

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Governors on the Hill, Presidential Address, Confirmations and Executive Orders

Governors begin their morning with President Trump, Vice President Pence and Cabinet Secretaries at the White House discussing issues of national importance including health care, infrastructure and tax reform. Governors will spend the remainder of the day on the Hill continuing their work with federal partners.

The Office of Management and Budget will share the Administration's budget blueprint of top-line discretionary spending numbers today. On Tuesday the President will address a joint session of Congress for the first time and is expected to cover a wide-array of topics with impacts for states including immigration, taxes, regulations, the Affordable Care Act, multinational trade agreements, and defense and homeland security spending. The President is expected to sign various executive orders with energy and environmental implications this week.

In the Senate Cabinet confirmations continue. Wibur Ross is expected to be confirmed Secretary of Commerce today, followed by action on Secretary-designate Zinke for the Interior Department, Ben Carson for Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Former Governor Rick Perry for Secretary of the Department of Energy. All are expected to be in place by the end of the week. On Wednesday Gov. Daugaard of **South Dakota** will serve as a witness for a Senate Commerce hearing on improving access to infrastructure.

The House meets on Tuesday to consider H.R. 998, which would create a commission to review existing federal regulations and identify those that should be repealed. The House will reconvene at approximately 8:35 p.m. for a Joint Session of Congress to receive the President's Address. Later in the week, the House is expected to consider two bills on regulatory policy (H.R. 1009 and H.R. 1004).

Senate Floor: The Senate convenes at noon to consider the nomination of Wilbur Ross to be Secretary of Commerce.

House Floor: The House convenes at noon, and at 2 p.m. for legislative business. First votes are expected at 6:30 p.m.

Senate Armed Services Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Cyber Strategy and Policy." Thursday, March 2, at 9:30 a.m.

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Connecting America: Improving Access to Infrastructure for Communities Across the Country," witnesses include Governor Dennis Daugaard of South Dakota. Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.
- Communications, Technology, Innovation and the Internet Subcommittee hearing on "Exploring the Value of Spectrum to the U.S. Economy." Thursday, March 2, at 9:30 a.m.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Flood Control Infrastructure: Safety Questions Raised by Current Events." Wednesday, March 1, at 10:30 a.m.

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

- Full committee hearing on "The Effects of Border Insecurity and Lax Immigration Enforcement on American Communities." Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

Senate Judiciary Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.

Senate Select Intelligence Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of former Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind., to be Director of National Intelligence. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 2 p.m.

House Agriculture Committee

- Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee hearing on "The Next Farm Bill: Conservation Policy." Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 10 a.m.
- Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee hearing on "The Next Farm Bill: International Market Development." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 2 p.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "Farm Credit Administration Oversight." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.

House Armed Services Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Cyber Warfare in the 21st Century: Threats, Challenges and Opportunities." Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

House Education and Workforce Committee

- Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee hearing on "Providing More Students a Pathway to Success by Strengthening Career and Technical Education." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.
- Full committee hearing on "Legislative Proposals to Improve Health Care Coverage and Provide Lower Costs for Families," including H.R.1101, the "Small Business Health Fairness Act"; the

"Self-Insurance Protection Act"; and the "Preserving Employee Wellness Programs Act." Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

House Homeland Security Committee

- Counterterrorism and Intelligence Subcommittee hearing on "The Future of Counterterrorism: Addressing the Evolving Threat to Domestic Security." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.
- Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications Subcommittee hearing on "The Future of FEMA: Recommendations of Former Administrators." Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 2 p.m.

House Judiciary Committee

- Full committee markup of H.R.372, the "Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2017"; H.R.1215, the "Protecting Access to Care Act of 2017"; and H.Res.111, Resolution of inquiry directing the attorney general to transmit certain documents to the House of Representatives relating to the financial practices of the president. Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee hearing on "Modernizing Western Water and Power Infrastructure in the 21st Century." Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

House Oversight and Government Reform Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Transparency at TSA." Thursday, March 2, at 10 a.m.

House Science, Space and Technology Committee

- Full committee markup of the "NIST Cybersecurity Framework, Assessment, and Auditing Act of 2017." Wednesday, March 1, at 10 a.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

- Aviation Subcommittee hearing on "Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: State of American Airports." Wednesday, March 1, at 11 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-02)

UP Matters—February 22nd, 2017

Stabenow, Huizenga Pen Letter Stressing Importance of Soo Locks

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Co-Chair of Senate Great Lakes Task Force, and Congressman Bill Huizenga (R-MI), Co-Chair of the House Great Lakes Task Force, today led a bicameral, bipartisan letter to the United States Army Corps of Engineers stressing the importance of completing the study at the Soo Locks in an accurate and timely manner.

Sen. Debbie Stabenow

MLive—February 15th, 2017

Michigan Sens. Peters, Stabenow Introduce Bills to Combat Outsourcing

Michigan's two U.S. Senators have introduced legislation to fight back against outsourcing in hopes that Republicans make good on promises to support job creation for American workers.

Latest Developments

Draft Health Repeal Bill Leaked

On Friday a draft republican health reform bill was leaked, which included details on Medicaid and private health reforms. The draft bill was dated for February 10, 2017 and is expected to be revised. The draft included Medicaid per capita-based cap; repeal of Affordable Care Act taxes; and reforms to private health insurance. You can find a link to the text here.

State Comments on FEMA Disaster Deductible Proposal (SANPRM)

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) seeks additional comments on its proposal to establish a disaster deductible for states in lieu of raising the thresholds for receiving federal disaster assistance (see Federal Register Notice: FEMA 2016-0003). The Homeland Security and Public Safety (HSPS) Committee is coordinating a response to the notice on behalf of governors' offices.

Background:

FEMA is seeking comment on all aspects of the deductible concept, including: the process and scope for calculating the deductible, the structure and type of credits that could be used to offset the deductible, opportunities to use the program to incentivize change, and potential implementation challenges. The HSPS Committee is asking governors offices to provide an executive-level, enterprise-wide perspective from your state in these areas.

Resources:

- A memo which gives additional guidance on providing your state's response and background information on the disaster deductible concept.
- A PDF version of the SANPRM in the Federal Register.
- A letter sent to FEMA last year from HSPS Committee leadership and accompanying memo with comments in response to FEMA's Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM). The ANPRM was released in March 2016. (see Federal Register Notice: FEMA 2016-00997).

State of Michigan – Washington, D.C. Office

444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 411, Washington, D.C. 20001

202.624.5840