

TO: Members, County of Santa Barbara Legislative Committee

FROM: Cliff Berg, Legislative Advocate
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RE: 2020 June Update

DATE: June 26, 2020

The Governor and the Legislature reached a deal on the State Budget on Monday, June 22nd. The Legislature originally approved a placeholder budget on June 15th in the form of SB 74, in order to meet the constitutional deadline, but the budget that they passed was a consensus within the Legislature only and did not represent an agreement with the Governor. The final deal between the Legislature and the Administration is in AB 89 (Ting)/SB 121 (Mitchell), which makes amendments based off of the Legislature's previously approved budget. In addition, there are multiple trailer bills that enact various policy changes that coincide with the funding in the budget bill.

The County's main priority for the State Budget was to secure the May Revision funding from the CARES Act for the counties with less than 500 thousand in population, which included \$45,698 million for the County of Santa Barbara. The County worked closely with our Delegation and the Administration and was successful in securing it in the final agreement between the Legislature and the Governor.

The other two priorities for the State Budget were realignment backfill and restoring the January budget proposal to provide supplemental payments to nonhospital 340B clinics. The final agreement provides \$750 million to counties to backfill for lost realignment revenues, prioritizing support for health and human services, entitlement programs, and programs that serve vulnerable populations, with a note that an additional \$250 million will be provided to counties if sufficient federal funding is received by October 15, 2020. The final agreement is a huge improvement over the May Revision, which didn't include any funding, and the Legislature's version of the backfill, which had \$1 billion, but had \$600 million dependent upon federal funding. The language in the final agreement does not specify how the funding would be dived up among the various Realignment subaccounts or counties. The Department of Finance is required to consult with CSAC to develop the countywide allocation schedule for this funding.

The final agreement also restores, by rejecting the withdrawal of the January budget proposal, \$52.5 million (\$26.3 million General Fund and \$26.3 million federal funds) to provide supplemental payments to nonhospital 340B clinics. These payments are intended to replace lost revenue from implementation of Medi-Cal Rx, which DHCS intends to do on January 1, 2021.

Trailer bill AB 80 also requires DHCS to establish a stakeholder process on or before July 15, 2020, to develop and implement the methodology for distribution of payments from the 340B supplemental payment pool, including the eligibility criteria for receipt of payments, the aggregate amount of pool funding, the criteria for apportioning the funding, and timing of payments.

The Senate and Assembly are off schedule from each other and will not get on the same deadline schedule until July 13th. The Assembly concluded the fiscal committee deadline on June 5th and was on the Floor from June 15th-19th. On June 19th the Assembly went into summer recess and will return on July 13th. The Senate held Senate Appropriations Suspense Hearing on Thursday, June 18th and then met on the Senate Floor from June 22nd through June 26th. The Senate will be on summer recess from July 2nd until July 13th.

Final Budget Agreement - Highlights

Coronavirus Relief Fund – Funding Remained

The final agreement remained the May Revision funding, which allocated a portion of the state's \$9.5 billion CARES Act funding to local governments to further support their COVID-19 efforts—\$450 million to cities for homelessness and public safety and \$1.3 billion to counties for public health, behavioral health, and other health and human services. The May Revision included \$45,698 Million for the County of Santa Barbara. Funding is contingent on adherence to federal guidance and the state's stay-at-home orders and will be released upon jurisdictions' certification of both.

340B Supplemental Payment Pool – Rejected the May Revision withdrawal

The final agreement rejected the May Revision, which proposed to withdraw the January proposal to provide payments to non-hospital clinics for 340B pharmacy services for a savings of \$52.5 million (\$26.3 million General Fund) in 2020-21, growing to \$105 million (\$52.5 million General Fund) in 2021-22 and thereafter.

CalWORKS

The final agreement conforms all program statute pertaining to CalWORKs, including (a) income reporting and grant amounts, (b) annual redetermination, (c) services provided after timing out, (d) exemptions, (e) good cause application, (f) the Welfare to Work assessment and plan, (g) appraisal and barrier removal services, (h) circumstances when the parent in the Assistance Unit is ineligible, and (i) the time limit statute itself to reflect the 60-month time limit that is scheduled to take effect on May 1, 2022 or when the department notifies the Legislature that the Statewide Automated Welfare System can perform the necessary automation to implement the 60-month time limit, whichever is later, and, in tandem, repeals references to the sunseting 24 and 48 month time clocks that will cease to exist, pursuant to the same May 1, 2022 or automation requirement, whichever is later.

The final agreement also:

- Rejects the Governor's May Revision proposal that would have cut, absent a federal funds trigger restoration, all but the base funding for CalWORKs Subsidized Employment, yielding \$134.1 million General Fund in 2020-21, and rejects the associated May Revision trailer bill language proposal from the Administration.
- Approves a one-time \$30 million General Fund cut in 2020-21 for the CalWORKs Home Visiting program, restoring the funding in 2021-22. The Governor's May Revision had proposed this cut on-going. This one-time reduction is not expected to impact families currently receiving these services in the program.
- Rejects the Governor's May Revision proposal to cut \$32.9 million General Fund from CalWORKs child care due to a Regional Market Rate reduction of ten percent.
- Approves the Governor's modified January proposal to decrease funds for CalWORKs and CalFresh Program Improvement by \$3 million General Fund and 20 positions consistent with reevaluation of a workload budget.
- Approves the May Revision proposal to decrease General Fund by \$1.9 million to reflect revised CalWORKs county administration funding.
- Approves the May Revision proposal to transfer \$600 million of federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds from California Student Aid Commission to CalWORKs and

reflect a decrease in the amount of federal TANF block grant funds available to offset General Fund costs in the Cal Grant program.

- Acknowledges the Governor's rescinding of the May Revision proposal to decrease General Fund by \$50 million to reflect the County Medical Services Program Board reserve redirection to offset General Fund costs in the CalWORKs program.

