

Contra Costa County

Draft Talking Points for Delegation Visits

- Contra Costa's sponsored bills

- **AB 592** (Wilson) – Illegal Dumping
 - Illegal dumping continues to be a problem in the county.
 - This bill would help us stop illegal dumping before it happens by catching unpermitted waste haulers.
- **SB 511** (Blakespear) – GHG inventory, co-sponsoring with CivicWell
 - This bill would have CARB provide counties and cities with their local GHG inventories.
 - The information will give us the information we need to focus our GHG-reduction efforts where they're most needed.
- **AB 540** (Wicks) – Social Service Transportation Improvement Act
 - Improves coordination and provides revenue for mobility options for seniors and those with disabilities.
 - These populations are increasing, but funding has long stagnated and the system can be confusing to use, both of which this bill would fix.

- Major statewide county issues

- **Behavioral Health and Homelessness**
 - These are long-term, systemic issues that require focused efforts, clear responsibilities, and accountability at all levels of government.
 - The Governor's recent plans have merit, especially the bond for new psychiatric beds, but they also create new problems.
 - Simply expanding eligibility for existing programs and reallocating existing funds will not move the needle on these difficult issues.

- Without significant new resources, moving funding around just changes who is being served, without increasing the overall number of people receiving the services they need.
- There is also a large and growing shortage of health and behavioral health workforce; Contra Costa is opposed to the Governor's proposal to cut \$49.8 million from various public health workforce programs.

- Other possible topics:

- **IST Penalties** (incompetent to stand trial) – recent legislation sets unrealistic goals that counties aren't in control of, then penalizes the county and directs spending of local funds for state purposes.
- **DJJ Realignment** – insufficient resources and local facilities/programs
- **AB 1484** – would make it harder and more expensive to hire temporary employees, similar to efforts in past years to make it nearly impossible to contract out for any services

- Bills Contra Costa supports:

- AB 240 (Kalra) – SUPPORT – spay-neuter fund – tax on pet food labels
- AB 400 (Rubio) – SUPPORT – design-build authorization – remove sunset
- AB 482 (Wilson) – SUPPORT – ongoing funding for air ambulance services
- AB 817 (Pacheco) – SUPPORT – open meetings – teleconferencing for subsidiary bodies
- SB 287 (Skinner) – SUPPORT – social media features that harm child users

- Bills Contra Costa opposes:

- AB 1168 (Bennett) – OPPOSE – fragmentation of EMS
- Budget proposal – OPPOSE – \$49.8 million cut to Public Health Workforce Development