

To: Board of Supervisors, Humboldt County
CC: Elishia Hayes, County Administrative Officer
From: Paul J. Yoder and Karen Lange
Date: October 13, 2023
RE: 2023 End of Year Legislative Summary

2023 Legislative Session

The first year of the two-year legislative session has ended. The Legislature will return for the second year of the two-year session on January 3, 2024. The Governor has until October 14, 2023, to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature in the last several weeks of the legislative year. At this point in time Governor Newsom has signed 788 bills and vetoed 154. There are approximately 102 legislative measures that have been enrolled whose fate is yet to be determined. Given the number of bills on the Governor's desk, their final status may not be known until the deadline.

As of June 30, Central Valley democrat Assemblyman Robert Rivas succeeded Speaker Rendon. The new Speaker has selected Assemblywoman Aguiar-Curry, from Northern California, as his Assembly Pro-Tem and Assemblyman Isaac Bryan, from Los Angeles, as his Assembly Majority Leader. This summer witnessed a change in the Senate as well. Current Senate Majority Leader Mike McGuire has announced that he has secured the votes to succeed Pro-Tem Toni Atkins in the upcoming year. As of now, it remains to be seen who he will select for his leadership team.

Throughout 2023, SYASL worked with the CAO's Office and county department heads to articulate support and opposition as warranted on key budget and legislative items (see bill matrix below). In particular, SYASL encouraged the county to reach out to Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin to expand AB 531 to include funding that may be used to support their Veteran's Halls. SYASL also worked with the CAO's office pertaining to ongoing inquiries about the Nordic Aquafarms project and the possibility of acquiring the EDD building in downtown Eureka. Further, SYASL worked with the County and Assemblymember Nguyen to seek legislation related to vehicle license fees.

SYASL also coordinated with the Humboldt County state legislative delegation as needed to address emerging and ongoing concerns. Lastly, SYASL ensured that Humboldt County staff were aware of state funding opportunities for a myriad of local purposes and projects.

Wind Energy

There was no shortage of interest in wind energy policy in 2023. In addition to the ongoing work at the California Energy Commission (CEC) to implement the requirements of AB 525 (2020), a series of bills were introduced to further the development and implementation of offshore wind.

The two most substantial bills on this topic, signed by the Governor, are SB 286 (McGuire) and AB 1373 (Garcia). SYASL was in regular contact with County staff on both bills.

- **SB 286 (McGuire):** Will consolidate permitting for offshore wind's onshore facilities. County staff participated in conversations with the author's office and Coastal Commission staff to evaluate the process by which county concerns would be elevated during the consolidated coastal permit process

and received assurances from Commission staff that permits would not be issued without extensive consultation with the County. Should the measure be signed (the Department of Finance (DOF) opposes this bill due to costs), it is worth the board's consideration to have a public conversation with the Commission staff to further memorialize the process the Commission will undertake during permitting to ensure county impacts are fully mitigated. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 7, 2023.*

- **AB 1373 (Garcia):** Authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to develop a central procurement entity that will be the "backstop" purchaser of power generated from offshore wind and lithium-derived energy. Offshore wind developers signaled to the administration that they needed to assure "buyers" of the power to secure financing and investment planning for development. Biomass was purposefully excluded from this procurement. The initial version of the bill included a requirement that bids offered by sellers include a line-item charge that would have gone to an Offshore Wind Workforce Development fund, and used for related purposes. The version of the bill enrolled to the Governor eliminated this charge and instead authorized the California Energy Commission to allocate funding for "High Roads" grants, though the bill itself does not provide funding for this function. Recognizing the need for ongoing local government support, the county collaborated with San Luis Obispo County (which is home to the only other wind energy area in California) to submit a joint letter requesting an amendment to the bill to include a charge for local government funding. The amendment was ultimately not accepted, though the author expressed interest during committee hearings to continue working on local and community funding related to the bill. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 7, 2023.*

Considerable emphasis has been placed on workforce investments to prepare for offshore wind development. There will be opportunities for the County to coordinate with developers on aspects of this to maximize benefits for the local workforce. It's also wise to consider engaging with the developers to ensure beneficial point-of-sale transactions (for materials, etc., in support of wind) are a consideration, given the changing requirements at the State on where the point of sale is and how those changes can drive fluctuations in sales tax revenue. Key members of the Legislature on this topic as well as the Governor's staff are very aware that SYASL is advocating on this issue for Humboldt County and its residents.

