

**SOLANO COUNTY
Legislative Committee Meeting**

Committee
Supervisor Erin Hannigan (Chair)
Supervisor Linda J. Seifert

Staff
Michelle Heppner

**November 3, 2014
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

**Solano County Administration Center
Sixth Floor Conference Center, Room 6003
675 Texas Street
Fairfield, CA 94533**

AGENDA

- I. Public Comment** (Items not on the agenda)
- II. Update from Solano County Legislative Delegation** (Legislative representatives)
- III. Federal Legislative Update** (Waterman & Associates)
- IV. State Legislative Update and consider making a recommendation for a position on legislation** (Paul Yoder)
- V. Proposed 2015 State and Federal Legislative Platform**
 - a. Proposed 2015 Federal Legislative Platform - (Page 2)
 - b. Proposed 2015 State Legislative Platform - (Page 8)
 - c. Proposed Changes - Children's Alliance - (Page 15)
 - d. New Legislative Proposals
 - i. Agricultural Plant Pest Quarantines (Agriculture) - (Page 16)
 - ii. Quality Childcare and Preschool Incentive (First 5) - (Page 17)
 - iii. Best Value Contracts (General Services) - (Page 19)
 - iv. Streamline Legal Process to Ensure Access to Elder Justice (H&SS) - (Page 20)
 - v. Mitigation of Laura's Law Implementation Costs (H&SS) - (Page 22)
- VI. Next Meeting – December 1, 2014**
- VII. Adjourn**

PRIORITY ISSUES

The ability of the County to serve the residents of Solano County (County) and provide for a thriving and sustainable community requires support from all levels of government. Federal legislative policy and funding decisions affect the County's ability to deliver services. In order to fulfill the County's commitment to the community, Federal resources should be sought to support the County's mission to enrich the quality of life in County. To this end, the County Board of Supervisors supports the priorities and the legislative principles set forth below.

Priority issues are those that have a significant impact on County business and on which County staff, including the County's Federal legislative advocates, will concentrate their legislative efforts during the ~~2014-2015~~ Legislative Session. The County's top priorities (Listed Alphabetically) include:

1. **Funding for Key Infrastructure Projects** - Support efforts in Congress to authorize and appropriate funding for infrastructure projects in Solano County, including Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) funding for water projects identified as priorities by the Board of Supervisors.
2. **Housing, Economic Development, and Transportation Programs** - Support the highest possible funding level for key federal housing and economic development programs, including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Support legislation and funding to restore and revitalize property impacted by prior realignment or closure of military installations. In the area of transportation, support efforts to protect the Highway Trust Fund and support programs that provide funding for local roads, bridges, transit initiatives, and aviation.
3. **Military Presence** - Support efforts to secure Travis Air Force Base from budget reductions, downsizing, and enhance it with future rounds of additional Base Realignment & Closure (BRAC). Support additional assets/missions such as C-17, KC-46 squadrons, modernization of existing aircraft, and gaining other aviation and non-aviation missions. Oppose efforts to eliminate an entire fleet or program. Support infrastructure investments, including military construction projects and housing upgrades and enhance use of underutilized property on base. Support efforts implement and maintain public-public/public-private partnerships with Travis Air Force Base and other community organizations/agencies.
4. **Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness** - Support funding for programs that assist Solano County with efforts aimed at reducing crime and enhancing public safety through community partnerships and multi-jurisdictional efforts, such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program and the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program. In addition, support funding for programs that assist the County with disaster response and preparedness and homeland security-related needs, including efforts aimed at achieving communications interoperability.
5. **Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta** - Support legislative and administrative efforts to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and County's interests relative to land use, agricultural stability, economic development, police or emergency response mandates, environmental preservation, flood protection, levee stability, habitat conservation, recreation, water supply, water quality, water rights, and dredging activities. Support governance structures that give local government an equal voice with other stakeholders in setting Delta policy.
6. **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Reauthorization** - Support a reauthorization of the TANF program that would restore state and Solano County flexibility in operating a program focused on services leading to outcomes that stabilize families and lead to employment, including federal incentives for subsidized jobs.

Furthermore, the Board of Supervisors adopts the following legislative principles (Listed Alphabetically by Policy Area):

Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Water

1. Support efforts to strengthen inspections at borders and ports of entry to safeguard against invasive pests and diseases.
- ~~2.~~ Support efforts to continue the provisions and existing funding levels provided in the implementation of the Farm Pest and Disease Management Program (Section 10201 of the 2008 Farm Bill) and similar efforts to eradicate invasive pests.
- ~~3.~~ Support Legislation or rulemaking to facilitate/expedite inspection of US Postal packages profiled by detector dogs to contain fruit or plant material.
- ~~2-4.~~ Support legislation to indemnify grower for losses due to Plant Quarantine.
- ~~3-5.~~ Support passage of a Farm Bill that includes pest prevention provisions (such as Section 10201 of the previous Farm Bill) increases for specialty crop support and adequate financial support for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).
- ~~4-6.~~ Support legislation reducing redundant enforcement of aquatic herbicide/pesticide use under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and the Clean Water Act. (The Board took a position on this last year in a special item brought by Mosquito and Vector Control.)
- ~~5-7.~~ Support, through legislation or appropriation, a more equitable distribution of USDA funds for Wildlife Services provided to California counties.
- ~~6-8.~~ Support efforts to protect the Suisun Marsh consistent with the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act and the Suisun Marsh Plan;
- ~~7-9.~~ Support efforts to protect the County's Farm Gate, including, but not limited to, full mitigation of agricultural and other economic impacts associated with habitat restoration efforts.
- ~~8-10.~~ Support funding for local mapping of flood hazard areas and advocate for the US Army Corps of Engineers and other federal agencies to protect the County from these hazards.
- ~~11.~~ Support legislation to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area to protect and promote the economic vitality and cultural, historical, and natural assets of the region.
- ~~9-12.~~ Support legislative efforts to preserve the Berryessa Snow Mountain region as a National Conservation Area or Landmark.