1991 and 2011 Realignment

The programs and funding for 1991 and 2011 Realignment are funded through two sources: state sales tax and Vehicle License Fees. These funding sources are projected to decline by 13 percent from 2018-19 to 2019-20 and grow slightly in 2020-21. This decline is significant and the first time since 2011 Realignment, there has been a significant decline in realigned revenues to support the entitlement programs funded by realignment.

Pursuant to Section 8.28 of the Budget Bill, as amended, if the state receives an additional \$14 billion of flexible federal funding by October 15, 2020, then the State would add \$250 million in addition to the budget's \$750 million General Fund "backfill" to offset counties' recent loss of realignment sales tax funding.

The County sent letters to the Administration and our Delegation on this critical issue. In addition, CSAC in conjunction with county affiliates CHEAC, CBHDA, and CWDA, strongly urged the Legislature and the Administration to include at least \$1 billion in realignment backfill for critical county-delivered safety net services in the 2020-21 state budget.

Homelessness

The budget bills AB 89/SB 121, and the housing trailer bills AB 83/SB 110, include several key investments and provisions related to reducing homelessness in California. While some of the proposals were originally introduced by the Governor, and others added as Legislative augmentations, combined they demonstrate a continued, shared value in prioritizing homeless response efforts even during tough economic times. These proposals include:

- \$550 million federal funds (Coronavirus Relief Fund) to be administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to support housing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness due to the COVID-19 pandemic. More specifically, these funds will be prioritized for counties, cities, and public entities to build off Project Roomkey through acquiring or rehabilitating motels, hotels, hostels, and other sites and assets as specified.
- \$50 million General Fund to be administered by HCD to be used for the acquisition, conversion, rehabilitation, and operating subsidies for hotels, motels, and other properties to provide housing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. Our understanding is that these funds will be prioritized to support purchases made with the previously mentioned \$550 million.
- \$300 million General Fund to be allocated by the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council consistent with the existing formula and uses of Homeless Housing Assistance Prevention (HHAP) program. This would result in \$80 million directly to counties and \$90 million passing through Continuums of Care.

The housing trailer bill also includes CEQA exemptions for Roomkey projects under specified circumstances and requires that any Coronavirus Relief Fund Roomkey project shall be deemed consistent and in conformity with any applicable local plan, standard, or requirement, and allowed as a permitted use, within the zone in which the structure is located, and shall not be subject to a conditional use permit, discretionary permit, or to any other discretionary reviews or approvals.

Local Public Safety

- Provides an estimated \$102.9 million General Fund of net savings from Proposition 47.
- Provides county probation departments \$112.7 million General Fund in 2020-21 using the existing SB 678 calculation.
- Maintains the May Revision funding of \$12.9 million General Fund to county probation departments to supervise the temporary increase in the average daily population of offenders on Post Release Community Supervision.
- Excludes the Governor's January probation reform proposal.

Cannabis

- Approves \$148.1 million in mostly ongoing funds from the Cannabis Control Fund to BCC, CDFA, and DPH for cannabis activities. Approves budget bill language allowing for unlimited augmentations to their budgets for licensing, enforcement, and information technology subject to Joint Legislative Budget Committee notification.
- Adopts trailer bill language to shift sworn officers from DCA's Division of Investigation to BCC and delays a January proposal to change the point of collection for cannabis taxes.

DHCS

- Approves of the May Revise withdrawal of a January budget proposal to implement a Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program to incentivize system changes and process improvements in county behavioral health programs. This was part of the Behavioral Health Payment Reform component of the California Advancing and Innovating in Medi-Cal (CalAIM) initiative, which DHCS is also delaying.
- Approves of the May Revise withdrawal of the January budget proposal to provide \$347.5 million for enhanced care management benefits and incentives for the provision of in-lieu- of services as part of the CalAIM initiative.

Cap and Trade Program

- Defers action on the \$965 million Cap and Trade Expenditure plan proposed in the January budget and Control Section 15.14. Provides \$133.7 million for ongoing state operations of Cap and Trade Programs.
- Approves the May Revision proposal to increase funding by \$5.3 million in order to build a new Cap and Trade Auction Platform and market registry database to support the Cap and Trade Program. This funding will cover the state's increased membership costs for the Western Climate Initiative, Incorporated, which supports the administration of the program. Provisional language is added to allow advance payments of up to 25 percent of quarterly membership costs.
- Provides \$200,000 and adopts budget bill and trailer bill language directing the State Air Resources Board to consider changes to the Cap-and-Trade Program.

Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development

- Approves a total of \$100 million to supports the IBank's loan guarantee program that provides financial assistance to small businesses.
- Establishes a Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund at the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to receive funds from non-state governmental entities and private sources for the purpose of making loans for climate catalyst projects that further the state's climate goals. These moneys are available for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature. The Strategic Growth Council will advise the Legislature on categories to fund and a report on the projects funded would be prepared annually.

- Authorizes I-Bank's board to establish one or more programs administered by the bank directly, in conjunction with financial companies or financial institutions, in direct or indirect participation with special purpose entities established for small business finance or under contract with small business financial development corporations.
- Authorizes I-Bank's to establish any and all programs pursuant to the Assistance Act and the Law that it determines necessary or desirable to directly or indirectly assist small businesses obtain capital.

Election

- Approves a legislative augmentation of \$35 million General Fund for the November 2020 election and adopts budget bill and trailer bill language to help ensure counties and the state have adequate funding to administer the election and provide education and outreach. The provisional language specifies how the funds will be allocated and the activities the funds may be used for to conduct the November 2020 election.

Executive Orders and Actions

Governor Gavin Newsom has not only issued a number of executive orders addressing a variety of issues in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, but he is also holding press releases almost daily holding press releases and making actions on COVID-19.

