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### Links to Previous Updates:

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- [Shutdown Guidance](#)
- [FY2017 FEMA Grants](#)
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- [Weekly 2/19/18](#)
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- [Weekly 2/5/18](#)

### Latest News

- The House and Senate return this week, with much of the focus on House and Senate hearings surrounding the disclosure of personal information by Facebook. There will also be multiple hearings on the opioid crisis, and the House Appropriations Committee's subcommittees will begin holding a slew of hearings on FY 2019 appropriations.
- **House Leadership** - House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI-1) announced on Wednesday that he will not seek reelection, and will continue to serve out his term and remain in the Speakership through the remainder of the year. This will trigger a race to succeed him as the leader of the House Republican Conference, and could also trigger additional Republican retirements in the House.
- **Senate Appropriations Committee Leadership Shuffle** - With the resignation of now former Senator, and Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee Thad Cochran, there was a shuffle of the subcommittee chairmanships on Tuesday. Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL) officially took over the full Committee and will also lead the Defense Subcommittee. Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS) will lead the Commerce-Justice-Science Subcommittee, Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) will lead the Homeland Security Subcommittee, and Senator James Lankford (R-OK) will lead the Financial Services Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over ONDCP.

### ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

#### **Trump homeland security adviser Tom Bossert is resigning** **CNN | Jeremy Diamond**

White House homeland security adviser Tom Bossert is resigning, the White House confirmed on Tuesday. "The President is grateful for Tom's commitment to the safety and security of our great country. Tom led the White House's efforts to protect the homeland from terrorist threats, strengthen our cyber defenses, and respond to an unprecedented series of natural disasters," White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement. **Continue reading [here](#).**

#### **As the opioid epidemic rages, the fight against addiction moves to an Ohio courtroom**

##### **The Washington Post | Katie Zezima**

The opioid epidemic has affected nearly every aspect of life in Vinton County. Teachers buy shoes for students whose addicted parents send them to school in footwear held together with tape. Overdose deaths have surged. Foster care is overwhelmed. The jail is bursting at the seams. The expenses related to caring for the children of drug abusers and locking up drug offenders here eat up about 25 percent of the Ohio county's \$4 million annual budget, a hole that it can't plug. Now, Vinton officials think someone should help foot the bill: Big Pharma. "It almost feels like Vinton County was preyed upon," said Lily Niple, who got addicted to prescription opioids here but managed to push through, having been clean for more than two years. "It's like a huge exploitation of the people here. And it was negligent. Just com-

plete disregard for the future.” **Continue reading [here](#).**

### **US overdose deaths from fentanyl and synthetic opioids doubled in 2016**

**The Guardian | Edward Helmore**

The number of drug overdose deaths in the US increased by 21% last year, according to new statistics – with synthetic-opioid fatalities more than doubling in number. The National Center for Health Statistics, a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC) estimates that drug overdoses killed 64,070 people in the US last year, a rise of 21% over the 52,898 drug overdose deaths recorded in 2015. The epidemic of drug overdoses is killing people at almost double the rate of both firearm and motor vehicle-related death. **Continue reading [here](#).**

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## Hearings & Markups Happening This Week

House Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Field Hearing  
[Houston Strong: Hurricane Harvey Lessons Learned and the Path Forward](#)  
April 9 @ 10:30 am - Cypress, TX

Senate Judiciary & Commerce Committees - Joint Full Committees Hearing  
[Facebook, Social Media Privacy, and the Use and Abuse of Data](#)  
April 10 @ 2:15 pm - 216 Hart

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing  
[FEMA: Prioritizing a Culture of Preparedness](#)  
April 11 @ 10:00 am - 342 Dirksen

Senate HELP Committee - Full Committee Hearing  
[The Opioid Crisis Response Act of 2018](#)  
April 11 @ 10:00 am - 430 Dirksen

House Oversight Committee - Healthcare Subcommittee Hearing  
[Local Responses and Resources to Curtail the Opioid Epidemic](#)  
April 11 @ 10:00 am - 2154 Rayburn

House Appropriations Committee - Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing  
[FY 2019 Department of Homeland Security](#)  
April 11 @ 1:00 pm - 2359 Rayburn

House E&C Committee - Health Subcommittee Hearing  
[Improving the Ability of Medicare and Medicaid to Provide Care for Patients](#)  
April 11 @ 2:15 pm - 2322 Rayburn

Senate Judiciary Committee - Crime Subcommittee Hearing  
[Defeating Fentanyl: Addressing the Deadliest Drugs Fueling the Opioid Crisis](#)  
April 11 @ 2:30 pm - 226 Dirksen