General Government

1. Support efforts to realign government services with necessary funding in order to improve the delivery of services, including technology acquisitions and upgrades, and make government more accountable and efficient to the people of California.
2. Seek out, develop, and support legislative, regulatory, and budget efforts that protect and/or enhance local governments' revenues, maximize the County's access to Federal funding sources, and/or increases local funding flexibility.
3. Support legislation that provides tax and funding formulas and regulations for the equitable distribution of Federal monies while opposing attempts to decrease, restrict, or eliminate County revenue sources.
4. Support Federal legislative and budget action that will provide robust funding for domestic infrastructure, public safety, community development, and environmental programs, which support County efforts to maintain and enhance quality of life.
5. Support any expansion, continuation, and/or increased flexibility in the bidding/procurement, delivery, and management of construction projects.
6. Support legislation that provides grants and funding programs for the preservation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of historically and/or architecturally significant buildings and structures.
7. Oppose legislative or administrative actions that would create Federal unfunded mandates and/or preempt local decision-making authority.

8. Oppose attempts to restrict local authority with respect to issues that affect local communities.

Health and Human Services

1. Support ongoing, increased, and/or reauthorization of funding for existing programs such as the Prevention and Public Health Fund (PPHF), the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Community Mental Health Services (CMHS), the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grants, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Oppose efforts to reduce or divert funding away from these programs.
2. Support eliminating the Federal health benefits "inmate exception" for persons in County jails and detention centers who are in custody pending disposition of charges.
3. Federal Grants. Support efforts to ensure competitive equity for suburban areas (on par with urban and rural areas) for Federal grant opportunities.
4. Support legislation and budget action that would protect and enhance funding for subsidized child care services and child development programs including school readiness for all children.
5. Support legislation and budget action that would provide funding for programs and activities that support the special needs of elderly and disabled persons. [Support legislative efforts to increase Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\) for elderly and disabled persons.](#)
- ~~5-6.~~ [Support legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act to provide in-home services to the elderly.](#)
- ~~6-7.~~ Support any budget, legislative, or administrative action to increase Title IV-D Child Support Program funding.
8. Oppose cuts, block grants, and other measures that will shift Medicaid costs to counties. Support efforts to allow for utilizing billing codes for brief intervention services for alcohol and drugs and for two different services on the same day in a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC).
9. [Support legislation that increases taxes related to cigarette and/or tobacco related products and uses the revenue for tobacco cessation programs.](#)
10. [Support legislation that requires specific federal bills to undergo a health impact assessment of current and predicted effects, possibly completed by a nonpartisan body.](#)
11. [Support all health equity efforts at various institutional and sectoral levels, and ensuring a broader equity strategy within institutions and sectors. Applying metrics to identify equity gaps and measuring gains in intervention areas is a key priority.](#)
12. [Expand the current list of billable medical expenses to include valuable services \(Promotoras, chronic disease self-management programs, healthy food purchasing, etc.\) which are part of a broader menu of efforts to combat against chronic disease.](#)
13. [Support legislation and strategic efforts to reduce intake of high fat, sugar, sodium foods and beverages which may contribute to higher risk for developing specific chronic diseases.](#)
14. [Support policy for evidenced-based home visiting services as a preventive service, therefore eligible for Medi-Cal reimbursement such as California's Medicaid 1115 Waiver.](#)
- ~~7-15.~~ [Support eliminating the cutoff of funding for individuals that are eligible but are categorically defunded and the cost of medical care for these inmates defaults to the County upon arrest and detention of these individuals.](#)

Housing, Community and Economic Development, and Workforce Investment

1. Support increased and continued funding for existing programs including the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP), and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 8, [permanent and transitional permanent, transitional housing, and Rental Assistance Programs.](#) Oppose efforts to reduce funding and operational flexibility for these programs.

2. Encourage and seek legislation to facilitate orderly economic expansion and growth, and increase the opportunity for discretionary revenues, programmatic and financial flexibility for the County.
3. Support legislation that encourages job growth and the success of the business community.
4. Support legislation that provides a stable national-level appropriation for workforce development programs as a longer-term investment strategy for the nation's economy.
5. Support legislation that enhances a public/private, performance-driven block grant program that provides positive investments in the nation's workforce, including both the unemployed and those in need of skills training.
6. Support or seek federal grant funding opportunities that advance and improve housing, community and economic development, and workforce investment opportunities and legislative principles.
- ~~6-7.~~ Support legislation for increased HUD Section 202 funding for supportive housing for the elderly. Support legislative and regulatory efforts to connect health care and housing options for elderly and disabled persons to ensure Affordable Care Act home and community based services are effective.
- ~~7-8.~~ Oppose Federal legislation that would reduce U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) funds and support the expanded eligibility and access to these funds.

Public Safety and Emergency Disaster Preparedness

1. Support the preservation of funding levels for existing public safety programs such as the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne/JAG) Program, the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, and the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP). Oppose efforts to reduce or divert funding away from these programs.
2. Support continued or new funding for emergency disaster preparedness programs such as FEMA - Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG), the Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI), and emergency disaster preparedness and infrastructure damage recovery programs. Oppose efforts to reduce or divert funding away from these programs.
3. Support funding to address emergency preparedness needs, particularly those that include communications equipment, training/exercises, or ongoing operations and maintenance costs.
4. Support the preservation of existing funding levels for the Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG) program to help offset the cost of monitoring juvenile offenders through electronic means to ensure compliance with court orders and/or terms of probation, thereby holding them accountable.
5. Support any budget, legislative, or administrative action to increase Title IV-E Juvenile Probation Services funding.
6. Support legislation and grants that provide new and increased funding for prevention, intervention, victim support and services for families experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, dating violence, stalking, elder abuse and human trafficking.
7. Support legislation and grants that provide for new and increased funding for programs for the prevention and enforcement of financial exploitation of vulnerable populations.
8. Support legislation to provide Federal offset to recover outstanding restitution ordered to the victims of crimes and other delinquent court ordered fines, penalty assessments, and fees associated with criminal or juvenile justice proceedings. Support new legislation that would increase the collection term from three years to between 10 and 20 years, thereby avoiding having to seek civil judgments against clients.
9. Seek support for legislation and funding opportunities to implement supervision strategies and evidence-based practices that consider the treatment and service needs of targeted probationers such as sexual offenders, domestic violence offenders, and/or those with mental illness, in order to improve outcomes for these populations.
10. Support legislation and funding for flood protection, particularly as it pertains to areas where governmental and municipal buildings that play a role in local emergency response are located.
11. Support legislation and administrative rulemaking to extend high urban threat areas delineation to include rural locations and sensitive areas adjacent to rail.

