

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: NDAA, TSCA, Energy and Water Appropriations

The Senate convenes today at 3 p.m. to consider a bill (S. 2613) that would authorize approximately $81 million for Justice Department activities related to the registration of sex offenders. For the remainder of the week, the Senate will take up S. 2943, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY 17. Hundreds of amendments are expected to be added to the NDAA bill, including one from Armed Services Committee Chairman John McCain (R-AZ), to increase spending nearly $17 billion above the mandated caps.

The House meets today at 2 p.m. The House will consider 30 bills under suspension of the rules, including one (H.R. 5077) that would authorize FY 17 funding for national intelligence programs, and another (H.R. 5286) that would enhance veterans' benefits and authorize the construction of VA facilities. For the remainder of the week, the House is expected to consider the FY 17 Energy and Water appropriations bill (H.R. 5055) and a bill related to the use of pesticides near navigable waters (H.R. 897). The House is also expected to take up H.R. 2576, the House and Senate compromise to update the Toxic Substances Control Act, as well as a motion to conference with the Senate on legislation (S. 2012) that would revise energy policy.

Senate Floor: Convenes for legislative business at 3 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

- Defense Subcommittee markup of the "FY2017" Department of Defense Appropriations Act." Tuesday, May 24 at 10 a.m.
- Homeland Security Subcommittee markup of the "FY2017 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act." Tuesday, May 24 at 10 a.m.
- Full committee markup of the "FY2017 Department of Defense Appropriations Act" and the "FY2017 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act." Thursday, May 26 at 10:30 a.m.

House Appropriations Committee

- Full committee markup of FY2017 the Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations bill; the FY2017 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill; and the report on the Revised Interim Suballocation of Budget Allocations for FY2017. Tuesday, May 24 at 10:30 a.m.
- Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee markup of the FY2017 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill. Wednesday, May 25 at 11 a.m.

House Homeland Security Committee

- Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications Subcommittee and Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection and Security Technologies Subcommittee joint hearing on "Enhancing Preparedness and Response Capabilities to Address Cyber Threats," witnesses include Mark Ghilarducci, Director of Emergency Services in the Office of the Governor of California, Lt. Col. Daniel Cooney, Mark Raymond, Vice President of the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, and Robert Galvin, Chief Technology Officer for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Tuesday, May 24 at 10 a.m.

House Natural Resources Committee

- Full committee markup of H.R. 5278, the "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act." Tuesday, May 24 at 5 p.m. and Wednesday, May 25 at 10 a.m.

House Rules Committee

- Full committee business meeting to formulate rules on H.R.897, the "Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2015" (Zika Vector Control Act); the Senate amendment to H.R.2576, the "Toxic Substances Control Act Modernization Act of 2015"; and H.R.5055, the "Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017." Monday, May 23 at 5 p.m.

House Science, Space, and Technology Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Science of Zika: The DNA of an Epidemic." Wednesday, May 25 at 10:15 a.m.
- Environment Subcommittee hearing on "The Impact of EPA's Clean Power Plan on States," witnesses include E. Scott Pruitt, Attorney General of Oklahoma. Thursday, May 26 at 9:30 a.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

- Full committee markup of the "Water Resources Development Act of 2016." Wednesday, May 25 at 10:00 a.m.

House Ways and Means Committee

- Full committee markup of pending legislation, including H.R. 2952, the "Improving Employment Outcomes of TANF Recipients Act." Tuesday, May 24 at 2 p.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Mike Bishop (MI-08)
The Detroit News—May 18th, 2016
Lawmakers Press Feds for Funding for Meningitis Victims
A bipartisan group of 18 House of Representatives members are pressing the Obama administration for compensation for victims of a fungal meningitis outbreak in 2012.

Sen. Debbie Stabenow
MLive—May 22nd, 2016
Senators Push Feds to Raise Liability Stakes on Mackinac Pipeline
Michigan's two Democratic senators want the Department of Transportation to change the way it regulates oil pipelines crossing underneath the Great Lakes in order to raise the liability stakes should they break and cause a spill.

Latest Developments

House Unveils Senate Energy Bill Amendment
On Friday, the House Rules Committee published an 806-page amendment to S. 2012, the comprehensive energy package the Senate passed in April, 85-12. The House bill combines several House-passed energy measures as well as H.R. 8, its own comprehensive energy bill, which passed largely along party lines in December. The Rules Committee is expected to consider the bill on Tuesday afternoon, and the House is expected to pass the package later in the week. House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) stated the House also plans to vote later in the week on the motion to go to conference and name conferees to begin reconciling differences between the House and Senate versions of the comprehensive energy bills.

House Committee Releases WRDA Legislation
Last Friday the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) released draft language for The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016. The bill will be formally introduced early this week and marked up in committee on Wednesday. The House T&I version would authorize more than $5 billion for 28 new Army Corps of Engineers projects. The House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over portions of the Environmental Protection Agency water programs, has yet to release its section of WRDA reauthorization. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed its WRDA reauthorization bill (S. 2848) in late April. Proponents of the bill are hopeful the House and Senate can pass a WRDA reauthorization before the August recess. For a summary of the House T&I bill, click here.

Federal Reserve Expected to Unveil Insurance Regulations
Last week, Federal reserve Gov. Tarullo indicated that the United States would not adopt European regulatory regimes for insurance capital and risk requirements ("Solvency II"), or proposals from the International Association of Insurance Supervisors. Instead, the Federal Reserve is expected to propose two types of capital regulation of the insurance industry in the upcoming weeks. The proposed regulations would distinguish between insurers designated as "systematically important" and those that are not. The former would face a tougher approach, while the latter would face a lower regulatory burden. NGA will release additional information on the impending regulations as it becomes available.

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