

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Continued Confirmation Hearings
This week the Senate will continue to consider more of President Donald Trump's cabinet nominees for confirmation, while the House will take up a bill related to federal resources and abortions. Following the inauguration on Friday, the Senate confirmed President Trump's nominee for Secretary of Defense, Jim Mattis, and his nominee for Secretary of Homeland Security, John Kelly. Today, Congressional leadership will meet with President Trump at the White House for the first time since his inauguration and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee will vote on the nomination of Rex Tillerson to be secretary of State at 4:30 p.m.

Senate Floor: The Senate will convene at 3:00 p.m. to resume consideration of President Trump's nominee for CIA director, Rep. Mike Pompeo. A vote is expected around 6:00 p.m.

House Floor: The House will convene at 2:00 p.m. to consider 11 bills under suspension of the rules. A full list of the bills to be considered is here.

Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

- Full committee meets to vote on the Committee Budget Resolution, Rules of Procedure, and Subcommittee Organization and Jurisdiction for the 115th Congress, and to vote on the nomination of Dr. Benjamin Carson to be secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.

Senate Budget Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., to be director of the Office of Management and Budget. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m.

Senate Finance Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Rep. Tom Price, R-Ga., to be Health and Human Services secretary. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

- Full committee markup to vote on the nomination of Rex Tillerson to be secretary of State. Monday, Jan. 23, 4:30 p.m.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

- Full committee meeting to vote on a resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 115th Congress, committee rules, subcommittee membership and jurisdiction, and to vote the nomination of Betsy DeVos to be Education secretary. Tuesday, Jan. 31, 10 a.m.
- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Andy Puzder to be Labor secretary. Thursday, Feb. 2, Time TBA

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Rep. Mick Mulvaney, R-S.C., to be director of the Office of Management and Budget. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2:30 p.m.

Senate Judiciary Committee

- Full committee markup to vote on the nomination of Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., to be attorney general of the United States. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10 a.m.

Senate Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Linda McMahon to be administrator of the Small Business Administration. Tuesday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Jack Bergman (MI-01)

MLive—January 18th, 2017

Wolves Targeted as Congress Moves to De-fang Endangered Species Act

House Republicans in Congress are pursuing bipartisan legislation that would drop federal protections for gray wolves in the Great Lakes region and give population management control back to hunting-friendly states amid broader plans to overhaul the federal Endangered Species Act.

Sen. Gary Peters

UP Matters—January 17th, 2017

Sen. Peters Reintroduces Bill to Improve Space Weather Prediction

U.S. Senators Gary Peters (D-MI), Cory Gardner (R-CO), Cory Booker (D-NJ) and Roger Wicker (R-MS) announced today they introduced the Space Weather Research and Forecasting Act, legislation that would help improve efforts to predict space weather events and mitigate their impacts on Earth and in space.

Latest Developments

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Holds Secretary of Energy Confirmation Hearing

Last Thursday, former Texas Governor Rick Perry testified before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in a confirmation hearing for the position of Secretary of Energy. In his testimony, Perry committed to modernizing the U.S. nuclear stockpile, promoting and developing all forms of American energy, advancing the Department of Energy's (DOE) science and technology mission, and carefully disposing of nuclear waste. Perry also acknowledged the existence of human-influenced climate change, and said that if confirmed, the DOE will support investments in carbon capture, help governors' efforts to reach renewable energy standards and continue working on grid modernization. Perry told the committee that if confirmed, he will commit to visiting various states to understand their energy needs.

Mattis, Kelly Sworn in as Secretaries

Last Friday, Vice President Mike Pence swore in Gen. John Kelly as President Trump's Secretary of Homeland Security and Gen. James Mattis as his Secretary of Defense. The ceremony followed the Senate's 88-11 vote to confirm Gen. Kelly and 98-1 vote to confirm Gen. Mattis on President Trump's first day in office.

Trump signs executive orders on Obamacare, TPP, abortion, federal hiring freeze

President Trump signed his first executive order on Friday directing federal agencies to minimize the economic burden of Obamacare as the federal government prepares a plan to repeal and replace the healthcare law. President Trump also signed three executive orders on Monday: one that announces his plan to withdraw the U.S. from the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal, one that places a hiring freeze on non-military federal workers and another that cuts off federal funding for foreign organizations that provide abortions. Additionally, over the weekend, the White House released a directive to all federal agencies and departments to implement an immediate regulatory freeze until further notice. The directive is intended to provide President Trump's administration an opportunity to review all new and pending federal regulations before they take effect.

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