Wildfire Insurance

At the eleventh hour, an insurance proposal was discussed behind closed doors to motivate insurance companies to continue writing policies in California, supposedly. However, due to a lack of time and some miscues by the industry, an agreement could not be reached that would adequately satisfy the insurance industry yet not run afoul of consumer advocacy groups. Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas did however indicate the Assembly will hold a series of hearings on the subject this fall, which could set the table for legislative action.

While no legislative or regulatory action has occurred so far, there have been developments. Governor Newsom signed an Executive Order urging Insurance Commissioner Lara to take swift action to address issues with the insurance market and expand coverage options for consumers. The EO aims to expand coverage choices for consumers, improve the efficiency, speed, and transparency of the rate approval process, maintain the solvency of the FAIR Plan, and direct the Department of Finance to consult with the California Department of Insurance to support the rulemaking process and help accelerate the implementation of potential regulations.

Shortly following the announcement of Governor Newsom's Executive Order, Insurance Commissioner Lara held a press conference to announce a package of actions aimed at improving insurance choices and protecting

Californians from increasing climate threats while addressing the long-term sustainability of the nation's largest insurance market. Of note, he explained that they will increase availability in wildfire risk areas using prior approval authority, writing no less than 85%; under this agreement, a company will write an average of 85% of the market insurance using a data-informed approach. Insurance Commissioner Lara also stated that this new strategy will use catastrophe models and will require insurance companies to offer discounts and increased transparency for home hardening. Lastly, he stated that his department will be looking into California only reinsurance costs. The Department of Insurance is set to meet with your Board on Oct. 24 to present this information and discuss other issues.

Further, the Assembly Insurance Committee and the Assembly Select Committee on Wildfire Prevention held a joint informational hearing pertaining to Wildfire Insurance: Risk, Resiliency, and Recovery on October 9, 2023.

Major Bill Updates

All of the bills listed below have been acted on by the Governor unless not stated:

- **AB 1256 (Wood):** This bill authorizes the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to impose a district tax for countywide transportation programs at a rate of no more than 1% that would, in combination with other TUTs, exceed the combined rate limit of 2%. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 9, 2023.*
- **AB 505 (Ting):** Authorizes the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) ombudsperson to access juvenile detention facilities at any time without prior notice and to access juvenile facility records at all times. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 9, 2023.*
- **AB 1484 (Zbur):** Amends the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA) to require inclusion of temporary employees in the same bargaining unit as permanent employees. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2023.*
- **SB 525 (Durazo):** This bill (1) enacts a phased in multi-tiered statewide minimum wage schedule for health care workers employed by covered healthcare facilities, as defined; (2) requires, following the phased-in wage increases, the minimum wage for health care workers employed by covered healthcare facilities to be adjusted, as specified; (3) provides a temporary waiver of wage increases under specified circumstances; (4) and establishes a 10-year moratorium on wage ordinances, regulations, or administrative actions for covered health care facility employees, as specified.
- **SB 799 (Portantino):** This bill authorizes workers involved in a trade dispute to collect unemployment insurance (UI) benefits, after a two-week wait period, while they are on strike. *This measure was vetoed by the Governor on September 30, 2023.*

Qualified Initiatives and Constitutional Amendments

The measures below are eligible for the November 2024 Statewide Election:

- **ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry):** This constitutional amendment, subject to voter approval, allows a city, county, or special district, with 55% voter approval, to incur bonded indebtedness or impose specified special taxes to fund projects for affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, or public infrastructure, as specified. *This measure was chaptered by the Secretary of State on September 20, 2023.*

