

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS

Thursday, March 30, 2017
Doubletree Hotel, Ontario

ATTENDANCE

Members: Latipow, Kurt (Chair); Arbuckle, Jan (V. Chair); Allen, Walt; Brown, Arthur; Carlton, Catherine; Castro, Peter; Chu, Larry; Dewey, Chris; Dieringer, Beatriz; Domen, Susan; Dupper, Phillip; Feldman, Reva; Fish, Greg; Frutos, Bob; Garbarino, Rich; Gee, Jeffrey; Grimes, Ed; Hernandez, Eugene; Holm, Dawn; Holman, Elbert; Hunt, Melissa; Judge, Mike; Liesemeyer, Matt; McManus, Terry; Nickel, Eric; Phillips, Jenifer; Pieper, Darold; Simonoff, Marty; Stanton, Barb; Stefano, Dan; Taj, Ali; Trent, Tami; Way, Catherine; Whalen, Bob; Wilson, Michael; Wolbach, Cory; Wolfe, Scott

League Partners: Stern, Maggie

Staff: Tim Cromartie

I. State Budget and Issues Briefing

The March 2017 Policy Committee meetings began with a general session briefing. Dan Carrigg, Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Director provided a much anticipated update on the looming transportation deal.

Dan Carrigg provided an overview of the comprehensive transportation-funding package, SB 1 (Beall), and constitutional transportation funding protection, ACA 5 (Frazier). He said that the League is a strong supporter of the measures that would generate and constitutionally protect \$5.2 billion dollars in new annual transportation revenues. The League, along with a broad coalition of local government, business, and labor has been strongly advocating for the passage of this package. Mr. Carrigg stressed the need for all cities to contact their legislators and send in letters of support in order to get the bill over the finish line. The League is working with the Administration and Legislature closely to pass a transportation-funding package by the imposed deadline of April 6, 2017.

Jason Rhine, Legislative Representative, briefed members on the large volume of housing bills introduced in the 2017 legislative session, sharing that many threaten removal of local land use authority in response to the housing crisis. In response to the housing crisis gripping many communities, the League is sponsoring multiple pieces of legislation. The sponsored and supported housing measures are presented as the League's Blueprint for More Housing. The Blueprint is headlined by SB 540, authored by Senator Richard Roth. SB 540 seeks to streamline housing construction by improving planning and environmental review processes that protect public engagement and environmental analyses. Mr. Rhine urged members to support the Blueprint and other measures, which provide support and financial assistance to cities and developers to lift California out of the housing crisis.

Tim Cromartie, Legislative Representative, briefed members on the issues surrounding the implementation of Propositions 57 and 64—both earned passage on the November 2016 ballot. Proposition 57, which expanded parole and good behavior credit opportunities for felons convicted of nonviolent crimes, has consequently triggered a litany of bills aimed at expanding the definition of a “violent” crime—which at present is narrowly defined. The League is supporting measures that expand this definition in order to ensure appropriate oversight of serious and violent offenders.

Staff also discussed the range of bills introduced that attempt to establish a regulatory framework for implementing the legalization of recreational marijuana under Proposition 64. The League is supporting bills that aim to safeguard public safety and health, including bills that aim to establish labeling and concentration standards. The Governor has indicated that there needs to be a unified regulatory framework for both recreational and medical marijuana. The League, along with the Police Chiefs Association, will be keeping a close eye on any such consolidated plan and the universe of Marijuana bills

Dan Carrigg provided a short briefing on the Trump Administration's "Skinny Budget" proposal. On March 16, 2017, President Trump released his "Skinny Budget" outlining his blueprint for federal spending. Among the proposed spending cuts, the budget eliminates the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program. In 2016, California cities received over \$253 million dollars from CDBG and just over \$70 million from the HOME program. The proposal also eliminates the State Criminal Alien Assistance Grants, Clean Power Plan, and the Economic Development Administration (EDA), and Minority Business Development Agency. The Budget includes a proposed 10 percent increase to defense spending, significant increases for Overseas Contingency Operations spending and a 6.8 percent increase to Homeland Security and Immigration enforcement, roughly \$690 billion overall. The League will continue to monitor state and federal budget activity as we approach Governor Brown's May Revise and future action on the federal budget

II. Welcome and Introductions

Members of the committee introduced themselves and welcomed all new members. The Chair thanked the members for their time and contributions.

III. Public Comment

Chief of Police Michael Johnson from the City of Anderson discussed the shooting to two police officers over the previous weekend. He stressed his concern over recent legislation including Propositions 47 and 57 and his support for strong public safety laws and regulations.