12. Support legislation that improves the availability, affordability and coverage for earthquake and flood insurance.
- ~~10-13.~~ Support efforts to enhance capacity of local emergency responders to respond to potential emergency events resulting from hazardous materials releases from rail cars.

Resource Management, Environmental Health, and Sustainability

1. Seek Federal-funding opportunities to pay for green road maintenance and other enhancements to the transportation network that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Support funding and incentives for smart growth and sustainable development.
3. Support measures and funding legislation and administrative action that further the goals of the County's climate protection and sustainability efforts, ~~including programs that promote energy-efficient home improvements like the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program as referenced in the Board-adopted Climate Action Plan.~~
4. Support any budget, legislative, or administrative action that improves environmental health regulatory program implementation that improves the County's ability to provide a responsive, efficient and effective County Environmental Health program.
5. Support measures and funding for County programs and projects that address sustainability issues such as air quality improvement, energy efficiency, water conservation efficiency, renewable energy, fuel efficiency, energy adequacy, and security while balancing the reduction of emissions with impacts on business.
6. Support legislation that modifies existing law to improve implementation of environmental health regulatory programs.
7. Support legislation and grants that provide funding for implementation of environmental health programs such as food protection, recreational health, solid waste, liquid waste, water supply and hazardous materials programs.
8. Support any legislation that reduces or simplifies reporting requirements for local environmental health programs to the state.
9. Oppose FEMA proposals to require local jurisdictions to purchase repetitive loss properties.
10. Support legislation and grant funding opportunities that improve land use planning for major economic drivers and infrastructure projects in the County.
- ~~10-11.~~ Support legislation that fosters, establishes or expands regional purchasing capabilities and inter-jurisdictional infrastructure development to achieve local environmental and sustainability goals/requirements.

Transportation

1. Support efforts to maintain existing or increased funding for transportation programs and projects within the County.
2. Support legislative efforts for Federal transportation reauthorization measures that reflect the needs of the County and project priority in funding streams.
3. Support consideration of an increase or the indexing of the Federal gasoline tax and alternative sources of funding.
4. Support legislation and budget actions that provides additional and continuing funding for local infrastructure, including local roads, bridges, and transit priorities, as well as continued funding of the FAA Airport Improvement Program (AIP) for Airport capital improvement projects.
5. Support legislation and administrative rule making that improves rail and rail car safety for transport of hazardous material including crude oil.
- ~~4-6.~~ Seek funding and maximize opportunities to develop, support, and maintain a robust active transportation strategy, with particular attention to transportation and health equity issues.

Veterans and Veterans Affairs

1. Support efforts that provide enhanced benefits for veterans and active duty, reserve and National Guard members that are cost-neutral to counties, including expanded mental health services.
2. Support federal legislation and regulatory changes that would provide increased access for County Veterans Service Offices (CVSO) to VA information systems for use in developing and monitoring claims submitted on behalf of veterans, including but not limited to the federal Public Assistance and Reporting Information System (PARIS).
3. Support legislative, regulatory or policy changes that would create a federal/state/local government partnership to reduce the VA veteran's claims backlog and expand outreach services to veterans.
4. Support legislation that would make it a criminal offense to intentionally misdirect or mislead a veteran, or anyone acting on the veterans behalf, concerning benefits or entitlements.
5. Support legislation, regulatory or policy changes which expand/ increase VA responsibility to educate veterans on their entitlements.
6. Support legislation that would establish priority enrollment and registration for veterans in community colleges, state colleges, and universities.
7. Support legislation and funding to improve existing and construct new local veteran's facilities.
8. Oppose legislative efforts to reduce, cap or otherwise negatively impact veterans, active duty, reserve and National Guard members' pay and compensation packages.
9. Support legislation that would eliminate the Means Test (Income limits) for veterans to qualify for VA medical care.
10. Support legislation that would authorize VA pharmacies to honor prescriptions written by non-VA physicians.
11. Support legislation that would expand the eligibility criteria for VA Dental Services for veterans eligible for VA Healthcare.
- 7.12. Support legislation that would provide increased access for County Veterans Service Offices (CVSO) to VA information systems (i.e. VBMS, VACOLS, SHARE, MAPD, etc.) for use in developing and monitoring claims submitted on behalf of veterans.

Other Agency Interests

1. Travis Community Consortium – Support the mission of all military organizations located within the County. Support the 2014-2015 federal legislative priorities adopted by the Travis Community Consortium.
2. Solano Transportation Authority – Support the 2014-2015 federal legislative priorities and programs as outlined and adopted by the Solano Transportation Authority.
3. Delta County Coalition - Support the principles developed collectively by the Delta Counties Coalition.

PRIORITY ISSUES

The ability of Solano County to serve the residents of the County (County) and provide for a thriving and sustainable community requires support from all levels of government. The State of California's (State) actions and ongoing fiscal uncertainties continue to threaten the County's ability to provide vital services to the public. In order to fulfill the County's commitment to the community, State resources should be sought to support the County's mission to enrich the quality of life in the County. To this end, the County Board of Supervisors supports the priorities and the legislative principles set forth below.