Executive Orders and Actions Timeline

- June 22, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order extending a waiver that allows retailers to temporarily pause in-store redemption of beverage containers to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- June 18, California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released updated Guidance that requires Californians to wear a face mask in high risk settings.
- June 15, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an executive order that extends waivers temporarily broadening the capability of counties to enroll persons into the CalWORKs program, allowing for self-attestation of pregnancy and conditions of eligibility, and waiving in-person identification requirements. The order also extends permission for commercially-licensed food trucks to operate in roadside rest areas, in compliance with a temporary permit issued by Caltrans, to ensure essential infrastructure workers have access to food; suspends face-to-face visits for eligibility for extended foster care; and extends deadlines related to the payment of real estate license application and renewal fees and continuing education requirements for licensees.
- Governor Newsom announced that California-based BYD North America received certification from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to produce N95 respirators for the state (6/8/2020).
- Governor Newsom signed an executive order that will help increase the availability of over-the-counter drugs, such as hand sanitizer, and medical devices, such as respirators, ventilators and masks, which are in demand due to the COVID-19 pandemic (6/5/2020).
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order extending authorization for local governments to halt evictions for renters impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, through July 28 (5/29/2020).
- The state is partnering with the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV), Airbnb and Uber to provide free accommodation and transportation to victims of domestic violence (5/29/2020).
- Governor Newsom launched California Connected, the state's comprehensive contact tracing program and public awareness campaign (5/22/2020).

- On May 19th, Governor Newsom issued an executive order addressing a variety of issues in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which:
 - Eases the strain on domestic violence service providers by waiving the 10 percent cash or in-kind matching requirements for state grants awarded to these organizations.
 - Waives the deadline to verify grade point average and waives certain certification requirements and selective service registration verification for Cal Grant applicants.
 - Suspends programmatic deadlines for entities that receive funding from the Energy Commission for the development and deployment of new technologies that support the state's clean energy and decarbonization goals.
 - Extends the timeframe for local governments to submit claims for reimbursement to the State Controller's Office.
- As a result of California scaling up its COVID-19 testing capacity in recent weeks, Governor Newsom announced that more than 1 million diagnostic tests for the virus have been conducted statewide. (5/12/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order extending some critical deadlines that have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. (5/8/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to ensure that Californians can exercise their right to vote in a safe and accessible manner during the General Election this November. (5/8/2020)
- The state released updated industry guidance – including for retail, manufacturing and logistics – to begin reopening with modifications that reduce risk and establish a safer environment for workers and customers. (5/7/2020)
- The state launched an interactive website to help Californians find COVID-19 community testing sites near them. (5/6/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order waiving penalties on property taxes for residents and small businesses experiencing economic hardship based on COVID-19 and extending deadline for filing property tax statements. (5/6/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order that creates a time-limited rebuttable presumption for accessing workers' compensation benefits applicable to Californians who must work outside of their homes during the stay at home order. (5/6/2020).
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order that temporarily broadens the capability of counties to enroll persons into the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) program using various eligibility verification methods due to social distancing requirements. (5/1/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order allowing adults to obtain marriage licenses via videoconferencing rather than in person amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. (4/30/2020)
- California launched covid19.ca.gov/childcare to provide convenient access to safe and reliable child care options for working parents, including essential workers and vulnerable populations. (4/30/2020)
- The Governor announced that that CalFresh recipients will receive the maximum benefits for the month of May and families with children eligible for free or reduced price meals are eligible to receive additional support thanks to the Pandemic Emergency Benefits Transfer Program (P-EBT). (4/29/2020)
- Philanthropy committed to a \$15 million campaign to fund Farm to Family program through the end of the year. (4/29/2020)
- The state expanded its Farm to Family program to help meet the growing demand at California food banks. (4/29/2020)
- California is mobilizing more than 1,000 callers through the Social Bridging Project to proactively reach out to older Californians who are isolating at home. (4/24/2020)
- The state is expanding Friendship Line California to provide statewide support to lonely and isolated older Californians. (4/24/2020)

- California is launching a first-in-the-nation program that will enlist community restaurants to prepare and deliver meals to older Californians who are isolating at home during California's stay at home order. (4/24/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order addressing a variety of issues in response to the COVID-19 pandemic including extensions for customers on several Department of Motor Vehicles deadlines and suspension of late fees for expired vehicle registrations. (4/23/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order giving flexibility to the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and Medi-Cal providers on a variety of deadlines and requirements to ensure continuity of service to patients and customers. (4/23/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to empower schools to focus on responding to COVID-19 and to provide transparency to their communities. (4/23/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to stop debt collectors from garnishing COVID-19-related financial assistance. (4/23/2020)
- Governor Newsom announced that most private student loan servicers have agreed to provide payment and other relief to borrowers, including more than 1.1 million Californians with privately held student loans. (4/23/2020)
- California Volunteers' launched the #CaliforniansForAll service initiative to connect Californians with safe volunteer opportunities and encourage those unable to physically volunteer to think creatively about ways to make a difference in their communities. (4/21/2020)
- The state secured commitments from companies, business leaders, and philanthropists to provide Internet access for hundreds of thousands of households and laptops, Chromebooks, and tablets for over 70,000 students. (4/20/2020)
- The California Public Utilities Commission is making \$30 million available to help school districts ensure that families have Internet access and computing devices for distance learning. (4/20/2020)
- The California State Transportation Agency is partnering with the City of Sacramento to convert and deploy seven transit buses to be used as super hotspots. (4/20/2020)
- California negotiated master agreement template with Motel 6 which counties can now use to access these facilities for Project Roomkey. (4/18/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order allowing temporary waivers to certain foster youth programs to ensure continuity of care in response to COVID-19. (4/17/2020)
- Governor Newsom established a state Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery to chart a path forward on recovery in the wake of COVID-19. (4/17/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order addressing upcoming admissions criteria for the CSU system, background checks for essential workers, and deadline extensions to real estate licenses and more. (4/17/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order increasing health and safety standards by permitting workers at food facilities to wash their hands every 30 minutes, or as needed. (4/16/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to give two weeks of supplemental paid sick leave to certain food sector workers if they are subject to a quarantine or isolation order or medical directive. (4/16/2020)
- Philanthropic partners committed to raising a \$50 million to support undocumented Californians. (4/15/2020)
- California invested \$75 million in statewide Disaster Relief Assistance funding to provide financial support for immigrant workers affected by COVID-19. (4/15/2020)
- The Employment Development Department is implementing a one-stop shop for those applying for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance, including the self-employed and independent contractors. (4/15/2020)
- The state launched a new initiative to expand call center hours at the Employment Development Department to better assist Californians with unemployment insurance applications. (4/15/2020)

