

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: Zika and Puerto Rico

The Senate will convene at 3 p.m. and is expected to vote at 5:30 p.m. on the nomination of Robert Rossiter to serve as U.S. District Judge in Nebraska.

This week, the Senate is expected to consider a compromise funding measure regarding the Zika virus. The measure was passed by the House last week as part of its Military Construction and Veterans Affairs appropriations bill. Last week, the White House issued a veto threat for the Zika compromise due to funding levels, offsets and prohibitions on contraception in the bill.

The Senate could also consider bipartisan legislation already passed by the House to address Puerto Rico debt restructuring. The Commonwealth faces a July 1 deadline on debt payments totaling approximately $2 billion.

Senate Floor: Convenes for legislative business at 3 p.m. First vote expected at 5:30 p.m.

House Floor: Not in session. Reconvenes on July 5th.

Senate Armed Services Committee

- Full committee hearing on "National Security Cyber and Encryption Challenges." Thursday, June 30 at 9:30 a.m.

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

- Public Lands, Forests and Mining Subcommittee hearing on the status of the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service's efforts to implement amendments to land use plans and specific management plans regarding sage grouse conservation, and those agencies' coordination activities with affected states. Tuesday, June 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Senate Finance Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Examining the Proposed Medicare Part B Drug Demonstration." Tuesday, June 28 at 10 a.m.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Every Student Succeeds Act Implementation: Update from the U.S. Secretary of Education on Proposed Regulations," witnesses include Secretary John King. Wednesday, June 29 at 10 a.m.

Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee

- Full committee meeting on "Roundtable - Preparing for and Protecting the Nation from Zika." Wednesday, June 29 at 10 a.m.

Senate Judiciary Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Oversight of the Department of Homeland Security," witnesses include Secretary Jeh Johnson. Thursday, June 30 at 9:45 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Fred Upton (MI-06)
The Detroit News—June 22nd, 2016
Obama Signs Pipeline Safety Bill Affecting Great Lakes
President Barack Obama signed a bipartisan bill Wednesday that boosts federal pipeline safety oversight, including in the Great Lakes.

Sen. Debbie Stabenow
NBC News—June 23rd, 2016
Senate Reaches Deal on Labeling Genetically Modified Food
Senators have a bipartisan deal to require labeling of genetically modified ingredients nationally, a week before a labeling law in Vermont goes into effect.

Latest Developments

House Republicans Unveil Tax Proposal
House Ways and Means Committee Chairman, Kevin Brady (R-TX), unveiled a new House Republican policy blueprint on tax reform. The proposal does not address municipal bonds directly, and it calls for a cut in the corporate tax rate to 20 percent from 35 percent and consolidates the individual income tax brackets into three brackets, with the top individual income tax rate lowered to 33 percent from 39.6 percent. The proposal would repeal the Alternative Minimum Tax and would move closer to a consumption-based tax code.

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