

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Defense Authorization Markups Begin

This week, the House Armed Services subcommittees mark up their portions of a fiscal 2018 defense authorization bill while the Senate Armed Services Committee will hold a nomination hearing for former Boeing executive, Mr. Patrick Shanahan to be Deputy Secretary of Defenses. Also this week, former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson testifies in an open hearing before House Intelligence as part of its investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election. Over in the Senate, consideration of nominations continues, including the nomination of Brock Long to be FEMA administrator.

Senate Floor: The Senate convenes at 4 p.m. today and is scheduled to take a 5:30 p.m. confirmation vote on the nomination of Brock Long to be administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Democrats plan to take to the floor into the night to protest the Republican health care legislation.

House Floor: The House convenes on Tuesday to consider 14 bills under suspension of the rules, including foster care bills and several from the Homeland Security Committee. Additional measures the chamber is expected to take up later in the week include legislation (HR 1654) on permitting for surface water storage projects and a bill (HR 2842) related to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the proposed budget estimates and justification for FY2018 for the Food and Drug Administration. Witnesses include FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb. Tuesday, June 20 at 10:30 a.m.
- Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee hearing on the proposed budget estimates and justification for FY2018 for the Federal Communications Commission. Witnesses include FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, FCC Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, and FCC Commissioner Michael O'Rielly. Tuesday, June 20 at 2:30 p.m.
- Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee (Chairman Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska) of Senate Appropriations Committee hearing on the budget estimates and justification for FY2018 for the Interior Department. Witnesses include Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Wednesday, June 21 at 9:30 a.m.
- Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on proposed budget estimates and justification for FY2018 and FY2019 for the Veterans Affairs Department. Witnesses include VA Secretary David Shulkin. Wednesday, June 21 at 2:30 p.m.

- Energy and Water Development Subcommittee hearing on proposed budget estimates and justification for FY2018 for the Energy Department. Witnesses include Energy Secretary Rick Perry. Wednesday, June 21 at 2:30 p.m.
- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies hearing on FY2018 budget request for the National Institutes of Health. Thursday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m.

Senate Armed Services Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Patrick M. Shanahan to be deputy Defense secretary. Tuesday, June 20 at 9:30 a.m.

Senate Banking Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Fostering Economic Growth: Regulator Perspective." Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee

- Communications, Technology, Innovation and the Internet Subcommittee hearing on the Universal Service Fund and rural broadband. Tuesday, June 20 at 10 a.m.
- Full committee hearing on the nomination of David Pekoske to be an assistant Homeland Security secretary and administrator of the Transportation Security Administration. Wednesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- Full committee hearing on proposed FY2018 budget request for the Interior Department. Witnesses include Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Tuesday, June 20 at 10 a.m.
- Public Lands, Forests and Mining Subcommittee hearing on collaborative initiatives, focusing on restoring watersheds and large landscapes across boundaries through state and Federal partnerships. Tuesday, June 20 at 2:30 p.m.
- Public Lands, Forests and Mining Subcommittee hearing on the proposed FY2018 budget request for the Energy Department. Witnesses include Energy Secretary Rick Perry. Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

- Fisheries, Water and Wildlife Subcommittee hearing on "Innovative Financing and Funding: Addressing America's Crumbling Water Infrastructure." Tuesday, June 20 at 2:30 p.m.

Senate Finance Committee

- Full committee hearing on the proposed budget request for FY2018 and the trade policy agenda. Witnesses include US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. Wednesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Cybersecurity Regulation Harmonization." Wednesday, June 21 at 10:30 a.m.

House Agriculture Committee

- Full committee hearing on "The Next Farm Bill: University Research." Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the FY2018 budget request for the Labor Department. Witnesses include Energy Secretary Rick Perry. Tuesday, June 20 at 1 p.m.

House Armed Services Committee

- Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Wednesday, June 21 at 2:30 p.m.
- Tactical Air and Land Forces Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Wednesday, June 21 at 4 p.m.
- Military Personnel Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Thursday, June 22 at 11:30 a.m.
- Readiness Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Thursday, June 22 at 9 a.m.
- Strategic Forces Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Thursday, June 22 at 10:30 a.m.
- Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee markup of H.R.2810, the "2018 National Defense Authorization Act." Thursday, June 22 at 12:30 p.m.

House Education and the Workforce Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Student Safety in the Job Corps Program." Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Communications and Technology Subcommittee hearing on "Defining and Mapping Broadband Coverage in America." Wednesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.

House Financial Services Committee

- Full committee markup of pending legislation, including H.R.1422, the "Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act"; H.R.1558, the "Repeatedly Flooded Communities Preparation Act"; H.R.2246, the "Taxpayer Exposure Mitigation Act of 2017"; and H.R.2874, the "21st Century Flood Reform Act." Wednesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.

House Judiciary Committee

- Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations Subcommittee hearing on "Juvenile Justice Reform in the Modern Era." Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee hearing on "Helium Extraction Act of 2017." Wednesday, June 21 at 10 a.m.
- Full committee hearing on "Examining the Department of the Interior's Spending Priorities and the President's FY2018 Budget Proposal." Witnesses include Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Thursday, June 22 at 9:30 a.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

- Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee hearing on "Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: Challenges and Opportunities for Intercity Passenger Rail Service." Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

House Ways and Means Committee

- Full committee hearing on "U.S. Trade Policy Agenda." Witnesses include US Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer. Thursday, June 22 at 10 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Jack Bergman (MI-01)

Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-02)

Rep. Justin Amash (MI-03)

Rep. John Moolenaar (MI-04)

Rep. Dan Kildee (MI-05)

Rep. Fred Upton (MI-06)

Rep. Tim Walberg (MI-07)

Rep. Mike Bishop (MI-08)

Rep. Sander Levin (MI-09)

Rep. Paul Mitchell (MI-10)

Rep. Dave Trott (MI-11)

Rep. Debbie Dingell (MI-12)

Rep. John Conyers Jr. (MI-13)

Rep. Brenda Lawrence (MI-14)

Sen. Debbie Stabenow

Sen. Gary Peters

Latest Developments

Senate Passes Special Needs Trust Bill

Last week the Senate passed S. 349, the Special Needs Trust Fairness Act, by unanimous consent. The bill would allow individuals with disabilities to manage their own assets without limiting access to certain means-tested programs such as Medicaid and Supplemental Security Income. Under current law, only a parent, legal guardian or court can establish a special needs trust. The House has yet to consider its companion bill, H.R. 670, which has been referred to the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee.

House Subcommittee Examines Medicaid Program Integrity Legislation

The House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee reviewed six bills during a hearing on Medicaid program integrity last week. H.R. 2446 would incentivize state Medicaid programs to adopt electronic visit verification systems for home and community-based services. The Medicaid and CHIP Territory Fraud Prevent Act would encourage territories to create Medicaid fraud control units by changing federal financing for the units. H.R. 1570, the Medicaid and CHIP Territory Transparency Information Act, would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to post more information about Medicaid and CHIP programs operated by the territories. The Ensuring Terminated Providers are Removed from Medicaid and CHIP Act would require states to report providers terminated for cause and require Medicaid managed care providers to be enrolled with the state. H.R. 2339 would clarify the treatment of lottery winnings and other lump-sum payments to determine Medicaid eligibility. Finally, H.R. 1771 would address a loophole that allows married couples to retain assets above state and federal limits when one spouse receives care in an institutional setting. For more information about the hearing, click here.

State of Michigan – Washington, D.C. Office
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 411, Washington, D.C. 20001
202.624.5840