC Proposition 47 Committee Meets to Establish Request for Proposal

The Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) Proposition 47 Executive Steering Committee met this week to discuss and establish criteria for a Request for Proposal (RFP) on Proposition 47 funding. The ESC had a multifaceted discussion with a diverse group that ensured the dialogue remained true to the goal of Prop. 47. The co-chairs are Scott Budnick and CSAC Second Vice President, Kern County Supervisor Leticia Perez.

[Read more](#)

Seven More California Prisons Earn Accreditation

The Commission on Accreditation for Corrections accredited seven more California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) prisons bringing the total number of accredited state prisons to 30. CDCR is slated to achieve the goal of having all 34 state-owned institutions and one leased prison accredited by 2017. CDCR began the process of seeking nationally recognized accreditation from the American Correctional Association (ACA) in 2010.

[Read more](#)

AOJ News Briefs

National Council on Crime and Delinquency Announces Its Children, Youth, and Families Conference

Commission on the Future of California's Court System Holds Public Comment Session – August 29

[Read more](#)

CSAC Now Neutral on Family Foster Care Bill

Earlier this week, CSAC adopted a neutral position on Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson's SB 1336 in response to amendments to the bill. SB 1336 was originally proposed as a reworking of current law to strike references to the consideration of placing a child in foster care with relatives at the time of the next placement change, which raised both policy and workload concerns.

[Read more](#)

Out-of-County Foster Placement Issue Lingers

After nearly 18 months of sometimes rough negotiations, CSAC adopted a support position on AB 1299 as amended by Assembly Member Ridley–Thomas last month. The bill will now ensure timely mental health services for foster or probation youth who are placed out of the county of original jurisdiction. The Senate Appropriations Committee did not take up AB 1299 this morning. We are disappointed that the bill was not heard after all the effort that went into amending the bill from the author, sponsors, and stakeholders.

[Read more](#)

Whole Person Care Brief Spotlights Three Counties

An [issue brief](#) on Whole Person Care is available from the California Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems (CAPH) and the California Health Care Safety Net Institute (SNI). The brief explains the goals of the Whole Person Care Pilot, the application process, and some of the ways the pilots will be implemented locally in California. The brief includes spotlights on Ventura County, Contra Costa County, and San Francisco City and County.

[Read more](#)

Program Helps Struggling Homeowners Keep their Homes

Despite the improving economic outlook and job growth, many of the state’s homeowners continue to struggle with their mortgage payments. That is where Keep Your Home California comes in, a free mortgage–assistance program, which is helping low and moderate income homeowners avoid foreclosure and remain in their homes.

[Read more](#)

CA Supreme Court Protects Lawmakers’ Votes Against Frivolous Lawsuits

The California Supreme Court ruled this week that lawmakers’ votes are protected activity under a California law that discourages frivolous lawsuits. Under this ruling, California law provides greater protection for votes than Federal law—lawmakers’ votes are not protected speech under the First Amendment.

[Read more](#)

More HHS Bills In/Out of Suspense

The Suspense Is Over – Or Is It?

The Senate and Assembly Appropriations Committees met on Thursday to decide the fate of scores of bills in the purgatory of the dreaded Suspense File. As with this time each year, you win some and you lose some, but the work will continue right up until each house adjourns on August 31.

[Read more](#)

From Our Blog: Time for Decisive Action to Fix Our Roads

Originally printed in the Sacramento Bee on Sunday, August 7, 2016.

“There are risks and costs to action. But they are far less than the long–range risks of

comfortable inaction.” – *John F. Kennedy*

“Indecision may or may not be my problem.” – *Jimmy Buffett*

With these two quotes framing this issue, we are imploring the California Legislature to fix the crumbling roads, bridges and highways we all rely on.

[Read more](#)

CSAC Institute Has Terrific Slate of Courses Set for September

The [CSAC Institute for Excellence in County Government](#) has a terrific slate of courses lined up for you in September. Aspects of strategy are examined in several popular classes. Other classes explore shared economies, local governance and leadership. Check out the details below and register today. These classes will fill quickly! Read on for details.

[Read more](#)

Other Bills of Interest

A roundup of bills from all policy areas of interest to counties that are not included in this week's Bulletin articles.

[AENR Bills of Interest](#)

Water Conservation/Landscaping

SB 1340 (Wolk) – [Watch](#)

As Amended June 21, 2016

Regional Conservation Frameworks

AB 2087 (Levine) – [Request Comments](#)

As Amended August 1, 2016

[AOJ Bills of Interest](#)

Vehicle Violations

SB 881 (Hertzberg) – [Oppose](#).

As Amended June 29, 2016

Law Enforcement: Immigration

SB 1289 (Lara) – [Oppose](#).

As Amended June 30, 2016

Job Openings

Click [here](#) to see the latest county and local government job postings.





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