Priority issues are those that have a significant impact on County business and on which County staff, including the County's State legislative advocates, will concentrate their legislative efforts during the 2014-2015 Legislative Session. The County's top priorities (Listed Alphabetically) include:

1. **Affordable Care Implementation** – Support healthcare policy implementation efforts that do not financially impact the County in a negative way. Examples of impacts may include unfunded or under-funded mandates, or reallocation of existing County funding that result in an increased General Fund obligation. Support ongoing and new efforts related to increasing the number of insured persons and to providing and expanding primary care services and public health prevention services and activities.
2. **County Revenue Sources** - Oppose efforts to decrease, restrict, eliminate, seize, divert, supplant or otherwise restrict local autonomy of local revenues. Oppose any efforts at the state level to eliminate or redirect revenues currently dedicated to local government for state purposes to other agencies and/or districts. Advocate for timely, full state funding for state programs operated by the County, which include appropriate cost of living increases, as well as costs associated with increases in population and caseload growth.
3. **County Strategic Plan** - Support efforts that further the goals outlined in the County's Strategic Plan as follows: (a) improve the health and well-being of those who live and work here; (b) ensure responsible and sustainable land use; (c) maintain a safe community; and (d) invest in and for the future.
4. **Environmental and Open Space** – Encourage and seek legislation that protects the County's quality of life, its diverse natural resources, and preserves the essence and history of the County. Support funding and regulatory efforts to preserve open space and agricultural viability.
5. **Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta** - Support legislative and administrative efforts to protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and County's interests relative to land use, agricultural **stability/viability**, economic development, police or emergency response mandates, environmental preservation, flood protection, levee stability, habitat conservation, recreation, water supply, water quality, and water rights. Support governance structures that give local government an equal voice with other stakeholders in setting Delta policy, **and in project development and implementation**.
6. **State Realignment & Cost-Shifts** - Oppose proposals to restructure, realign, or otherwise shift the cost of state programs to local government, without commensurate compensation and a legislative ability for counties to draw down available federal funding. Support efforts to distribute public safety realignment funds using an equitable formula based on population. Support efforts to improve the stability of current County revenue sources. Oppose any realignment initiatives, which fail to fully fund services shifted to the County.

7. **Voting and Election Efficiencies** - Support efforts to modernize election administration to increase voter turnout, reduce the local cost of elections, reduce waiting time at polling places, increase convenience for voters, and improve voting opportunity for overseas and military voters.

Furthermore, the Solano Board of Supervisors adopts the following legislative principles (Listed by Policy Area Alphabetically):

Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Water

1. Support efforts to maintain, enhance or more fully fund the regulatory authority of the Agricultural Commissioner/ Sealer of Weights and Measures. Support renewal and possible increases in annual fees that may be charged by County Weights and Measures for registering weighing and measuring devices for use within the County.
2. Support legislation or administrative rulemaking to allow growers to take feral hogs without a depredation permit or hunting license when the hogs are damaging crops or agricultural infrastructure.
3. Support legislation to collect a statewide cost share from the livestock industry to support USDA Wildlife Services in California counties. Support funding for an alternate intake to the North Bay Aqueduct;
4. Support efforts to protect the County's Farm Gate, including, but not limited to, full mitigation of agricultural and other economic impacts associated with habitat restoration efforts.
5. Support Legislation to extend the sunset on county authority to collect Weights and Measures Device Registration fees.
6. Support legislative or regulatory efforts to maintain local control/involvement in allocation of water resources.
7. Support an increase in California General Fund allocations to High Risk Pest Exclusion programs.
8. Support legislation that would authorize the Environmental Protection Agency to provide funding to state and local agencies for projects aimed at advancing the goals and objectives of the comprehensive conservation and management plan for the San Francisco estuary.
- 4.9. Oppose bills that allow for industry self-certification of weighing and measuring devices.

General Government

1. Support fiscal reform efforts that assure the County the financial independence necessary to provide services to its residents and meet its mandated responsibilities.
2. Support funding in order to improve the delivery of services, including technology acquisitions and upgrades, and make government more accountable and efficient to the people of California.
3. Support legislation that provides tax and funding formulas for the equitable distribution of state funds while opposing attempts to decrease, restrict, or eliminate County revenue sources.
4. Support increased appropriations to the County for mandated programs, including capital acquisition costs and regulatory relief to save on costs.
5. Support legislation that provides grants and funding programs for the preservation, rehabilitation, and maintenance of historically and/or architecturally significant buildings and structures.
6. Seek out, develop, and support legislative and budget efforts that protect and/or enhance local governments' revenues, maximize the County's access to state funding sources, and/or increases local funding flexibility.
7. Support the enactment of legislation to allocate statewide bond funding based on objective criteria developed with local input.
8. Support legislative action to ensure the ongoing recognition of PACE bonds as assessments and support the innovative County Energy Independence Program.

9. Support legislation that will allow the County to ensure full cost recovery for services provided to other governmental entities.
10. Support legislation that encourages mutually respectful relationships between tribal and local governments including reform to both fee-to-trust process and off-reservation gaming provisions to insure that the impacts of tribal development are fully mitigated and jurisdictional issues resolved.
11. Support legislation or regulatory reform that allows flexibility in the County's pension plan formula to ensure the County remains a competitive employer in the current market
12. Oppose attempts to restrict local authority with respect to issues that affect local communities. Support the County's authority to assure mutually acceptable tax sharing agreements for annexation, incorporation, and redevelopment that protect or enhance the County's ability to provide services to its residents.
13. Oppose legislative or administrative actions that would create state unfunded mandates and/or preempt local decision-making authority.
14. Oppose any effort to balance the state budget through the taking of local government resources.
15. Support or seek alternative legislation to extend existing provisions to allow design-build bidding and construction manager-at risk options on construction projects.