Jarhett Blonien who represents Communities for California Card Rooms and spoke about SB 654 (Dodd) and the need for local flexibility. He discussed the history of California's card rooms and the wide variety in types of card rooms throughout the state. He talked about how SB 654 (Dodd) helps public safety, local control, and creates jobs. Then the Committee discussed SB 654 (Dodd) and League staff answered the Committee's questions.

Committee Action: Motion to support SB 654 (Dodd) was moved and seconded. It was approved by a majority of the committee.

IV. Legislative Update

A. Federal Overview

Staff gave a brief overview of the issues cities face on the federal level, primarily in the areas of immigration and marijuana policy.

B. State Legislative Overview

Staff gave a State legislative update. He discussed what legislation the League is supporting that would address public safety impacts of reduced sentencing laws. Those bills included AB 27 (Melendez), AB 1326 (Cooper), and SB 75 (Bates). Staff then answered questions relating to the League's support position on these bills.

C. Proposition 64 Implementation

Staff explained what the League is doing to protect local priorities in the implementation of AUMA. The number one priority of the League is to restore evidence of local compliance to Proposition 64 implementation. The League is also supporting AB 1627 (Cooley), which will address the lack of guidance in Proposition 64 for circumstances under which grant monies under control of the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) will be distributed to local governments. Lastly, the League is pushing to ensure integrity in the distribution model for marijuana.

D. Proposition 57 Implementation

Staff discussed Proposition 57 and what the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) emergency regulations do. The new regulations from CDCR define what crimes are considered “non-violent” and the standards and rules for credit-earning. Staff elaborated on what offenses would disqualify an inmate from being considered for credit-earning. League staff was directed to continue to work on this issue with the Police Chiefs in the future.

Committee Action: Motion to direct League staff as outlined above was moved and seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 47 – 3.

E. AB 1578 (Jones-Sawyer) Marijuana: Cooperation with Federal Authorities

Staff explained to the committee the League’s rationale for opposing AB 1578 (Jones-Sawyer), which prohibits state and local law enforcement entities from cooperating with federal authorities in any investigation of a state-licensed marijuana business. In short, the League as a matter of policy does not support open defiance of federal law, and has raised concerns that the legislation may provoke the very enforcement activity against which it claims to want to protect California businesses.

F. AB 887 (Cooper) Public Safety Officers: Investigations and Interviews

Staff gave a brief overview of AB 887 (Cooper) which would require notification of an investigation into a law enforcement officer. The committee then asked a couple questions and had a brief debate.

Committee Action: Motion to oppose AB 887 (Cooper) was moved, seconded and pass by a vote of 25-21.

G. SB 21 (Hill) Law Enforcement Agencies: Surveillance Policies

Staff gave an explanation of SB 21 (Hill) to the committee. He explained the reasoning for the League’s “oppose unless amended” position. The Committee advised Staff to seek amendments that would give the local governing body to the option to discuss surveillance in open or closed session and to remove the private right of action for people to sue.

Committee Action: Motion to oppose unless amended was moved and seconded. After some debate, there was a substitute motion and second to oppose the bill. The substitute motion to oppose did not pass. The original motion to oppose unless amended with amendments, passed by a vote of 42-7.

H. SB 695 (Lara) Sex Offender Management

Staff discussed SB 695 (Lara) pertaining to a sex offenders tiered registry system. Detective Lauren Rauch from LAPD spoke about the arguments for SB 695 (Lara). He represented the California Sex Offender Management Board, who are co-sponsoring the bill with the Los Angeles County District Attorneys Office. He took numerous questions from the Committee.

Committee Action: Motion to support SB 695 (Lara) was moved and seconded. Passed with a vote of 49-1.

I. SB 378 (Portantino) Alcoholic Beverage Control

Staff gave a brief overview of SB 378 (Portantino), which the League is supporting. The bill pertains to emergency enforcement authority for the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to temporarily shut down a licensee, where public health or public safety are directly threatened.

J. Revised 2017 Public Safety Work Plan

Staff gave an overview of the revised work plan for the Public Safety policy committee and how it will meet the four League strategic goals. The committee proposed two amendments to the revised work plan.

Committee Action: Motion to adopt the work plan with amendments was moved and seconded. It passed with Unanimous Support.

K. FirstNet Presentation

Patrick Mallon, Assistant Director for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services gave a brief presentation about FirstNet.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 8, Sacramento Convention Center, Sacramento