- **ACA 13 (Ward):** Requires an initiative constitutional amendment to comply with any increased voter approval threshold that it seeks to impose on future ballot measures. Guarantees in the state constitution the ability of local governments to submit advisory questions to voters. *This measure is being held at the Assembly desk until November 1, 2023.*
 - o Please note, that Governor Newsom signed SB 789, which calls for a special election to be consolidated with the statewide general election scheduled for November 5, 2024, and would require the submission of SCA 2, ACA 5, and ACA 1 to the voters at that election. This bill also declares that it is to take effect immediately as an act calling an election, which also exempts it from a referendum. Similarly, ACA 13, is being held at the Assembly Desk until November 1, 2023, and then will then be submitted to the Secretary of State, which means it will also be on the November 2024 statewide general election ballot.

- **Limits ability of voters and state and local governments to raise revenues for government services (21-0042A1):** The proposal would limit the ability of voters and state and local governments to raise revenues for government services. The Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act states, for new or increased state taxes currently enacted by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature, they will also require a statewide election and majority voter approval. This proposal limits voters' ability to pass voter-proposed local special taxes by raising the vote requirement to two-thirds. It also eliminates voters' ability to advise how to spend revenues from a proposed general tax on the same ballot as the proposed tax. Furthermore, this proposal expands the definition of "taxes" to include certain regulatory fees, broadening the application of tax approval requirements. Lastly, the proposal also would require the Legislature, or a local governing body set certain other fees. According to the LAO analysis, they estimate that this measure will result in lower annual state and local revenues, potentially substantially lower, depending on future actions of the Legislature, local governing bodies, voters, and the courts.

- **Provides funding for Pandemic Detection and Prevention by increasing taxes on incomes over \$5 Million (21-0022A1):** This proposal increases tax on personal income over \$5 million by 0.75% for 10 years, and allocates new tax revenues as follows: 50% to the California Institute for Pandemic Prevention (established by this measure), to award grants for research and development of technologies to detect and prevent future pandemics; 25% for public health programs for pandemic preparedness; and 25% for improvements to school facilities to limit disease transmission. Creates Independent Scientific Governing Board to administer the Institute; requires board members to have specified medical, technological, or public-health expertise. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Increased state tax revenues that likely would range from around \$500 million to \$1.5 billion annually for the ten-year period the new tax would be in effect. Revenues entirely would support activities related to infectious disease control and pandemic prevention.

- **Eliminates an employees' ability to file lawsuits for state labor-law violations (21-0027A1):** Repeals 2004 law allowing employees to file lawsuits on behalf of themselves and other employees against employers to recover monetary penalties for certain state labor-law violations. The Labor Commissioner retains the authority to enforce labor laws and impose penalties. Eliminates the Labor Commissioner's authority to contract with private organizations or attorneys to assist with enforcement. Requires the Legislature to provide funding of an unspecified amount for Labor Commissioner enforcement. Requires Labor Commissioner to provide pre-enforcement advice; allows employers to correct identified labor-law violations without penalties. Authorizes increased penalties for willful violations. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments:

Likely increase in state costs to enforce labor laws that could exceed \$100 million per year. Reduction in state penalty revenue used for labor law enforcement in the tens of millions of dollars annually.