Health and Human Services

1. Oppose efforts to eliminate, seize, divert, supplant or otherwise restrict local autonomy of local revenues.
2. Advocate for changes relative to the client intake process to improve system performance and outcomes.
3. Support efforts to support and provide increased funding for prevention, intervention, and treatment services for youth and adults with substance abuse issues.
4. California Work Opportunity & Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKS). Oppose efforts to eliminate funding for CalWORKS programs and support services. Support efforts to streamline program requirements for counties. Support legislation to align CalWORKS regulations for single parents with children under 6 to match federal requirements. ~~Support legislation to allow drug felons to access CalWORKS grants to stabilize families and assist with funding and obtaining needed mental health and substance abuse services.~~
- ~~5. Support legislation and budget action which would protect and enhance funding for subsidized child care services, which in turn provides employment and education opportunities for residents of County.~~
- ~~6.5.~~ Support legislation that keeps families strong and children in their homes and out of the child welfare and criminal justice systems. When not possible, support legislation that promotes and funds services to meet the needs of current and former foster children, their families, and caregivers. Eliminate civil penalties for foster care homes since the children are removed until corrective action is taken and this policy could be a detriment to recruiting and retaining foster homes.
- ~~7.6.~~ Support legislation and budget action that would protect and enhance funding for subsidized and other quality child care services which in turn provide employment and education opportunities for residents of the County, and for early learning opportunities child development programs including Preschool, ~~and~~ Transitional Kindergarten, and other school readiness activities for all children.
- ~~8.7.~~ Support sufficient funding to meeting needs of all the children in our care until they are ready for independence.
- ~~9.8.~~ Support efforts that assist foster youth in the transition to self-sufficiency, including post emancipation assistance such as secondary education, job training and employment, access to health care and other social services and transitional and permanent housing.

- ~~10~~.9. Support new or increased funding for mental health programs. Support efforts that allow for maximum flexibility in funding decisions for counties to meet the needs of their community and mental health consumers and decrease regulatory mandates that hinder the ability of local mental health agencies from providing effective services. Support efforts to allow for flexibility for all appropriately licensed individuals to bill for provided mental health services.
- ~~11~~.10. Support prevention and public health goals including surveillance and community health.
- ~~12~~.11. Support eliminating the cutoff of funding for individuals that are eligible but are categorically defunded and the cost of medical care for these inmates defaults to the County upon arrest and detention of these individuals.
- 12. Support legislative efforts to increase awareness and promote public health issues within the County. Support enhanced training to handle pandemic disease outbreaks. Support efforts to allow for flexibility for all appropriately licensed individuals to bill for provided health services.
- 13. Support legislative and budgetary efforts to address obesity in Solano residents.
- 14. Support legislation to add e-cigarettes, menthol and smokeless tobacco products containing nicotine to the list of tobacco related products to be regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- 15. Support legislative and budgetary efforts to improve protections and services to prevent physical, mental, and elder abuse and neglect. Support efforts to improve and promote safety for seniors.
- 16. Support continued and protected funding for independent living services for foster youth including housing and educational support.
- 17. Support legislation that provides grants and funding for programs to address homelessness and related issues, including efforts to create tools for establishing affordable housing and transitional treatment programs.
- 18. Support legislation that promotes prevention–focused policies and interventions.
- 19. Advocate for timely, full state funding for state programs operated by the County that include appropriate cost of living increases, as well as costs associated with increases in population and caseload growth.
- 20. Support legislation that increases the reliability of child support payments.
- 21. Support any budget, legislative, or administrative action to increase funding for Local Child Support Agencies.
- 22. Support legislation to restore funding and expansion of early intervention and developmental services for infants and children, child care and pre-school funding.
- ~~21~~.23. Support legislation and budget efforts to reduce poverty, including safety-net and family/community strengthening services.

Housing, Community and Economic Development, and Workforce Investment

- 1. Support Housing Element reform that provides a streamlined certification process for jurisdictions that have small housing allocation, and that provides greater flexibility to agencies with limited urban services and strong city centered development policies.
- 2. Support affordable housing efforts for low-income individuals and families.
- ~~1~~.3. Encourage and seek legislation to facilitate orderly economic expansion and growth, and increase the opportunity for discretionary revenues, programmatic and financial flexibility for the County.
- ~~2~~.4. Support funding and incentives for smart growth and sustainable development.
- 5. Support and strengthen the federal/State/local delivery system for workforce development programs by assuring that State-level initiatives complement local delivery efforts that add value for these business-led efforts.
- ~~3~~.6. Support efforts to increase employment opportunities and linking training programs to local available employment.

Public Safety and Emergency Disaster Preparedness

1. Support continued and protected funding for all 2011 Public Safety Realignment programs, including Post-Release Community Supervision (PRCS), Youthful Offender Block Grant (YOBG), and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA).
2. Support legislation and regulations that mitigate liabilities of longer-term inmates as a result of realignment in areas such as health, mental health, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other areas of concern.
3. Support legislation that mitigates the impacts of long-term confinement in county jails and redirects inmates with sentences in excess of three years to state prisons.
4. Support efforts to maximize opportunity to get reimbursement for inmate medical care from federal Affordable Care Act (ACA).
5. Support legislation to protect existing or increased funding for local public safety programs, including COPS, Juvenile Justice Programs, Cal-MMET, Rural Sheriffs, Booking Fees, Vertical Prosecution, and other critical programs.
- ~~5-6.~~ Support efforts to secure appropriate funding for gang-related issues.
- ~~6-7.~~ Support legislation that establishes a presumptive limit for driving under the influence of marijuana.
- ~~7-8.~~ Support continued and protected funding for adult probation services. Support efforts for the provision of additional resources to reduce criminal recidivism and increase the supervision and management of felony offenders on probation.
- ~~8-9.~~ Support legislation to provide state offset to recover outstanding restitution ordered to the victims of crimes and other delinquent court ordered fines, penalty assessments, and fees associated with criminal or juvenile justice proceedings. Support new legislation that would increase the collection term from 3 years to between 10 and 20 years, thereby avoiding having to seek civil judgments against clients.
- ~~9-10.~~ Support legislation and grants that provide new and increased funding for prevention, intervention, victim support and services for families experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, dating violence, stalking, elder abuse and human trafficking.
11. Support legislation and funding for flood protection, particularly as it pertains to locations where governmental and municipal buildings that play a role in local emergency response.
- ~~10.~~ Support efforts to improve safety of hazardous materials transported by rail, including crude by rail and enhance capacity of local emergency responders to appropriately respond to potential emergency events resulting from derailment or releases.
12. Support legislation that improves the availability, affordability and coverage for earthquake and flood insurance.