- Governor Newsom signed an executive order to address the release and reentry process at the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) so that eligible youth serving time at DJJ can be discharged safely and expeditiously. (4/14/2020)
- Governor Newsom outlined six critical indicators California will consider before modifying the stay-at-home-order and other COVID-19 interventions. (4/14/2020)
- California invested \$42 million to protect younger Californians who are at heightened risk for abuse and mistreatment due to COVID-19. (4/13/2020)
- Governor Newsom announced the release of \$100 million to support child care services, and to support child care providers who are stepping up to serve essential infrastructure workers and vulnerable populations and their children. (4/10/2020)
- The USNS Mercy is taking non-COVID-19 patients to help decompress skilled nursing facilities in the Los Angeles area. (4/10/2020)
- California is providing stipends to certified nurse assistants, licensed vocational nurses and other critical staff at nursing homes to make sure their needs are met. (4/10/2020)
- The state created a program to provide doctors, nurses and other critical front-line health care workers access to no-cost or low-cost hotel rooms. (4/9/2020)
- California is partnering with United Airlines, which will provide free, round-trip flights for volunteer medical professionals from across California and the country who join the state's health care workforce. (4/9/2020)
- The state will begin implementing new federal benefit payments of \$600 on top of the weekly benefit received by California workers as part of the new Pandemic Additional Compensation (PAC) initiated by the CARES Act. (4/9/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order that provides additional support for older adults and vulnerable young children. (4/7/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to help the state procure necessary medical supplies to fight COVID-19. (4/7/2020)
- California's Surgeon General released new stress management playbooks for individuals, caregivers and kids. (4/7/2020)
- California published a consolidated page of helplines and resources for those experiencing stress, anxiety or depression, facing substance abuse disorders, violence at home, or seeking to protect child welfare and address child abuse or neglect. (4/7/2020)
- California secured 4,613 additional beds to fight COVID-19 and is aggressively planning for a surge in hospitalizations in the coming weeks, aiming to add 50,000 beds to our existing hospital capacity of nearly 75,000 beds. (4/6/2020)
- The Governor created a COVID-19 Testing Task Force, a public-private collaboration that will work with stakeholders to rapidly boost testing capacity. (4/4/2020)
- California launched a new website, covid19supplies.ca.gov, to allow individuals and companies to donate, sell or offer to manufacture 13 of the most critical medical supplies including ventilators, N95 respirators and testing materials. (4/4/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order allowing health care providers to use video chats and applications to provide health services without risk of penalty. (4/3/2020)
- Governor Newsom signed an executive order expanding consumer protection against price gouging on critical items, such as food and medical supplies, during the COVID-19 crisis. (4/3/2020)
- The state is securing thousands of isolation rooms in hotels and motels through Project Roomkey, for extremely vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness, to help flatten the curve & preserve hospital capacity. (4/3/2020)
- California is the first state in the nation to secure FEMA approval for 75 percent federal cost-share for housing vulnerable individuals experiencing homelessness. (4/3/2020)
- Governor Newsom signed an executive order that will restrict water shutoffs to homes and small businesses while the state responds to the COVID-19 pandemic. (4/2/2020)

- The state is providing \$50 million in loan guarantees for small businesses that may not be eligible for federal relief. (4/2/2020)
- California is also allowing small businesses to defer payment of sales and use taxes of up to \$50,000, for up to 12 months. (4/2/2020)
- Governor Newsom announced \$17.8 million in new state initiatives to support California workers impacted by COVID-19. The allocation will come from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds with \$7.8 million going to the Los Angeles region and \$10 million made available statewide. (4/2/2020)
- California is partnering with Google, which will be donating Chromebooks and will fund the use of 100,000 donated mobile hotspots to provide free and unlimited high-speed Internet connectivity for the remainder of the school year. (4/1/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order expediting the use of funds to support the state's continuing efforts to protect public health and respond to the COVID-19 crisis. (4/1/2020)
- The state developed an agreement between teachers, classified employees, school boards, superintendents, and principals to work together to provide distance learning to California's students as a result of physical school closures due to mitigation efforts against the COVID-19 outbreak. (4/1/2020)
- California launched a statewide hotline (833-544-2374) and call center in partnership with 2-1-1 to connect older Californians with essential services like food and medication. (3/31/2020)
- Governor Newsom called for community members to check in on senior neighbors, friends, and family as part of the 'Stay Home. Save Lives. Check In.' (3/31/2020)
- The state is urging local non-profits and faith-based organizations to call to check in on all of the older Californians in their networks. (3/31/2020)
- In partnership with AARP, the state is sending a mailer to every older Californian with information and resources to adapt to the stay at home order. (3/31/2020)
- Governor Newsom issued an executive order to expand the health care workforce and staff at least an additional 50,000 hospital beds needed for the COVID-19 surge. (3/30/2020)
- The state launched the California Health Corps— health care professionals with an active license, public health professionals, medical retirees, medical and nursing students, or members of medical disaster response teams in California are all encouraged to join and staff the surge in COVID-19 patients. (3/30/2020)
- Governor Newsom signed an executive order providing relief to small businesses— it includes a 90-day extension in state and local taxes and extends licensing deadlines and requirements for a number of industries. (3/30/2020)
- The state secured partnerships with leading digital and media platforms, businesses and celebrities from across the state on the COVID-19 public awareness campaign. (3/29/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order banning the enforcement of eviction orders for renters affected by COVID-19 through May 31, 2020. (3/27/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order enabling the Chief Justice to take emergency actions for the state's courts to be able to conduct business during the COVID-19 pandemic. (3/27/2020)
- Governor Newsom secured a major financial relief package – financial institutions will provide a 90-day grace period for mortgage payments and will not negatively impact credit reports for Californians accessing payment relief. (3/25/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order directing the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to temporarily halt intake of inmates and youth into the state's 35 prisons and four youth correctional facilities. (3/24/2020)
- The state is moving to videoconferencing of all scheduled parole suitability hearings starting next month. (3/24/2020)
- California awarded \$100 million to cities, counties and continuums of care to help people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. (3/23/2020)

