

This Week in the Senate: FAA Reauthorization, Budget and Tax Code Hearings, Prep for Appropriations Bills

Senate Outlook, Week of April 18, 2016:

**Monday,
April 18**

- **FAA Reauthorization:** After fights over amendments stalled the voting process last week, a bill aimed at a long-term reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration is set to take a procedural vote this evening. This would put the bill on track to a final vote in the Senate by Wednesday.

**Wednesday,
April 20**

- **Senate Budget Committee Hearing:** The committee will hold a hearing titled, "Hearing on Fixing Budget Process & Restoring Stability to Government Operations."
- **Joint Economic Committee Hearing:** The committee will hold a hearing titled "Is Our Complex [Tax] Code Too Taxing on the Economy?"

**Also this
week:**

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) is focusing on the appropriations process, attempting to pass all 12 individual bills through the Senate after budget negotiations have stalled.
- The Appropriations Committee moved a \$37.5 billion energy and water spending bill to the floor late last week. Contentious issues such as the Obama administration's Clean Water Act regulation are expected to become divisive amendments that may stall the bill.

President Obama will spend the week overseas visiting Saudi Arabia, Germany and the UK.

**This schedule was updated on Monday, April 18, 2016. It is not exhaustive and is subject to change.*

Sources: Cristina Marcos and Jordain Carney, "This Week: Budget and Puerto Rico Top Agenda," The Hill, April 18, 2016; Will Dobbs-Allsopp, "Congress Brief: Week in Review & What's Ahead," Morning Consult, April 17, 2016; Katie Bo Williams, "Week Ahead: Encryption Fight Resumes Before Congress," The Hill, April 18, 2016; Jason Plautz, "Outlook: Aviation and Energy Bills Take the Lead," National Journal, April 17, 2016.

This Week in the House: Markups Without a Budget, Encryption Hearing and a Focus on Puerto Rico

House Outlook, Week of April 18, 2016:

Monday,
April 18

- **Amendment for Diversifying STEM Fields:** Lawmakers aim to amend an Agriculture Department program to prioritize increasing the number of women and minorities in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. The amendment is expected to pass easily.

Tuesday,
April 19

- **House Appropriations Markups:** The Appropriations Committee is expect to conduct markups of the Agriculture Appropriations Bill and the Energy and Water Appropriations bill for FY2017.
- **Energy and Commerce Committee Hearing:** The committee will hold a hearing titled “Deciphering the Debate over Encryption” to hear a range of opinions regarding encryption as Congress prepares bills on the subject in light of the recent dispute between Apple and the FBI.

Wednesday,
April 20

- **Joint Economic Committee Hearing:** The committee will hold a hearing titled “Is Our Complex [Tax] Code Too Taxing on the Economy?”

Thursday,
April 21

- **Armed Services Markup:** The Armed Services Committee will hold a subcommittee markup for the National Defense Authorization Act for FY2017.

Also this
week:

- The Natural Resources Committee is in the process of addressing Puerto Rico’s debt crisis, however recent ads portraying the legislation as a bailout have caused trouble for Committee Chairman Rob Bishop (R-UT).
- The House is expected to consider a group of bills aimed at the IRS after this year’s tax deadline passes on Monday.

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