Resource Management, Environmental Health, and Sustainability

1. Support legislation and administrative action that further the goals of the County's climate protection efforts, including the ability for a local agency to take greenhouse gas reduction credit for the permitting of utility scale green energy facilities.
2. Support legislative efforts to keep State Parks open in the County.
3. Support efforts to seek ongoing funding mechanisms that sustain operations, maintenance and repair of dated infrastructure in County and local park agencies.
- ~~4.~~ Advocate resolution of the "no fish stocking" ruling by Fish & Game at Lake Solano Park.
- ~~5-4.~~ Closely monitor updates to Stormwater rules that may have adverse effects on local communities.
- ~~6-5.~~ Minimize proposed changes to Building Codes made by the legislative process. Focus code changes on established procedures through the Building Standards Commission.
- ~~7-6.~~ Support the appeal of the \$150 per building fee applicable to rural State Responsibility areas. Strive for repeal or return of some of fee revenues to local fire districts.
- ~~8-7.~~ Oppose CalEMA's proposals to require local jurisdictions to purchase repetitive loss properties.

- 9-8. Support efforts to reinstate the state subvention for the Williamson Act program, which was eliminated in FY2011/12.
- ~~10-9.~~ Oppose legislation [and/or policy action](#) that would have the effect of circumventing the County's ability to require mitigation of the conversion of agricultural lands, including mitigation to enhance existing agricultural lands.
- ~~11-10.~~ Support sensible and meaningful CEQA reform that both streamlines processes and serves to reduce meaningless litigation, while maintaining strong analytic and mitigation requirements for large projects that clearly have significant environmental consequences at a regional or statewide level.
- ~~12-11.~~ Support any budget, legislative, or administrative action that improves environmental health regulatory program implementation that [that](#) improves the County's ability to provide a responsive, efficient, and effective County environmental Health program.
- ~~13-12.~~ Support legislation and grants that provide funding for implementation of environmental health programs such as food protection, recreational health, solid waste, liquid waste, water supply and hazardous materials programs.
- 13. Support any legislation that reduces or simplifies reporting requirements for local environmental health programs to the state, including revisions to Chapter 6.95 to streamline hazardous materials program reporting.
- 14. [Support any budget, legislation and grants for source reduction, recycling and composting to reduce the amount of solid waste that must be disposed of by transformation and/or land disposal in an effort to conserve landfill capacity and natural resources.](#)
- ~~14-15.~~ [Support any budget, legislation and grants to support extended producer responsibility and product stewardship policy to drive improvements in product design that promote environmental sustainability and reduce publicly financed waste diversion for end-of-life product management.](#)
- ~~15-16.~~ Support regulatory processes that are not a one-size-fits-all approach and maintain flexibility for the County to determine the best means of achieving water conservation mandates.
- ~~16.~~ ~~Seek to reverse the current diversion of the Off Highway Vehicle funding so that it returns to local agencies.~~
- 17. Support legislation to improve access to healthy foods via community gardens, school gardens, CSA's and other methods while also establishing criteria that ensures public health.
- 18. [Support legislation that enhances funding options for sustaining and expanding a countywide parks system.](#)
- ~~17-19.~~ [Support legislation that fosters, establishes or expands regional purchasing capabilities and inter-jurisdictional infrastructure development to achieve local environmental and sustainability goals/requirements.](#)

Transportation

- 1. Support legislation and budget actions s which provides additional and continuing funding for local infrastructure, including local roads, bridges, and transit priorities, as well as continued funding of the California Aid to Airports Program (CAAP) for capital projects.
- 2. Ensure that existing transportation funding sources are retained.
- 3. Seek to reverse the current diversion of the Off highway vehicle funding so that it returns to local source.
- 4. Seek funding from the Cap and Trade measure to pay for road maintenance including green roads and other enhancements to the transportation network that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 5. Support or sponsor legislation that provides for the ~~imposition~~ establishment, extension, or increase of a special tax for the purpose of providing funding for local transportation projects and lowers the threshold for voter approval to 55%.

Veterans and Veterans Affairs

1. Support efforts that provide enhanced benefits for veterans and active duty, reserve and National Guard members that are cost-neutral to counties, including expanded mental health services.
2. Support legislative, regulatory or policy changes that would create a federal/state/local government partnership to reduce the VA veteran's claims backlog and expand outreach services to veterans.
3. Support legislation and funding to improve existing and construct new local veteran's facilities.
4. Support state legislation to permit the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to collect data on incarcerated veterans and to give that data to the Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) for purposes of connecting those incarcerated veterans and their families with the benefits they are still entitled to while incarcerated, as well as assist the veteran upon release from incarceration.
5. Support legislation that would make it a criminal offense to intentionally misdirect or mislead a veteran, or anyone acting on the veterans behalf, concerning benefits or entitlements.
6. Support legislation that would establish priority enrollment and registration for veterans in community colleges, state colleges, and universities.
- ~~6. Support legislation that would provide state income tax relief to retirement pay of military retirees.~~

Other Agency Interests

1. Travis Community Consortium – Support the mission of all military organizations located within the County. Support the ~~2014-2015~~ state legislative priorities adopted by the Travis Community Consortium. Furthermore, encourage the State to adopt proactive measures regarding the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and convene an office at the State level to work with each community that has a military installation or defense contractors to protect California's interest with the decline in defense spending and the probable realignment of missions and closure of bases.
2. Solano Transportation Authority – Support the ~~2014-2015~~ legislative state priorities and programs as outlined and adopted by the Solano Transportation Authority.
3. Delta County Coalition - Support the principles developed collectively by the Delta Counties Coalition.