- California State Parks is working closely with local county and public health officials to modify park operations by closing vehicular traffic at some park units to reduce the density of visitors. (3/23/2020)
- The state secured a presidential Major Disaster Declaration, which makes federal funding available to state, tribal and local governments for emergency protective measures, including direct federal assistance, and makes funding available for crisis counseling for impacted individuals. (3/22/2020)
- California requested and received Personal Protective Equipment from the Strategic National Stockpile. (3/21/2020)
- The state is leasing two hospitals to increase availability of beds for COVID-19 patients. (3/21/2020)
- California is directing more than \$42 million in emergency funding to expand California's health care infrastructure and secure equipment and services to support California's response to COVID-19. (3/21/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order giving the state the ability to increase the health care capacity in clinics, mobile health care units and adult day health care facilities. (3/21/2020)
- California launched a partnership Neighbor-to-Neighbor campaign with NextDoor and California Volunteers to safely deploy volunteers to help the most vulnerable Californians. (3/20/2020)
- The Governor activated close to 500 members of the California National Guard to help distribute food at food banks and protect California's most vulnerable residents. (3/20/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order to permit vote-by-mail procedures to be used in three upcoming special elections, protecting public health and safety during the COVID-19 outbreak. (3/20/2020)
- The California Department of Human Resources issued directives to departments on how to manage the state workforce to keep employees safe while continuing to provide Californians critical support and services. (3/19/2020)
- The Department of Food and Agriculture published a resource page for the agricultural sector. (3/19/2020)
- The Governor requested immediate deployment of the USNS Mercy Hospital Ship to the Port of Los Angeles to decompress the state's health care delivery system in Los Angeles. (3/19/2020)
- The state requested federal assistance to supplement California's efforts to prepare for a COVID-19 surge. (3/19/2020)
- The Governor issued a stay-at-home order to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and slow the spread of COVID-19. (3/19/2020)
- The Department of Motor Vehicles cancelled behind-the-wheel drive tests, suspended extended office hours and moved to appointment-only service for transactions requiring an in-person visit. (3/18/2020)
- California launched a consumer-friendly website and public service announcements to boost COVID-19 awareness. (3/18/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order providing flexibility to local governments to spend their emergency homelessness funding on immediate solutions tailored to combatting COVID-19 and its impacts on the homeless population. (3/18/2020)
- The Governor directed the first allocation of the \$500 million in emergency funding recently authorized by the Legislature for COVID-19 related activities – \$150 million for local emergency homelessness actions. (3/18/2020)
- California is securing 1,309 travel trailers and hundreds of hotels rooms to provide immediate housing options for those most at risk. (3/18/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order to ensure Californians who rely on Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKS, Cash Assistance for immigrants and in-home supportive services will not lose access due to COVID-19. (3/18/2020)

- The Governor issued an executive order to suspend standardized testing to focus on the mental and socioemotional well-being of students. (3/18/2020)
- The Governor placed the National Guard on alert to support COVID-19 community readiness. (3/17/2020)
- The state secured SBA disaster assistance for California small businesses economically impacted by COVID-19. (3/17/2020)
- The state removed barriers to make it easier for California to quickly and effectively provide care to about 13 million Medi-Cal beneficiaries and expand telehealth options. (3/17/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order to ensure vital goods can be delivered to California retailers in a timely manner during the COVID-19 outbreak. (3/17/2020)
- The Governor requested and signed emergency legislation providing up to \$1 billion in funding to help California fight COVID-19. (3/17/2020)
- California released guidance and resources for schools to plan and implement distance learning and school meal delivery. (3/17/2020)
- State health and emergency officials directed bars and clubs to close and restaurants to open only for drive-through or pick-up/delivery. (3/17/2020)
- The state issued guidance for vulnerable Californians– older residents (65+) and those with underlying health conditions – to isolate at home. (3/16/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order to protect the health and safety of Californians most vulnerable to COVID-19 residing at health care, residential and non-residential facilities licensed by the state. (3/16/2020)
- California Volunteers created a resource page on how Californians can safely help their communities during COVID-19. (3/16/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order that authorizes local governments to halt evictions for renters and homeowners, slows foreclosures, and protects against utility shutoffs for Californians affected by COVID-19. (3/16/2020)
- The Department of Motor Vehicles is allowing customers to avoid coming into the DMV office for 60 days so that at-risk populations can avoid required visits and practice social distancing. (3/16/2020)
- EDD is encouraging employers who are experiencing a slowdown in their businesses or services as a result of the outbreak's impact on the economy to apply for an Unemployment Insurance work sharing program. (3/13/2020)
- In partnership with federal and local government, California managed the safe disembarkation and treatment of passengers from the Grand Princess cruise ship. (3/13/2020)
- Californians unable to work because they are caring for an ill or quarantined family member can file a Paid Family Leave. (3/13/2020)
- The California Employment Development Department (EDD) is encouraging individuals who are unable to work due to exposure to COVID-19 to file a Disability Insurance claim. (3/13/2020)
- The Franchise Tax Board is providing a 90-day extension to file California tax returns for taxpayers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. (3/13/2020)
- Caltrans launched a statewide educational campaign on more than 700 electronic highway signs, urging all Californians to be more diligent about containing the spread of the virus. (3/13/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order to ensure schools retain state funding even in the event of a COVID-19 physical closure. (3/13/2020)
- The Governor issued an executive order removing the waiting period for unemployment and disability insurance for Californians who lose work as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak and readying the state to commandeer hotels and medical facilities. (3/12/2020)
- The state is allowing local and state legislative bodies to hold meetings via conference calls while still meeting state transparency requirements. (3/12/2020)
- The state directed mass gatherings be postponed or cancelled to slow the spread of the virus. (3/11/2020)