- **Raises the minimum wage to \$18.00 an hour (21-0043A1):** Existing law requires annual increases to California's minimum wage until it has reached \$15.00 per hour for all businesses on January 1, 2023. This measure extends these annual increases (\$1.00 per year) until minimum wage—currently, \$15.00 per hour for businesses with 26 or more employees, and \$14.00 per hour for smaller businesses—reaches \$18.00 per hour. Thereafter, as existing law requires, the minimum wage will annually adjust for inflation. In periods of decreased economic activity, or General Fund deficit, the Governor may suspend annual increase up to two times, thereby extending the timeline for reaching \$18.00 per hour. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unclear change in annual state and local tax revenues, likely between a loss of a couple billion dollars and a gain of a few hundred million dollars. Increase in annual state and local government costs likely between half a billion dollars and a few billion dollars.
- **Referendum challenging 2022 Law - Fast Food Workers (22-0005):** If the required number of registered voters sign this petition and it is timely filed, a 2022 law will not take effect unless approved at the next statewide general or special election after November 8, 2022. The challenged law: Authorizes the creation of Fast-Food Council (upon submission of 10,000 fast-food worker signatures) to set working standards and minimum wage (up to \$22/hour in 2023, with capped annual increases) at fast-food restaurants with 100+ nationwide locations; Prohibits retaliation against fast-food workers for making certain workplace complaints.
- **Referendum challenging 2022 Law – Oil and Gas Well Locations (22-0006):** If the required number of registered voters sign this petition and it is timely filed, a 2022 law will not take effect unless approved at the next statewide general or special election after November 8, 2022. The challenged law: Prohibits most new or modified oil and gas wells within 3,200 feet of specified locations, including housing, schools, daycares, parks, healthcare facilities, community resource centers, detention facilities, and businesses open to the public. Requires existing wells in these areas to meet specified health, safety, and environmental requirements by January 1, 2025.
- **Expands local governments' authority to enact rent control on residential properties (22-0008):** Current state law (the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995) generally prevents cities and counties from limiting the initial rental rate that landlords may charge to new tenants in all types of housing, and from limiting rent increases for existing tenants in (1) residential properties that were first occupied after February 1, 1995; (2) single-family homes; and (3) condominiums. This measure would repeal that state law and would prohibit the state from limiting the right of cities and counties to maintain, enact, or expand residential rent-control ordinances. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on the state and local governments: Overall, a potential reduction in state and local revenues in the high tens of millions of dollars per year over time. Depending on actions by local communities, revenue losses could be less or more.

Cannabis Bills

The bills below represent legislative measures related to Cannabis that Humboldt County took a position on:

- **AB 1111 (Pellerin):** This bill would have created a small producer event sales license for use at licensed temporary cannabis events, as specified. *This bill was held under submission in the Senate Appropriations Committee.*

- **SB 833 (McGuire):** This bill requires the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC), no later than March 1, 2024, to begin allowing cultivators to select a smaller license type or place their license in inactive status, as specified. *This bill is on the Governor's desk awaiting action.*
- **AB 1207 (Irwin):** This bill would implement provisions of AUMA by prohibiting the sale, distribution, or manufacture of cannabis, cannabis products, packaging, or labeling that are attractive to children, as defined. *This bill was vetoed by the Governor on October 8, 2023.*

Other Tracked Legislation

The following bills we believe to be of particular interest to Humboldt County:

- **SB 584 (Limon):** This bill would have required a 15% state short-term rental (STR) occupancy tax to be collected, as specified, and allocated the funds for the construction, acquisition, and rehabilitation of affordable housing and renter protection programs, as specified. *This bill was held in the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee.*
- **AB 910 (Wilson):** Revises the qualifications for the office of county auditor and expands the documentation that may be considered by a county official in determining if a person is a legally qualified candidate for county office. Late amendments removed the requirement that the candidate's statements be actually verified by elections' staff, and put the onus on the candidates, under penalty of perjury. (Previous versions required elections staff to review the filings). *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2023.*

Humboldt County Budget Earmarks

The following bills have all been signed by the Governor and contain Humboldt County budget earmarks:

- **AB 102 (Ting):** This bill is a Budget Bill Junior associated with the Budget Act of 2023. This bill makes technical and substantive changes to the Budget Act. The funding provided to Humboldt County is as follows:
 - o \$25,000,000 is provided to support the transition of Humboldt State University into a polytechnic university.
 - o \$2,000,000 for the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association for allocation to southern Humboldt and northern Mendocino County fire districts and fire companies to purchase new wildland firefighting apparatus.
 - o \$1,435,000 to the Life Plan Humboldt, for the Life Plan Humboldt.
- **AB 103 (Ting):** This bill amends the Budget Acts of 2021-22 and 2022-23 to reflect the three-party budget agreement for 2023. Included in AB 103 was:
 - o \$256,991,000, of which \$231,991,000 is available on a one-time basis, to support the transition of Humboldt State University into a polytechnic university.
 - o \$2,000,000 to the City of Arcata for Humboldt Crabs Ball Park and Carlson City Park improvements.
 - o \$200,000 to the Southern Humboldt Unified School District (SHUSD) for feasibility study student for converting campus building into permanent educator and workforce housing.

