

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Military and Transportation Appropriations, Zika
The Senate will convene at 2 p.m., returning to work on the vehicle to move appropriations for Military Construction-VA and Transportation-HUD programs (H.R. 2577). At 5:30 p.m., the chamber will vote on the nomination of Paula Xinis as U.S. district judge for Maryland. On Tuesday, the Senate will vote on a trio of amendments to the Military-VA and Transportation-HUD package that would provide emergency funding to combat the Zika virus. Whichever amendment receives 60 votes first will stop the procedure Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) put in motion, triggering up to 30 hours of debate.

The House will meet at 2 p.m. today for to work on nine bills under suspension of the rules, including one measure (H.R. 3832) that would require the Internal Revenue Service to take numerous actions to combat tax-related identity theft and fraudulent tax refunds. For the remainder of the week, the House is expected to take action on the National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 4909), the FY 17 Military Construction-VA bill (H.R. 4974) and a Democratic motion to instruct House conferees on a bill (S. 524) to authorize opioid abuse treatment programs. The House could also take action on Zika response appropriations.

Senate Floor: Convenes for legislative business at 2 p.m. First votes expected at 5:30 p.m.

House Floor: Convenes for legislative business at 2 p.m. First votes expected at 6:30 p.m.

Senate Appropriations Committee

- Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies Subcommittee markup of the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017." Tuesday, May 17 at 4 p.m.
- Full committee markup of the "Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY2017" and the "Legislative Branch Appropriations Act for FY2017." Thursday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- Water and Power Subcommittee hearing on S.2524, the "Bolts Ditch Access and Use Act"; S.2533, the "California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions for Emergency Drought Relief Act"; S.2616, to modify certain cost-sharing and revenue provisions relating to the Arkansas Valley Conduit, Colorado; S.2902, the "Western Water Supply and Planning Enhancement Act"; and S.2907, to amend the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2015, to strike the termination date for funding for pilot projects to increase Colorado River System water in Lake Mead. Tuesday, May 17 at 2 p.m.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

- Full committee hearing on “ESSA Implementation: Perspectives from Education Stakeholders.” Wednesday, May 18 at 10 a.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Full committee markup of the FY2017 Defense Appropriations bill; the FY2017 Legislative Branch Appropriations bill; and Revised Report on the Interim Suballocation of Budge Allocation for FY2017. Tuesday, May 17 at 10:30 a.m.
- Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee markup of the FY2017 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations bill. Wednesday, May 18 at 10 a.m.
- Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee markup of the FY2017 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. Wednesday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m.

House Education and the Workforce Committee

- Full committee hearing on “Helping Students Succeed by Strengthening the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act.” Tuesday, May 17 at 10 a.m.

House Rules Committee

- Full committee business meeting on H.R. 4909, the “National Defense Authorization Act for FY2017” for general debate. Monday, May 16 at 5 p.m.
- Full committee business meeting on H.R.4909, the "National Defense Authorization Act for FY2017"; H.R.4974, the "Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017"; and the "Zika Response Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2016." Tuesday, May 17 at 2 p.m.

House Ways and Means Committee

- Human Resources Subcommittee hearing on “The Heroin Epidemic and Parental Substance Abuse: Using Evidence and Data to Protect Kids from Harm.” Wednesday, May 18 at 2 p.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Fred Upton (MI-06)

The Hill—May 11th, 2016

GOP Chairman Sees Funding Deal Soon on Medical Cures Bill

The leader of the House's landmark medical cures legislation expressed hope on Wednesday that the bill is moving ahead in the Senate after nearly a year of delay.

Sen. Debbie Stabenow

ABC 10—May 10th, 2016

Proposed Federal Legislation Promotes Use of Timber Products

Proposed federal legislation that would promote ways of using timber products in the construction of tall buildings was recently introduced in the U.S. Senate.

Latest Developments

Education, Justice Depts. Release Guidance on Transgender Students

On Friday, the Education and Justice Departments released two documents on transgendered students' civil rights. The first document is guidance reminding school districts that gender identity is a protected class under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. The second document shares state and local best practices to support transgendered students.

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