- The California Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency released guidance for homeless assistance providers in the state. (3/10/2020)
- California obtained approval to provide meal service during school closures to minimize potential exposure to COVID-19. (3/7/2020)
- California activated the State Operations Center and the Medical and Health Coordination Center to coordinate response efforts across the state. (3/6/2020)
- 24 million more Californians were made eligible for free medically necessary COVID-19 testing. (3/5/2020)
- The Governor declared a State of Emergency to make additional resources available, formalize emergency actions already underway across multiple state agencies and departments, and help the state prepare for broader spread of COVID-19. (3/4/2020)
- California made available some of its emergency planning reserves of 21 million N95 filtering facepiece masks for use in certain health care settings to ease shortages of personal protective equipment. (3/3/2020)
- The state secured COVID-19 test kits from the CDC to help get results sooner, identify and treat cases and trace potential exposure. (2/28/2020)
- The California Department of Public Health is coordinating with federal authorities and local health departments that have implemented screening, monitoring and, in some cases, quarantine of returning travelers. (Ongoing)
- The California Department of Public Health's state laboratory in Richmond and 21 other public health department laboratories are testing for the virus that causes COVID-19. (Ongoing)
- The state's public health experts are providing information, guidance documents, and technical support to local health departments, health care facilities, providers, schools, universities, colleges, elder care and congregate living facilities, childcare facilities and homeless shelters across California. (Ongoing)
- The state is piloting Community Based Testing Sites for high-risk individuals in partnership with Verily. (Ongoing)

Public Banking, IBank and Banking Issues

On April 17th, the Governor announced the formation of a state Task Force on Business and Jobs Recovery. The Task Force is co-chaired by Governor Newsom's Chief of Staff Ann O'Leary and philanthropist, environmentalist and businessman Tom Steyer, who was also appointed Chief Advisor to the Governor on Business and Jobs Recovery. Members of the Task Force include Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins, Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, Senate Minority Leader Shannon Grove, Assembly Minority Leader Marie Waldron, former Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen, Walt Disney Company Executive Chairman Bob Iger, former head of the Small Business Administration Aida Álvarez and dozens of other leaders in business, labor, health care, academia and philanthropy.

The Task Force will work to develop actions government and businesses can take to help Californians recover as fast as safely possible from the COVID-19 induced recession and to shape a fair, green, and prosperous future. They will meet twice a month throughout 2020 to develop options that would work for all Californians, with a particular focus on those hardest hit by the pandemic. The Task Force will craft ideas for short, medium, and long-term solutions that reflect communities across the state, and emphasize a fair and equitable recovery.

Our understanding is that the taskforce is discussing expanding the role of the State California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank). There have been no public recommendations or proposals.

The IBank's Small Business Finance Center manages California's small business loan guarantees, disaster loan guarantees, and direct lending programs. The Small Business Loan Guarantee Program provides financial assistance and access to capital needed to small businesses. It works to leverage private lending to reduce the cost of capital for small businesses.

The budget agreement keeps the May Revise increase of funding for this program by \$50 million for a total increase of \$100 million to fill gaps in available federal assistance and grow California's program. This increase will be leveraged to access existing private lending capacity and philanthropic funding to increase the funds available to provide necessary capital to restart California small businesses.

SB 100/AB 78 are the IBank Budget Trailer Bills, which:

1. Establish a Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund at the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to receive funds from non-state governmental entities and private sources for the purpose of making loans for climate catalyst projects that further the state's climate goals. These moneys are available for expenditure upon appropriation by the Legislature. The Strategic Growth Council will advise the Legislature on categories to fund and a report on the projects funded would be prepared annually.
2. Limit the total amount of rate reduction bonds and bonds issued to finance public development facilities that may be outstanding at any one time to \$15 billion. Currently, the limit for rate reductions bonds is \$10 billion and the limit for bonds to finance public development is \$5 billion. This change does not increase the total authority, rather it combines the limits allowing for more flexibility between the categories.
3. Authorize IBank's board to establish one or more programs administered by the bank directly, in conjunction with financial companies or financial institutions, in direct or indirect participation with special purpose entities established for small business finance or under contract with small business financial development corporations.
4. Authorize IBank's to establish any and all programs pursuant to the Assistance Act and the Law that it determines necessary or desirable to directly or indirectly assist small businesses obtain capital.

Other programs that the IBank has is the California Lending for Energy and Environmental Needs (CLEEN) Center, which provides direct public financing to Municipalities, Universities, Schools and Hospitals (MUSH borrowers) to help meet the State's goals for greenhouse gas reduction, water conservation, and environmental preservation. The CLEEN Center offers two programs: the Statewide Energy Efficiency Program (SWEEP) and the Light Emitting Diode Street Lighting Program (LED). Financing can be through a direct loan from IBank or through publicly offered tax-exempt bonds in amounts from \$500 thousand to \$30 million.

As well as the Infrastructure State Revolving Fund (ISRF) Program, which provides financing to public agencies and non-profit corporations, sponsored by public agencies, for a wide variety of infrastructure and economic development projects (excluding housing). ISRF Program funding is available in amounts ranging from \$50,000 to \$25 million with loan terms for the useful life of the project up to a maximum of 30 years.

Public Banking

AB 857 (Chapter 442, Statutes of 2019)

On October 2, 2019, Governor Newsom signed AB 857 (Chapter 442, Statutes of 2019). The bill established a process for a local agency to apply for a public bank charter from the Department of Business Oversight. The bill specified that a local agency would need to meet the same general requirements and approval criteria as existing law requires of a private sector applicant for a banking

license, including obtaining deposit insurance provided by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. The bill authorized the Commissioner of Business Oversight to promulgate regulations for the purpose of carrying out the Commissioner's duties under the new law.