Proposed Changes submitted by The Children’s Network of Solano County

PRIORITY ISSUES

Add Children, Youth and Families to the 7 priorities listed

Children, Youth and Families – Encourage programs that assure all children are receiving the food, shelter, and early education opportunities needed to be happy, healthy, and productive members of our community. Support efforts to identify and secure additional for comprehensive high-quality early intervention; family support programs; youth tutoring, mentoring and recreational opportunities, and food and nutrition programs. (Report Card Recommendations # L,K)

Health and Human Services

8. Support sufficient funding to meeting needs of all the children in our care until they are ready for independence, with an emphasis in safety-net programs to help reverse the increase in the number of children living in poverty.
13. Support legislative efforts to increase awareness and promote public health issues within the County. Support enhanced training to handle pandemic disease outbreaks. Support efforts to allow for flexibility for all appropriately licensed individuals to bill for provided health services. Support efforts to decrease the high incidence of obesity among Solano County youth.
22. Support legislation to restore funding and expansion of early intervention and developmental services for infants and children, child care and pre-school funding. (Report Card Recommendation #B)
23. Support ongoing efforts to support family strengthening services that keep children in their homes and out of the child welfare and criminal justice systems. Record Care Recommendation #F)

Housing, Community and Economic Development, and Workforce Investment

3. Support funding and incentives for smart growth and sustainable development. Support affordable housing efforts.
5. Support efforts to increase summer employment opportunities for youth.

Legislative Proposal Department of Agriculture

CACASA is working with John Garamendi on an expedited inspection procedure for packages profiled by detector dogs at US Postal Facilities.

CACASA is working with Assembly Member Frasier's office to initiate legislation to extend the sunset provisions on County Weights and Measures Device Registration Fees in Business and Professions Code 12240.

When we have a vehicle for each of the above, I will work with Michelle to seek support positions from Solano County.

In recent years, Solano County Growers have sustained significant losses due to Agricultural Plant Pest Quarantines. In addition to regulatory compliance costs, growers have experienced embargoed crops and treatment costs from:

- Medfly
- Light Brown Apple Moth
- European Grapevine Moth
- Peach Fruit Fly
- Egyptian Broomrape

The number of plant pest quarantines imposed on Solano County far exceeds impacts to other agricultural counties. Why Solano has been the focus of so many seemingly unrelated pest introductions is open to speculation, but the fact of recurring grower losses is evident. When growers are forced to treat or abandon crops, their actions protect the industry at large – but the costs are on the individuals. In no case in Solano County has there been any linkage implicating the grower to the pest pathway, they are simply victims of a pest introduced by others.

In Animal Industry, growers are typically indemnified from losses due to de-population of herds or flocks and attendant disinfection costs. Recent California examples include Exotic Newcastle Disease and High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza as well as Bovine Tuberculosis. Plant pest have not been except for instance of specific congressional action in Plum Pox virus in New York and Citrus Canker in Florida.

Last year, in response to grower losses in San Joaquin County from and Oriental Fruit Fly outbreak, Congressman McNerney sponsored the Containing Risk, Offering Protection (CROP) Act -- H.R. 1319. The legislation was unsuccessful.

The local Farm Bureau and the Agricultural Advisory Committee are supportive of legislation to remedy this issue.

Yolo and Imperial Counties are supportive of this concept as well, Yolo experienced grower costs due to Cucumber Mottle Mosaic virus and Imperial County Asian Citrus Psyllid quarantines.

Complete by October 17, 2014

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Quality Childcare and Preschool Incentive

Problem Statement: Nationally and statewide there has been an increased focus on increasing quality of childcare and preschool (e.g. Quality Improvement Rating Scale), but some communities, including Solano County, have been left behind in funding opportunities, such as Race to the Top, due a lack of coordination and mobilization, as well as lack of baseline quality requirements (e.g. education level of early childhood providers, classroom observation ratings for teacher interaction and environment, developmental and health screenings, etc.).

Proposed Solution: Create legislation for individual providers and/or collaboratives to meet basic quality measures with the intention of better positioning Solano (and other communities) to access other funding opportunities. This could be done through financial incentives and/or licensing requirements.

Major Concern/Issues: There are challenges on agreeing what constitutes quality childcare and preschool. However, since other CA counties have been involved in Race to the Top funding, an agreed upon Quality Improvement Rating Scale (QRIS) has been drafted which can be utilized as a baseline.

Another challenge is while the childcare community overall agrees with increasing quality, with the increased quality comes increased cost which if not funding through other mechanisms often is passed on to families, many of whom already struggle with the high cost of childcare or preschool.

While these changes could potentially be costly, the downstream savings by having children ready for Kindergarten are great. In addition, bringing childcare and preschool up to a baseline standard could assist in accessing federal and state quality dollars.

Department: First 5 Solano

Point of Contact Name: Megan Richards

Phone Number: 707-784-1335

Complete by October 17, 2014

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title:

Approve pilot program for California Counties to select and award construction contracts on the basis of Best Value to the contracting county to the lowest responsible bidder.

Problem Statement:

California Counties are currently prohibited from awarding construction contracts based on Best Value for projects contracted through the traditional (design-bid-build) method of project delivery.

Proposed Solution:

Authorize a pilot program, similar to the pilot program currently available to Regents of the University of California per Public Contract Code Section 10506.4 et seq., for use by California counties to select and award construction contracts based on Best Value for projects contracted through the traditional (design-bid-build) method of project delivery.

Note: 'Best Value' in PCC Section 10506.5 is defined as "a procurement process whereby the lowest responsible bidder may be selected on the basis of objective criteria for evaluating the qualifications of bidders with the resulting selection representing the best combination of price and qualifications."

