

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Mergers, Foster Care

Senate Floor: Not in session until April 4. The Senate will remain in a pro forma session.

House Floor: The House will reconvene at 2 p.m. to consider six bills under suspension of the rules, including S. 2393, which extends the Foreclosure Relief and Extension Act until Dec. 31, 2018. Votes are postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Tuesday, the House meets at noon for consideration of seven bills under suspension of the rules, including H.R. 4472, which requires states to establish a centralized electronic system to help expedite foster care child placement.

For the remainder of the week, the House will consider the SMARTER Act (H.R. 2745), a bill to eliminate the existing disparities between the Federal Trade Commission and the Justice Department, and ensure that companies face the same standards and processes regardless of which federal agency reviews a merger. No votes are expected to take place Thursday or Friday.

House Appropriations Committee

- Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the budget for the Environmental Protection Agency, witnesses include EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. Tuesday, March 22 at 9 a.m.
- Defense Subcommittee hearing on the budget for the Defense Health Program, witnesses include Vice Admiral Raquel Bono, director of DHA. Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the budget for the Education Department, witnesses include Education Secretary King. Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Defense Subcommittee hearing on the budget for the National Guard and Reserve, witnesses include General Frank Grass, chief of the National Guard. Tuesday, March 22 at 1:30 p.m.
- Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the budget for Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, witnesses include CDC director Thomas Frieden. Wednesday, March 23 at 10 a.m.

House Armed Services Committee

- Full committee hearing on “The FY2017 National Defense Authorization Budget Request from the Department of Defense,” witnesses include Defense Secretary Carter. Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee hearing on “FY2017 Information Technology and Cyber Programs: Foundation for a Secure Warfighting Network.” Tuesday, March 22 at 3:30 p.m.

House Education and the Workforce Committee

- Full committee hearing on “Strengthening Education Research and Privacy Protections to Better Serve Students.” Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Joint Energy and Power Subcommittee and Environment and the Economy Subcommittee hearing on the “FY2017 EPA Budget,” witnesses include EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy. Tuesday, March 22 at 2 p.m.

House Foreign Affairs Committee

- Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights and International Organizations Subcommittee hearing on “Get It Right This Time: A Victims-Centered Trafficking in Persons Report.” Tuesday, March 22 at 2 p.m.

House Homeland Security Committee

- Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Security Technologies Subcommittee hearing on “The Role of Cyber Insurance in Risk Management.” Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Full committee markup of H.R.4482, the "Southwest Border Security Threat Assessment Act of 2016"; H.R.4509, the "State and High-Risk Urban Area Working Group Act"; H.R.4549, the "Treating Small Airports with Fairness Act of 2016"; H.R.4698, the "Securing Aviation from Foreign Entry Points and Guarding Airports Through Enhanced Security Act of 2016"; H.R.4780, the "Department of Homeland Security Strategy for International Programs Act"; the "DHS Stop Asset and Vehicle Excess Act"; and the "Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act of 2016." Wednesday, March 23 at 9 a.m.

House Judiciary Committee

- Full committee markup on “H.R.4771, the ‘Help Efficient, Accessible, Low-cost, Timely Healthcare (HEALTH) Act of 2016;’ and H.R.4676, the ‘Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act of 2016.’” Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Federal Lands Subcommittee hearing on “Examining the Spending Priorities and Missions of the Forest Service in the Presidents FY2017 Budget Proposal,” witnesses include Forest Service Chief Thomas Tidwell. Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.

- Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee hearing on "Effect of the President's FY2017 Budget and Legislative Proposals for the Office of Surface Mining on Private Sector Job Creation, Domestic Energy Production, State Programs and Deficit Reduction," witnesses include Joseph Pizarchik, director of the Office of Surface Mining and Reclamation Enforcement in the Interior Department. Wednesday, March 23 at 9 a.m.

House Oversight and Government Reform Committee

- Full committee hearing on "America's Heroin and Opioid Abuse Epidemic." Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Interior Subcommittee hearing on "Examining the Bureau of Land Management Public Lands Leasing." Wednesday, March 23 at 9 a.m.

House Science, Space and Technology Committee

- Full committee hearing on "An Overview of the Budget Proposal for the Department of Energy for FY2017," witnesses include Energy Secretary Moniz. Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.
- Environment Subcommittee Hearing on "Examining EPA's Regional Haze Program: Regulations Without Visible Benefits." Wednesday, March 23 at 9:30 a.m.

House Small Business Committee

- Economic Growth, Tax and Capital Access Subcommittee hearing on "Lip Service but Little Else: Failure of the Small Business Health Insurance Tax Credit." Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.

House Veteran's Affairs Committee

- Health Subcommittee and Economic Opportunity Subcommittee joint hearing on "Choice Consolidation: Leveraging Provider Networks to Increase Veteran Access." Tuesday, March 22 at 10 a.m.

House Ways and Means Committee

- Tax Policy Subcommittee hearing on Member proposals relating to fundamental reform of the income tax system. Tuesday, March 22 at 2:30 p.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Fred Upton (MI-06)

MLive—March 15th, 2016

Upton, Subcommittee Starts Broad Review of Concussions

Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, took part in a discussion on concussions Monday with leaders in the medical and athletic fields, along with others.