Under the proposed bill and existing law, both the DBO and FDIC would provide routine supervision and examinations of a public bank to evaluate the nature of the bank's operations, the adequacy of the bank's internal controls and its internal audit function, and the bank's compliance with laws and regulations. If weaknesses are identified, the regulators have tools to correct deficiencies in the bank's risk management practices and address weaknesses in the bank's operations.

A public bank may engage in banking activities, including infrastructure lending, wholesale lending, participation lending, and certain retail activities. A public bank may not compete with local financial institutions or engage in certain retail activities without partnering with a local financial institution. The DBO is prohibited by law from licensing more than two public banks per calendar year and more than ten public banks in total.

To expedite the rulemaking process, the Commissioner intends to issue regulations in phases. The first phase will focus on general definitions and application requirements. This will enable the Commissioner to provide guidance on those areas, which are most immediately relevant to stakeholders and enable implementation of the law as timely as possible.

Subsequent rulemaking phases will address areas that are specific to licensees, which may need clarification in the context of public banks, including examination and reporting requirements and collateralization of local agency deposits. The Commissioner requested input from stakeholders in March 2020 in order to develop regulations to clarify certain definitions and the application requirements to organize and establish a public bank pursuant to Financial Code section 1020.

Other Legislation

AB 2501 (Limon) would have provided for temporary forbearance and affordable post-forbearance repayment options for borrowers facing financial hardship during the COVID-19 emergency and 180 days thereafter, related to mortgages, automobile financing, PACE assessment contracts, and deferred deposit transactions, as specified. The bills didn't receive enough votes to pass on the Assembly Floor and is now dead for the year.

AB 2463 (Wicks) This bill which is sponsored by the California Low-Income Consumer Coalition, would end the ability of creditors to use unsecured consumer debts, such as credit card, medical, and student loan debt, as devices to force the sale of debtors' homes. The bill passed the Assembly Judiciary Committee on May 27th and then passed the Assembly Floor. The bill is currently in the Senate Rules Committee awaiting a committee assignment.

Request to Continue Critical 1115 Federal Waiver

The 1915(b) waiver was extended last month, CSAC continues strong federal advocacy supporting an extension of the 1115 Waiver, including all associated funding mechanisms and waiver of budget neutrality, through at least calendar year 2021.

The Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions (HEROES) Act includes provisions that would extend California's 1115 Medicaid waiver through December 31, 2021, as well as language that would bar the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from implementing the Medicaid

Fiscal Accountability Rule. CSAC has expressed to Congress our support for these provisions and many other health investments within the Act.

Additionally, DHCS informed CSAC they were in verbal talks with CMS on the Section 1115 waiver, and they submitted a formal letter requesting an extension to the 1915(b) waiver.

COVID-19 Bills

AB 196 (Gonzalez) Worker's Compensation for Essential Workers

AB 196 would ensure that essential workers who contract COVID-19 are not subject to the burdens of proof, denials, or delays in accessing worker's compensation benefits. The bill would provide a conclusive presumption for the purposes of worker's compensation that the coronavirus was contracted by the essential worker, as defined, at work for injuries on or after March 1st 2020. Certain essential workers granted a conclusive presumption by AB 664 (Cooper and Gonzalez) would not be included under AB 196. This protection would extend to the employee for 90 days after termination.

The bill is currently in the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee.

AB 664 (Cooper) Workers' compensation: injury: communicable disease

This bill would define "injury," for certain state and local firefighting personnel, peace officers, certain hospital employees, and certain fire and rescue services coordinators who work for the Office of Emergency Services to include being exposed to or contracting, on or after January 1, 2020, a communicable disease, including coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), that is the subject of a state or local declaration of a state of emergency that is issued on or after January 1, 2020. The bill would create a conclusive presumption, as specified, that the injury arose out of and in the course of the employment. The bill would apply to injuries that occurred prior to the declaration of the state of emergency. The bill would also exempt these provisions from the apportionment requirements. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute. This bill was amended on April 17th, and referred to the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement. The County will join CSAC to oppose the bill.

AB 828 (Ting) Temporary moratorium on foreclosures and unlawful detainer actions: coronavirus (COVID-19)

This bill would prohibit a person from taking any action to foreclose on a residential real property while a state or locally declared state of emergency related to the COVID-19 virus is in effect and until 15 days after the state of emergency has ended, including, but not limited to, causing or conducting the sale of the real property or causing recordation of a notice of default. This bill would require a tax collector to suspend the sale, and not attempt to sell, tax-defaulted properties while a state or locally declared state of emergency related to the COVID-19 virus is in effect and until 15 days after the state of emergency has ended. This bill is currently in the Senate Rules Committee.

AB 860 (Berman) Elections: vote by mail ballots

The bill requires county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered active voter for the November 3, 2020 statewide general election. This bill has been signed into law by the Governor on June 18th.

AB 1107 (Chu) Proclaimed state and local emergencies: proclamations, communications, and materials: translation

On May 26th, AB 1107 was amended to state that it would require all proclamations, communications, materials, and announcements made by the Governor or a state agency related to a duly proclaimed state of emergency to be made available in all languages spoken by a substantial number of non-English-speaking people. The bill would define the term “substantial number of non-English-speaking people” to mean a group of people that does not speak English or has limited English proficiency and makes up 3% or more of the state’s population. This bill would also require each county to translate all emergency-related proclamations, communications, materials, and announcements made by the county related to a duly proclaimed state of emergency or a local emergency duly proclaimed by the county into all languages spoken by 1,000 or more of the county’s residents. The bill is currently in Senate Rules.

AB 2043 (Rivas) Occupational safety and health: agricultural employers and employees: COVID-19 response.

This bill directs the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (division) to disseminate best practices on COVID-19 infection prevention to agricultural employers, conduct a targeted outreach campaign to employees, and propose to the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board (standards board) for its adoption COVID-19 related emergency standards. The bill is currently in Senate Rules.