Senate Commerce Committee - Full Committee Hearing  
[Are We Ready for the Next Hurricane Season? Status of Preparation and Response Capabilities for 2018](#)  
April 12 @ 9:45 am - 253 Russell

House Appropriations Committee - Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing  
[FY 2019 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)  
April 12 @ 10:00 am - 2359 Rayburn

House Homeland Security Committee - Oversight Subcommittee Hearing  
[Building for the Future: Examining Challenges Facing DHS's Consolidated Headquarters Project](#)  
April 12 @ 10:00 am - HVC 210

House Appropriations Committee - Labor, HHS Subcommittee Hearing  
[Investing in Rural Health: Building Infrastructure, Responding to the Opioid Epidemic, and Growing the Workforce](#)  
April 12 @ 10:00 am - 2358-C Rayburn

House Homeland Security Committee - Transportation Subcommittee Hearing  
[Examining the President's FY 2019 Budget Request for the Transportation Security Administration](#)  
April 12 @ 2:00 pm - HVC 210

House Oversight Committee - National Security Subcommittee Hearing  
[A 'Caravan' of Illegal Immigrants: A Test of U.S. Borders](#)  
April 12 @ 2:00 pm - 2154 Rayburn

House Appropriations Committee - Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing  
[FY 2019 Federal Emergency Management Agency](#)  
April 13 @ 11:00 am - 2359 Rayburn

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## Legislation on the Floor This Week

### House:

#### [H.R. 4203](#) - **Combat Online Predators Act**

**Status:** To be considered by the House on 4/10.

**Summary:** This bill amends the federal criminal code increase the maximum prison term for a stalking offense, if the victim is under 18 years of age.

#### [H.R. 2219](#) - **End Banking for Human Traffickers Act of 2018**

**Status:** To be considered by the House on 4/10.

**Summary:** This bill amends the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 to add the Secretary of the Treasury as a member of the President's Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking. The task force must submit to Congress recommendations for the revision of anti-money laundering programs to specifically target money laundering related to human trafficking. The Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council must review and enhance, where necessary: (1) training and procedures to improve the ability of anti-money laundering programs to target human trafficking operations, and (2) procedures for referring potential human trafficking cases to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Department of State must report on: (1) efforts to eliminate money laundering related to human trafficking; and (2) the number of investigations, arrests, indictments, and convictions in money laundering cases related to human trafficking.

#### [H.J.Res. 2](#) - **Proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States**

**Status:** To be considered by the House this week.

**Summary:** This joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment prohibiting total outlays for a fiscal year from exceeding total receipts for that fiscal year unless Congress authorizes the excess by a three-fifths roll call vote of each chamber. The prohibition excludes outlays for repayment of debt principal and receipts derived from borrowing. The amendment requires a three-fifths roll call vote of each chamber of Congress to increase the public debt limit. It requires a majority roll vote of each chamber to increase revenue. It also requires the President to submit a balanced budget to Congress annually. Congress is authorized to waive these requirements when a declaration of war is in effect or if the United States is engaged in a military conflict which causes an imminent and serious military threat to national security.

**Senate:**

**Note:** Due to Senate scheduling and rules, additional items not listed may be added to the calendar for consideration.

Nothing affecting the law enforcement or homeland security community.

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## Recap of Last Week's Hearings & Markups

**Note:** For more details on any of the following hearings, we can provide access to hearing transcripts upon request.

The House and Senate were not in session.

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## Legislation Considered Last Week

**House:**

The House was not in session.

**Senate:**

The Senate was not in session.

## Legislation Introduced Last Week

Date Introduced	Bill Number	Sponsor	Description
4/9/2018	<a href="#">S 2635</a>	John Kennedy (R-LA)	A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act and the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act to modify the offenses relating to fentanyl, and for other purposes.
4/5/2018	<a href="#">HR 5429</a>	Greg Gianforte (R-MT-AL)	SIREN Act of 2018 - To reauthorize the rural emergency medical services training and equipment assistance program under section 330J of the Public Health Service Act.
4/5/2018	<a href="#">HR 5427</a>	Tom Marino (R-PA-10)	School and Student Safety Act of 2018 - To amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to give a public safety and community policing grant preference for applicants prioritizing the hiring of school resource officers, and for other purposes.
3/26/2018	<a href="#">HR 5410</a>	Joyce Beatty (D-OH-3)	SAFER Now Act - To improve public safety through sensible reforms to firearms regulations.
3/23/2018	<a href="#">HR 5408</a>	Dave Brat (R-VA-7)	To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for prevention and treatment of substance abuse grants to recovery community organizations, and for other purposes.



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