

## **FSD Fresno Legislative and Political Action Committee Report**

- A meeting was held on **Thursday February 4th at 5:00 p.m.**
- LGBTQ+ legislative actions were discussed. They will continue to be updated per legislative actions.
- Marvin Baker continues to schedule and disperse Zoom link for committee meetings.
- The Legislation web page added links to the following:
  - Contact information for the House of Representatives and the Senate.
  - Monthly committee reports with current month on display.
  - The report “Impeachment and the Constitution” by the Congressional Research Service
- A meeting schedule was created for 2021 on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m. It will be posted on the web page:
  - March 4            July 1            November 14
  - April 1            August 5            December 2
  - May 6            September 2
  - June 3            October 7
- An informal group discussed followed the meeting.
- **The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.**

### **Legislative Terminology:**

**Concurrent resolution** - A legislative measure, designated "S. Con. Res." and numbered consecutively upon introduction, generally employed to address the sentiments of both chambers, to deal with issues or matters affecting both houses, such as a concurrent budget resolution, or to create a temporary joint committee. Concurrent resolutions are not submitted to the president and thus do not have the force of law.

**Filibuster** - Informal term for any attempt to block or delay Senate action on a bill or other matter by debating it at length, by offering numerous procedural motions, or by any other delaying or obstructive actions.

**Impeachment** - If a federal official commits a crime or otherwise acts improperly, the House of Representatives may impeach—formally charge—that official. If the official subsequently is convicted in a Senate impeachment trial, he is removed from office.

Constitution: [Article I, section 2, clause 5](#) [Article I, section 3, clause 6 & 7](#): The Senate shall have the sole Power to try all Impeachments. When sitting for that Purpose, they shall be on Oath or Affirmation. When the President of the United States is tried, the Chief Justice shall preside: And no Person shall be convicted without the Concurrence of two thirds of the Members present.

Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than to removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law.

**Reconciliation bill** - A bill containing changes in law recommended pursuant to reconciliation instructions in a budget resolution. If the instructions pertain to only one committee in a chamber, that committee reports the reconciliation bill. If the instructions pertain to more than one committee, the Budget Committee reports an omnibus reconciliation bill, but it may not make substantive changes in the recommendations of the other committees.

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**Reconciliation instruction** - A provision in a budget resolution directing one or more committees to report (or submit to the Budget Committee) legislation changing existing law to bring spending, revenues, or the debt-limit into conformity with the budget resolution. The instructions specify the committees to which they apply, indicate the appropriate dollar changes to be achieved, and usually provide a deadline by which the legislation is to be reported or submitted.

**Reconciliation process** - A process established in the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 by which Congress changes existing laws to conform tax and spending levels to the levels set in a budget resolution. Changes recommended by committees pursuant to a reconciliation instruction are incorporated into a reconciliation measure.

### **LGBTQ+ Legislative Update:**

1. **H.B. 85: Old Glory Act:** 1/3/2021 Intro & Sponsored by Rep Jeff Duncan (SC), Rep Marjorie Taylor Greene
  - a. This bill prohibits the flying of any flag other than the U.S. flag over U.S. diplomatic and consular posts.
  - b. For example, the Rainbow Flag & Black Lives Matter flag.
2. **H. Con. Res. 4: No Name Calling Week:** 1/11/2021 Intro & Sponsored by Rep Barbara Boxer (DCA)
  - a. Supporting the goals and ideals of No Name-Calling Week in bringing attention to name-calling of all kinds and providing schools with the tools and inspiration to launch an ongoing dialogue about ways to eliminate name-calling, bullying, and harassment in their communities (that address incidents based on sexual orientation or gender identity).
3. **Impeachment Trial of Donald J. Trump:**
  - a. **February 9:** Deadline for House managers to submit a rebuttal to Trump's pretrial brief. Oral arguments begin after.
  - b. Trump's impeachment trial will be broadcast live on the major cable news networks and C-SPAN. It will also be livestreamed on YouTube.

Stay tuned...

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Senkowski, Chair