

## **Board of Supervisors Legislative Committee – October 31, 2017**

Conference Room 11

### ***Board of Supervisors Members Present:***

Sharon Bulova, Chairman  
Penelope Gross, Mason District (Vice Chairman)  
Jeff McKay, Lee District (Committee Chair)  
John Cook, Braddock District  
John Foust, Dranesville District  
Pat Herrity, Springfield District  
Catherine Hudgins, Hunter Mill District  
Linda Smyth, Providence District  
Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District

### ***Meeting Agenda:***

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/sites/boardofsupervisors/files/assets/meeting%20materials/committees/2017/oct31-legislative-agenda.pdf>

### ***Meeting Materials:***

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/boardofsupervisors/board-legislative-committee-meeting-oct-31-2017>

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 A.M.

### ***Summary of Discussion:***

#### **Federal Items:**

- Key Dates and Guidelines
- Draft Recommended Strategies and Principles for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress
- 115<sup>th</sup> Congress Federal Legislative Tracking Chart (*provided for information*)

The Legislative Committee received an update from Nancy Prowitt, President and Chief Operating Officer, Alcalde & Fay, and Cindy Colenda, Partner, Alcalde & Fay, on a number of federal items including the budget and the proposed tax reform package.

The Legislative Committee directed staff to strengthen language relating to the State and Local Tax deduction, and consider the entire tax package in crafting language for the federal legislative program. The Legislative Committee also directed staff to consider adding language in support of expediting the Soapstone Connector project; funding for the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force; and, funding for the U.S. Census Bureau to conduct an accurate and thorough decennial census in 2020.

## Board of Supervisors 2018 Draft Legislative Program:

The Board reviewed the following items:

- Priorities:
  - Funding Cores Services – K-12 Funding – Joint Position with the Fairfax County School Board (*discussed later in the meeting with the Fairfax County School Board*)
  - Funding Core Services – Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA)
    - The Legislative Committee directed staff to include a reference to the Board’s support for the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) resolution in this section, and provide copies of the resolution to the Fairfax County General Assembly delegation.
  - Funding Core Services – Transportation Funding
    - The Legislative Committee discussed the language relating to Potomac River crossings; staff was directed to leave the language as written.
- Position Statements:
  - Funding – Public Safety/Courts Funding and Human Services – Mental Health, Public Safety, and the Criminal Justice System
    - The Legislative Committee directed staff to change language referencing “mental health courts” to instead refer to “specialty courts,” in light of the possibility that courts could be formed to address the opioid crisis.
  - Human Services – Substance Use Disorder

## Potential Proffer Legislation for the 2018 GA Session (*Provided for Information*)

The Legislative Committee received a copy of a Prince William County presentation on potential proffer legislation for the 2018 GA session.

## Board of Supervisors 2018 Draft Human Services Issue Paper:

- Position Statements
  - School Readiness
  - Youth Safety
  - Substance Use Disorder
  - Mental Health

## Update on Fairfax County Poverty Statistics

The Legislative Committee received an update on Fairfax County poverty statistics, including poverty statistics for the 65+ population, an infographic on poverty in Fairfax County, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s (MIT) living wage calculation for Fairfax County.

## Overview of Virginia Suicide Prevention Efforts

The Legislative Committee received an update on suicide prevention efforts in Virginia, including relevant legislation enacted by the 2017 GA.

Item for Further Consideration. The Committee reviewed the following item and took the actions indicated below:

- Human Services – Serving a Petition on a Non-Petitioning Parent Prior to a Minor’s Involuntary Commitment
  - The Legislative Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to further analyze the petitions dismissed due to lack of service in an attempt to better understand the primary obstacles to completing service. The Committee also concurred with the staff recommendation to begin gauging potential reactions or obstacles among GA members or other stakeholders, and to have staff report back to the Board at the November 28, 2017, Legislative Committee meeting. Staff outlined two potential options for next steps: 1) send a letter to the Joint Subcommittee to Study Mental Health Services in the Commonwealth in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, asking them to examine the issue, or 2) initiate legislation in the 2018 GA. Finally, the Committee concurred with the staff recommendation to include language in the draft Legislative Program for public consideration, in order to ensure the public is aware of the possibility of a legislative initiative prior to the November 21, 2017, public hearing.

***School Board Members Present:***

Jane Strauss, Dranesville District (Chair)

Karen Corbett Sanders, Mount Vernon District (Vice Chair)

Sandy Evans, Mason District

Elizabeth Schultz, Springfield District

K-12 Funding – Joint Discussion with the Fairfax County School Board

Members of the Fairfax County School Board joined the Legislative Committee for a joint discussion on K-12 funding. The Legislative Committee received an overview of the previous K-12 Funding position and proposed updates to the position for the 2018 GA. The Legislative Committee directed staff to further emphasize the resource demands associated with a large number of students living in poverty, students receiving special education services, and English language learners. Additionally, the Committee discussed the need for consistent data as it relates to the population of Fairfax County students living in poverty.

The Legislative Committee also discussed two letters on K-12 funding to be sent to Governor McAuliffe and Governor-elect Northam. The Legislative Committee directed staff to include language in the letters relating to the resource demands associated with a large number of students living in poverty, students receiving special education services, and English language learners. Additionally, the Legislative Committee directed staff to include language regarding systemic cuts to education funding.

Finally, the Legislative Committee received a copy of a presentation developed by Jim Regimbal (Fiscal Analytics, Ltd.), “The Outlook for K-12 Education Funding and How to Improve Virginia’s Fiscal Situation” as an information item to review.

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 P.M.

***Votes Taken:*** None

*Prepared by Arielle McAloon, Legislative Associate*