Major Concern/Issues:

The current design-bid-build method, which is ultimately determined by the price presented by the lowest responsible bidder, can often result in an adversarial relationship between the contracting County and General Contractor (and associated subcontractors), increased change orders, intensified administrative processes, schedule delays, and legal claims.

Department: General Services

Point of Contact Name: Kanon Artiche

Phone Number: (707) 784-7900

Complete by October 17, 2014

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title: Streamline the Legal Process to Ensure Access to Elder Justice

Problem Statement: In the preamble to the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act, (EADACPA) (Welfare & Institutions Code Section 15600 et seq.) enacted in 1992, the Legislature acknowledged that the elderly constitute a significant and identifiable segment of the population, are more subject to risks of abuse, neglect and abandonment, and that the state has a responsibility to protect these persons.

They further found and declared that infirm elderly persons and dependent adults are a disadvantaged class; that cases of abuse of these persons are seldom prosecuted as criminal matters and few civil cases are brought in connection with this abuse due to problems of proof, court delays and the lack of incentives to prosecute these suits. The Legislature's stated intent by enacting EADACPA was to enable interested persons to engage attorneys to take up the cause of abused elderly persons and dependent adults.

However, adequate funding for these courts was not allocated. While large urban counties were able to provide some County General Fund support, medium and small sized counties were not. As a result, elder courts were established in few counties, creating a fairness issue across California.

Proposed Solution:

Elder courts are a needed resource to realize the provisions of EADACPA and expand the provisions to include new penal codes for prosecution. These must include:

1. Provisions that private individuals must first seek active consent of a senior to provide finances to them, including affidavits of the senior's bank that assistance in the decision was provided,
2. bank reporting requirements for unusual transactions, and
3. a cooling off period that allows for investigations of Adult Protective Services to intervene and recover the money for the senior.

In order to make elder courts a reality, legislation is needed to

- (a) establish a specialized calendar for elder justice courts,
- (b) provide case management funding and guidelines for Adult Protective Services,

(c) provide funding for Legal Assistance for Seniors, and

(d) provide Victim-Witness programs and law enforcement training on documenting elder abuse cases.

Major Concern/Issues:

Without elder justice courts, complete justice for seniors cannot be realized. The past two years have shown a surge of financial abuse cases that could not be prosecuted because penal codes did not apply to these cases. Similarly, banks had no recourse to recover the monies for their clients. Courts should address not only criminal cases and restraining orders, but any case involving an elderly victim: Civil, probate conservatorship, landlord/tenant, and even adult adoption matters. Any case involving physical, financial or emotional abuse of an elder needs to be heard by the same trained, dedicated judge from start to finish.

One goal of the Elder Justice Court is to provide a supportive environment for older litigants, recognizing the physical, sensory and mental or cognitive changes prevalent in the aging population. As a result, evidentiary hearings must be scheduled for later in the morning when the elderly are more likely to be at their best in terms of mental functioning; funding must provide for a document reader to make exhibits readable by those with visual impairments and wheel chairs / hearing aids need be provided for those with mobility issues.

The court must be supported by Adult Protective Services and include a Senior Peer Counselor program, through County Mental Health, to staff the court in order to ensure that seniors not only have recourse but also receive maintenance services to ensure the intervention has long lasting effects. A cadre of well trained volunteers must be established to meet with the litigants in advance of the hearing, explain the process, review the papers and give the victims the confidence to appear in court, then following up with a reassurance call after the hearing, to be sure orders are properly filed and complied with, and to walk seniors through the emotional fallout from the hearings.

The advantage to the court system lies in consolidating ancillary cases involving the same older victim, in order to provide a consistent, efficient and therapeutic long lasting outcome. Recognizing that particularly with the elderly, justice delayed would truly be justice denied, adequate funding for counties will ensure that not only rich communities but all California communities will have the same access to elder justice.

Department: Health and Social Services

Point of Contact Name: Stephan Betz

Phone Number: 707-784-8207

Complete by October 17, 2014

2015 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Title:

Mitigation of Laura's Law Implementation Costs

Problem Statement:

Increasingly, public pressure is mounting to have counties adopt Laura's Law, which proposes to provide mandatory 'assisted outpatient services'. The model stipulates Court involvement, an intensive treatment regimen, and other program requirements that will result in increased costs to California counties. While some pilot programs suggest that the program may produce offsetting savings, data is not conclusive, and implementation of the program as required is likely to represent an additional cost to counties. Besides the fact that alternative approaches to situations addressed by Laura's law exist and are equally effective, the additional cost posed to counties upon adoption is significant.

Proposed Solution:

If a county adopts Laura's law voluntarily, State funds should be made available to County Boards adopting Laura's law to assist with initial ramp-up costs before any offsetting savings can be realized, for 12 months.

If the State mandates Laura's law as a result of new legislation, State funding to counties should similarly reflect this additional burden, pursuant to Proposition 30 requirements.

Major Concern/Issues:

Laura's law is one tool among others to promote public safety and the safety of clients

with serious and persistent mental illness. It imposes burdens upon the Judiciary, the Probation Department, and the Behavioral Health Division of Health and Social Services. It is not clear that the fashion in which it is crafted is as effective as it might be. Alternatives to it exist and are implemented in many counties across the State that target a similar population at risk for harm to others and/or themselves, with less judicial involvement.

Many consumer advocacy organizations are opposed to Laura's law as its provisions are seen as infringing on individual liberties and redundant with other safeguards already codified in WIC 5150.

While the law is perceived as promising a solution to issues of community nuisance, violence by the mentally ill client, its impact if adopted as required is somewhat small in terms of the numbers of clients that would be helped. To make a more meaningful difference, with potential savings for State and County alike, greater scale is needed, if implemented, requiring additional assistance from the State.

Department:Health and Social Services

Point of Contact Name: Halsey Simmons, MFT

Phone Number: (707) 784-8041