- **AB 118 (Committee on Budget):** This bill is an omnibus health trailer bill and contains changes to implement the 2023-24 budget. Included in AB 118, no sooner than July 1, 2017, the department may establish a Whole Child Model program for Medi-Cal eligible CCS children and youth enrolled in a managed care plan served by a county organized health system or Regional Health Authority, or commencing no sooner than January 1, 2024, an alternate health care service plan contracted with the department pursuant to Section 14197.11, in the following counties: Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Marin, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Napa, Orange, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Trinity, and Yolo.

Behavioral Health & Homelessness Updates

The Legislature approved the latest major initiatives in Governor Newsom’s broader, multi-year behavioral health and homelessness agenda. With the passage of these bills, California voters will now have the opportunity in March 2024 whether to rewrite Proposition 63 and bond for the construction and rehabilitation of behavioral health facilities. The Governor’s goal has been to redirect billions of dollars in existing funds to prioritize homeless Californians with severe mental health and severe substance use disorders.

Additionally, the Legislature passed conservatorship reform as well as new accountability proposals for counties and cities with respect to monies to resolve homelessness in California.

- **SB 326 (Eggman):** This bill revises and recasts the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) as the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) if voters approve amendments to the MHSA at the March 5, 2024, statewide primary election. This bill clarifies that county behavioral health programs are permitted to use BHSA funds to treat primary substance use disorder conditions and makes conforming changes throughout the BHSA. This bill restructures current MHSA funding buckets. This bill enhances the current process for local planning of various services funded by the BHSA, and for oversight, accountability, and reporting of BHSA funds. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2023.*
- **AB 531 (Irwin):** Creates the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2024 (Bond) to, subject to voter approval, authorize \$6.380 billion in general obligation (GO) bonds to finance permanent supportive housing for veterans and others, as well as unlocked and locked behavioral health treatment and residential settings for individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness with severe behavioral health challenges. Allows for by right streamlined, ministerial review for capital projects funded by the bond. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 12, 2023.*
- **SB 43 (Eggman):** This bill expands the definition of “gravely disabled,” for purposes of involuntarily detaining an individual with a severe substance use disorder (SUD), or a co-occurring mental health (MH) disorder and a severe SUD, or chronic alcoholism that is unable to additionally provide for personal safety or necessary medical care. This bill deems statements of specified health practitioners, for purposes of an expert witness in a proceeding relating to the appointment or reappointment of a conservator, as not made inadmissible by the hearsay rule, as specified. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2023.*
- **SB 35 (Umberg):** This bill modifies the Community, Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, which requires certain counties to implement the CARE Court Program beginning October 1, 2023. *This bill was signed by the Governor on September 30, 2023.*
- **AB 799 (Luz Rivas):** This bill would have required the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) to develop and regularly update a financing plan to solve homelessness by the year 2035, and

to establish and update statewide performance metrics by January 1, 2025. *However, AB 799 was moved to the inactive file and was not enrolled to the Governor.*

- **AB 1285 (Wicks):** Requires continuums of care (CoCs) that share geographic boundaries with a city or county using state funding allocated pursuant to round five of the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) program or the Encampment Resolution Program (ERP) funding to additionally include in their regionally coordinated homelessness action plans evidence and an explanation of their collaboration with the city or county that specifies how people served through encampment resolution have or will be included in prioritization for permanent housing within coordinated entry systems (CESs). *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2023.*
- **AB 1377 (Friedman):** Requires applications or planning materials for state funding through the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) program appropriated on or after July 1, 2024, to include data and a narrative summary of quantifiable steps that the applicant has taken to improve the delivery of housing and services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness on transit facilities owned and operated by a transit agency. *This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2023.*

Bond Proposals

The Governor signed AB 531 and SB 326, and now these two measures will be merged into a single ballot proposition on the March 2024 ballot as Proposition 1. The Governor has intentionally placed this measure on the March ballot so that no other bond interest conflicts with the passage of the MHSA reform. Also, he asked that initiative numbering be restarted to which the Legislature agreed.

