

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: House Returns, plus Appropriations, FAA Reauthorization
The House returns from recess this week. Appropriations committees in both chambers will begin markups of fiscal year 2017 appropriations bill.. The House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing on 302(b) allocations and mark up the Military Construction-VA spending bill. The panel's subcommittees will mark up Energy and Water Development and Agriculture-FDA spending measures. The Senate Appropriations Committee will markup of 302(b) allocations as well as the Energy and Water Development and MilCon-VA spending bills.

On Tuesday, the House will consider four bills under suspension of the rules, including a bill that expands the Food and Drug Administration's product priority review voucher program for companies developing Zika-related products (S. 2512). On Wednesday, the House will consider six bills under suspension, including measures on border security (see H.R. 4482 and H.R. 3586) and a bill that clarifies membership of state planning committees or urban area working groups for Federal Emergency Management Agency preparedness grant programs (H.R. 4509). Votes on all bills under suspension will be postponed until 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. For the remainder of the week, the House is scheduled to consider two financial services bills (see H.R. 3791 and H.R. 3340) on Thursday and a measure that would prohibit the FCC from regulating broadband rates on Friday (H.R. 2666). The House Natural Resources committee will consider pending legislation on Puerto Rico, with a markup scheduled Thursday morning.

Senate Floor: The Senate will reconvene at 3:00 p.m. for morning business and then resume consideration of S. 2658, the Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization vehicle. At 5:00 p.m. the chamber will move to consider the nomination of Waverly Crenshaw Jr. to be U.S. district judge for the Middle District of Tennessee with a vote scheduled around 5:30 p.m.

House Floor: The House is in recess until tomorrow, Tuesday, April 12.

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee markup of the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Act for FY2017." Wednesday, April 13 at 10:15 a.m.

- Energy and Water Development Subcommittee markup of the “Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for FY2017.” Wednesday, April 13 at 2:30 p.m.
- Full committee markup of 302(b) Subcommittee Allocations; the "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act for FY2017"; and the "Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY2017." Thursday, April 14 at 10:30 a.m.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- Public Lands, Forest and Mining Subcommittee hearing on the Bureau of Land Management’s proposed rule on “Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resources Conservation.” Thursday, April 14 at 2:30 p.m.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

- Full committee hearing on “American Small Business’s on Environmental Protection Agency Regulatory Actions.” Tuesday, April 12 at 2:30 p.m.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

- Full committee hearing on “Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Implementation in States and School Districts: Perspectives from the U.S. Secretary of Education,” witnesses include Secretary John. B. King Jr. Tuesday, April 12 at 10 a.m.

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

- Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management Subcommittee Hearing on “FEMA: Assessing Progress, Performance, and Preparedness.” Tuesday, April 12 at 3:00 p.m.
- Full committee field hearing on “Border Security and America’s Heroin Epidemic: The Impact of the Trafficking and Abuse of Heroin and Prescription Opioids in Wisconsin,” witnesses include Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel. Friday, April 15 at 3:30 p.m., Pewaukee, Wisconsin.

Senate Judiciary Committee

- Full committee hearing on “The Distortion of EB-5 Targeted Employment Areas: Time to End Abuse.” Wednesday, April 13 at 10 a.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Full committee markup of the “FY2017 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Bill and Report on the Interim Suballocation of Budget Allocations.” Wednesday, April 13 at 11 a.m.
- Energy and Water Development Subcommittee markup of FY2017 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill. Wednesday, April 13 at 1:30 p.m.

House Agriculture Committee

- Full committee hearing on “Energy and the Rural Economy: The Impacts of Oil and Gas Production.” Wednesday, April 13 at 10 a.m.

House Energy and Commerce Committee

- Environment and the Economy Subcommittee hearing on “Flint Water Crisis: Impacts and Lessons Learned,” witnesses include Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Director Keith Creagh; Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Director Steve Estes-Smargiassi; Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director Nick Lyon; and Rhode Island Department of Health’s Office of Drinking Water Quality. Wednesday, April 13 at 10 a.m.
- Communications and Technology Subcommittee hearing on H.R.4111, the "Rural Health Care Connectivity Act of 2015"; H.R.4167, the "Kari's law Act of 2015"; H.R.4884, the "Controlling the Unchecked and Reckless Ballooning (CURB) Lifeline Act of 2016"; H.R.3998, the "Securing Access to Networks in Disasters (SANDY) Act"; H.R.2031, the "Anti-Swatting Act of 2015"; and H.R.4889, the "Kelsey Smith Act." Wednesday, April 13 at 10:15 a.m.
- Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade Subcommittee hearing on “Oversight of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA),” witnesses include NHTSA Administrator Mark Rosekind. Thursday, April 14 at 10 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Full committee hearing on the “Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act.” Wednesday, April 13 at 10 a.m.
- Full committee markup on pending legislation. Thursday, April 14 at 10 a.m.
- Water, Power, and Oceans Subcommittee hearing on “Empowering States and Western Water Users through Regulatory and Administrative Reforms.” Wednesday, April 13 at 1 p.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

- Highways and Transits Subcommittee hearing on “Roundtable – Policy Discussion on Implementing Motor Carrier Provisions of the Fixing America and Surface Transportation (FAST) Act.” Wednesday, April 13 at 10 a.m.
- Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee hearing on “Maritime Transportation Safety and Stewardship Programs.” Thursday, April 14 at 10 a.m.
- Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee hearing on “Blackout! Are We Prepared to Manage the Aftermath of a Cyber-Attack or Other Failure of the Electrical Grid?” Thursday, April 14 at 10 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Sen. Gary Peters

Detroit Free Press—March 29th, 2016

Peters Says Industry Should Lead Cybersecurity Fight

Sen. Gary Peters said today he would prefer if automakers and suppliers, rather than government regulators, would deal with the threats of hackers redirecting vehicles or stealing a driver’s personal information, but keeping up with hackers’ ability to disrupt may stymie regulators and engineers alike.

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