

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Trump Administration to Release "Skinny" Budget; More Action on Health Care

This week, the Trump Administration is expected to release a "skinny" fiscal year 2018 budget request to Congress, according to comments made by White House Press Secretary Sean Spicer last week. Several cuts are likely to be made, including reductions to the budgets of the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Congressional Budget Office this week is expected to release its score of the American Heath Care Act. On Wednesday, the House Budget Committee will begin its markup of legislation. The committee is expected to release its markup schedule for the bill sometime today.

Senate Floor:
The Senate will convene at 2 p.m. to resume consideration of the nomination of Seema Verma to be the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, with a vote expected at 5:30 p.m.

House Floor:
The House meets Tuesday at 2 p.m. for consideration of three land bills under suspension of the rules, if weather permits. Wednesday, the House takes up a bill regarding veterans' mental health and gun access, along with nine bills under suspension of the rules. Bills regarding veterans are also on the docket for Thursday and Friday.

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. Wednesday, March 15 at 10:30 a.m.

Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program, Part I." Tuesday, March 14 at 10 a.m.

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee

- Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security Subcommittee hearing on "Continuing to Improve Truck Safety on our Nation's Highways." Tuesday, March 14 at 2:30 p.m.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- Full committee hearing on opportunities to improve American energy infrastructure. Tuesday, March 14 at 10 a.m.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Examining Innovative Solutions to Control Invasive Species and Promote Wildlife Conservation." Wednesday, March 15 at 10 a.m.

Senate Finance Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Robert Lighthizer to be U.S. Trade Representative. Tuesday, March 14 at 10 a.m.

Senate Special Aging Committee

- Full committee hearing on raising grandchildren in the opioid crisis and beyond. Wednesday, March 15 at 2:30 p.m.

House Agriculture Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Agriculture and Tax Reform: Opportunities for Rural America." Wednesday, March 15, 10 a.m.
- Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research Subcommittee hearing on "The Next Farm Bill: Agricultural Research." Thursday, March 16, 10 a.m.
- Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee hearing on "The Next Farm Bill: Forestry Initiatives." Thursday, March 16, 2 p.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "Investing in the future - Early Childhood Education Programs at the Department of Health and Human Services." Thursday, March 16, 10 a.m.
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "Department of Transportation & Department of Housing and Urban Development." Thursday, March 16, 10 a.m.

House Education and Workforce Committee

- Higher Education and Workforce Development Subcommittee hearing on "Improving Federal Student Aid to Better Meet the Needs of Students." Wednesday, March 15, 10 a.m.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Energy Subcommittee hearing on "Modernizing Energy Infrastructure: Challenges and Opportunities to Expanding Hydropower Generation." Wednesday, March 15, 10 a.m.
- Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee hearing on "Disrupter Series: Advanced Materials and Production." Wednesday, March 15, 10:15 a.m.

- Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee hearing on "Disrupter Series: Smart Communities." Thursday, March 16, 10 a.m.
- Environment Subcommittee hearing on "Reinvestment and Rehabilitation of Our Nation's Safe Drinking Water Delivery Systems." Thursday, March 16, 10:15 a.m.

House Homeland Security Committee

- Oversight and Management Efficiency Subcommittee hearing on "Immigration Benefits Vetting: Examining Critical Weaknesses in USCIS (U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services) Systems." Thursday, March 16, 9:30 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Federal Lands Subcommittee hearing on "Identifying Innovative Infrastructure Ideas for the National Park Service and Forest Service." Thursday, March 16, 10 a.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

- Highways and Transit Subcommittee hearing on "FAST Act Implementation: State and Local Perspectives." Wednesday, March 15, 10 a.m.

House Ways and Means Committee

- Human Resources Subcommittee hearing on "Reauthorization of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) Program." Wednesday, March 15, 10 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-02)

Holland Sentinel—March 10th, 2017

Huizenga Testifies Before Congress on Great Lakes Economy

Congressman Bill Huizenga, co-chair of the U.S. House Great Lakes Task Force, testified Thursday, March 9, before the House Appropriations Energy and Water Subcommittee on the importance of properly using funds collected in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund and water infrastructure across the Great Lakes.

Sen. Gary Peters

Detroit Free Press—March 8th, 2017

Peters, GOP Senators Push Change for Justice System

U.S. Sen. Gary Peters and a couple of key Republican colleagues reintroduced legislation today that would create a commission to look at reforming the criminal justice system.