Due to these developments, other bond proposals (for housing, resources, school construction, etc.) will be negotiated next year. It remains to be seen which of these might make the November ballot. Much could depend on the fate of Proposition 1 as it is currently unclear how the Governor and his Administration might react if it fails.

Governor Newsom's Infrastructure Package

As part of the budget process, the Legislature approved the Governor's Infrastructure Package represented by SB 145 (Newman), SB 146 (Gonzales), SB 147 (Ashby), SB 149 (Caballero), and SB 150 (Durazo). The package aims to streamline infrastructure projects that will help California reach its climate goals. Initially, this package included provisions that applied to Delta Projects, however, due to concerns raised by counties and legislators these provisions were not included in the final legislation that was passed, and the package no longer pertains to Delta Projects.

- **SB 145 (Newman):** Requires the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to ensure the construction of three wildlife crossings over Interstate 15 (I-15) if an intercity passenger rail project is constructed, as specified; and authorizes Caltrans to take several actions related to its environmental mitigation or advanced environmental mitigation.
- **SB 146 (Gonzales):** Authorizes the use of the progressive design-build project delivery method for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and the job order contracting procurement method for Caltrans and the Department of Water Resources (DWR), as well as expands and extends the existing authorization for the California Secretary of Transportation (CalSTA) to assume the responsibilities under the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) of 1969 for transportation projects.

- **SB 147 (Ashby):** Authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife to issue a permit under CESA that would authorize the take of a fully protected species resulting from impacts attributable to the implementation of specified projects if certain conditions are satisfied, including, among others, the conditions required for the issuance of an incidental take permit.
- **SB 149 (Caballero):** Revises procedures regarding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) administrative record to make preparation and certification of the record more efficient, without compromising the content of the record. Extends existing expedited administrative and judicial review procedures (i.e., requiring the courts to resolve CEQA litigation within 270 days, to the extent feasible) for environmental leadership development projects (ELDPs) for eight years, permitting ELDP certification by the governor until January 1, 2032. Establishes new expedited (270 days, if feasible) judicial review procedures for four categories of public and private "infrastructure" projects, subject to eligible projects being certified by the governor, approved by the lead agency on or before January 1, 2033, and meeting specified environmental and labor requirements.
- **SB 150 (Durazo):** This bill embeds workforce and community benefit requirements in procurement and contracting for infrastructure and manufacturing investments related to the federal Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and the CHIPS and Science Act (CHIPS Act).

Looking Ahead

Unfortunately, it appears certain that the State will suffer another budget deficit in 2024-25. Fiscally, this will constrain actions by the Governor and the Legislature. As mentioned above, bonding for various purposes will continue to be front and center in terms of generating money for various projects around the State.

Speaker Rivas will continue to round out his leadership team as well as appoint new chairpersons to committees. There will be notable changes in the Assembly as a result. When Pro-Tem-elect McGuire assumes power, we will most likely see immediate change as the legislative year will already be underway. Further changes will also be occurring after the November 2024 General Election, as the 2012 class of Legislators will term out.

One thing to keep in mind: the beginning of the second year of each two-year cycle sees more action than the first. This is because the "House of Origin" deadline is at the end of January in the second year. Bills introduced this year that didn't move will be eligible for action. However, these bills will need to pass out of policy and (in most cases) fiscal committees as well as succeed in floor votes to then be eligible for consideration in the second house later in 2024. Most of these bills won't move, but some will. This situation can also facilitate additional state budgeting earlier in an even-numbered year. As we know, sometimes policy is made in state budget trailer bills. SYASL will, as always, be vigilant for the County and its residents.