



Federal Legislative Activities - Week of December 8, 2014

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of December 8th below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Monday, December 8th

The following legislation will be considered under suspension of rules:

[H.R. 5781](#) - California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2014. The bill takes numerous actions intended to quickly increase the availability of water for agricultural, municipal and industrial users in California's drought-stricken Central Valley, including by requiring that more water from rainstorms early in the state's "water year" be pumped south to users in the San Joaquin Valley and by requiring the Interior and Commerce departments to approve any emergency projects or operations that would quickly provide additional water to those users. The White House on Friday threatened to veto the measure, saying it does not address California's water challenges in an equitable manner and could undermine environmental law and invite litigation.

Tuesday, December 9th

10:00 | Senate Finance Committee Hearing: Social Security, focusing on if there is a key foundation of economic security working for women. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

10:30 | House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health Hearing: Setting Fiscal Priorities. The Subcommittee will hear testimony on key policy decisions the Committee may face in the 114th Congress as it seeks to adopt reforms that put the Federal budget on a more sustainable trajectory by curbing unrestrained spending in Federal health care programs. Click [here](#) to read the background memo and [here](#) to watch the live webcast.

11:00 | Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee Hearing: Inequality, opportunity, and the housing market. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

Tuesday, December 9th – Thursday, December 11th

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the House will meet at 12:00 for legislative business and at 9:00 on Thursday.

The following legislation will be considered under suspension of the rules:

Consideration of FY 2015 Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act — House and Senate negotiators are close to reaching agreement on legislation that would fund all or most government agencies for the remainder of FY 2015. Current stopgap funding expires at the end of the day Thursday, Dec. 11.

[H.R. 5059](#) - Clay Hunt SAV Act. This bill directs the VA to have an independent third party conduct annual evaluations of the VA's mental health care and suicide prevention programs. It also establishes a pilot program for loan repayments of psychiatrists who agree to serve in the department's Veterans Health Administration, as well as a pilot program to assist veterans transitioning from active duty and improve their access to mental health services

[H.R. 5185](#) – EARLY Act Reauthorization of 2014, as amended. This bill reauthorizes the Young Women's Breast Health Education and Awareness Requires Learning Young (EARLY) Act through FY 2019, authorizing the appropriation of \$4.9 million for each fiscal year. The measure requires the

Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to Congress within two years of enactment listing and detailing the activities of the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) that provide or support breast cancer education for young women. GAO must identify any activities that are duplicative with each other or with other federal breast cancer education efforts.

[H.R. 5705](#) – Propane Education and Research Enhancement Act of 2014. This bill clarifies that the Commerce Department, when preparing the annual analysis of changes in the price of propane relative to other energy sources, is to use the consumer price of consumer-grade propane as published by the Energy Information Administration – thus allowing the Propane Education and Research Council (PERC) to restart its educational outreach activities. The measure also requires PERC to develop strategies to mitigate the negative effects of future propane price spikes for propane distributors and consumer training programs.

Wednesday, December 10th

10:30 AM Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism Hearing: Campus sexual assault, focusing on the roles and responsibilities of law enforcement.

2:00 | House Committee on the Judiciary Hearing: The Impact on Local Communities of the Release of Unaccompanied Minors and the Need for Consultation and Notification.

2:30 | Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Hearing: Passenger rail, focusing on investing in our nation's future. This hearing will focus on the current state of intercity passenger rail in the United States, the need to invest for future growth, and implications for future legislative action. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

Thursday, December 11th

10:00| House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Hearing: Evaluating Federal and Community Efforts to Eliminate Veteran Homelessness

10:00 | House Committee on Energy and Commerce Hearing: The Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975: Are We Positioning America for Success in an Era of Energy Abundance. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.