AB 2406 (Wicks) Homeless Accountability and Prevention Act: rental registry online portal

The bill would have established the Homeless Accountability and Prevention Act which would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to create an online rental registry of properties which received state or federal rental assistance provided in response to the COVID-19 state of emergency. The bill was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

AB 2992 (Weber) Employment practices: leave time

The bill expands leave protections afforded to an employee who is a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking to an employee who is a victim of a crime, as specified, and to an employee whose immediate family member is deceased as a direct result of a crime. The bill passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Floor, and is now in Senate Rules.

AB 3216 (Kalra) Employee leave: authorization

This bill expands leave and job protections for employees during a state of emergency, including leave under the California Family Rights Act (CFRA), paid sick leave, and rehire rights for workers. The bill is currently in Senate Rules.

SB 915 (Leyva) Mobilehome parks: emergency relief: coronavirus (COVID-19)

This bill prohibits, temporarily, mobilehome parks from evicting residents who timely notify park management that they have been impacted, as defined, by COVID-19. This bill further mandates that mobilehome parks give such COVID-19-impacted residents additional time, as specified, to comply with demands to repay outstanding rent, utilities or other charges, or cure violations of park rules and regulations. The bill is currently on the Senate Floor.

SB 932 (Wiener) Communicable diseases: COVID-19: data collection

This bill requires any electronic tool used by local health officers for the purpose of reporting cases of communicable disease to the Department of Public Health to include the capacity to collect and report data relating to the sexual orientation and gender identity of individuals who are diagnosed with COVID-19, and requires health care providers who are in attendance on a case of COVID-19 to report the patient's sexual orientation and gender identity, if known. The bill is on the Senate Third Reading File.

SB 939 (Wiener) Emergencies: COVID-19: evictions

This bill would have established a temporary eviction moratorium and a 12-month rent repayment period, and made procedures for the renegotiating or terminating of certain commercial tenancy leases, as specified, where a commercial tenant is impacted by the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19). The bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

SB 943 (Chang) Paid family leave: school closures: COVID-19

The bill would have authorized the use of Paid Family Leave (PFL) wage replacement benefits for individuals who need to take time off work to care for a minor child whose school has been closed due to the COVID-19 virus outbreak or to care for a special needs child or adult. The bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File.

SB 1159 (Hill) Workers' compensation: COVID-19: critical workers

This bill creates rebuttable presumption that illness or death related to COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) is an occupational injury and therefore eligible for workers' compensation benefits. The bill is currently on the Senate Third Reading File.

SB 1276 (Rubio) The Comprehensive Statewide Domestic Violence Program

Current law requires the Office of Emergency Services to provide financial and technical assistance to local domestic violence centers in implementing specified services. Current law authorizes domestic violence centers to seek, receive, and make use of any funds that may be available from all public and private sources to augment state funds and requires centers receiving funds to provide cash or an in-kind match of at least 10% of the funds received. This bill would remove the requirement for centers receiving funds to provide cash or an in-kind match for the funds received. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Public Safety Committee.

SB 1410 (Gonzalez) Rental assistance: COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program

This bill creates a tenant-towner COVID-19 eviction relief agreement, restricts rental property owners from evicting tenants for unpaid rent accrued during the state of emergency, and allows a tax credit to owners that defer rent for tenants in connections with the COVID-19 pandemic. This bill is on the Senate Third Reading File.

CSB Position Bills 2020

AB 3214 (Limon) Oil and gas: oil spills: financial security, fines, and penalties

The bill doubles the certificate of financial responsibility (COFR) for tank and nontank vessels to ensure that vessels have adequate financial resources to pay cleanup and damage costs in the event of an oil spill. Doubles specified maximum and minimum financial penalties for specified violations, including failing to

notify specified state and federal agencies of the discharge of oil and the discharging of oil into waters of the state. The bill passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee and the Assembly Floor. The bill is now in the Senate Rules Committee. The County is in support of the bill.

SB 794 (Jackson) Emergency services: telecommunications

This bill expands existing authority granted to counties by authorizing cities and postsecondary institutions that receive state funds to access the contact information of residents, students, and employees for the sole purpose of enrolling individuals in a local government-, university-, or college-operated public emergency warning system and provides for notification of enrollment and a process for opting out. The bill passed the Senate Floor and has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Governmental Organization.

SB 1069 (Jackson) Telecommunications: emergencies and natural disasters: critical communications infrastructure

This bill would have required telecommunications providers to report specified information regarding the location and status of telecommunications infrastructure and performance of emergency alert messages to local and state emergency management offices. This bill also would have required telecommunications providers to submit specified information about the performance of the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) system to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). The bill was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File. The County was in support of this bill.

SB 1207 (Jackson) Skilled nursing facilities: backup power system.

This bill requires skilled nursing facilities to have an alternative source of power to protect resident health and safety for no less than 96 hours during any type of power outage that complies with specified federal requirements. The bill passed the Senate Floor and is at the Assembly Desk.

Conclusion

The Legislature agreed to pass a budget on June 15th in order to meet the constitutional deadline, but only compromised on an agreement with the Governor on June 22nd. The County was successful in securing the CARES Act funding for counties under 500 thousand in population, and protecting the County's share of \$45.7 million, as well as securing the realignment backfill and rejecting the 340B funding withdrawal. Although the budget was a compromise between the Legislature and the Administration, the California Constitution grants the Governor "line item veto" authority to reduce or eliminate any item of appropriation in any bill including the Budget Bill.

The Assembly broke for Summer Recess on June 19th, with the plan to come back the following week to vote on the budget bill, while the Senate does not break until July 3rd. Both houses are going to be on summer recess until July 13th when they return and plan on August 31st as the last day for each house to pass bills in the regular session. Given uncertainties related to the California economy and the state budget revenues, we expect further budget discussions in August. It is possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and state fiscal uncertainty that there could be a special session of the Legislature in the fall.