

This Week in the Senate: Fight Over Government Spending and Zika Funding Peaks Before Recess

Senate Outlook, Week of July 11, 2016:

**Monday,
July 11**

- Senate will resume at 4pm on Monday to proceed with work on defense funding bill, H.R. 5293, however they will not vote again until Tuesday

**Also this
week:**

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) is expected to push for another vote on controversial Zika emergency funding, which Senate Democrats have continually blocked arguing it takes funding from Obamacare and further limits Planned Parenthood

White House Agenda:

- President Obama left a European trip earlier than planned on Sunday evening, returning to the U.S. to address recent racially driven violence
- On Tuesday, he will speak at a memorial service for the five slain police officers at the Morton H. Myerson Symphony Center in Dallas, TX
- For the remainder of the week, the President will be meeting with activists and community leaders to address racial disparities in the criminal justice system and consider how to bridge the gap between police and communities

**This schedule was updated on Monday, July 11, 2016. It is not exhaustive and is subject to change.*

Sources: Seung Min Kim, Rachael Bade, Heather Caygle, "Congress Will Flight Over Guns, Zika as it Sprints for Recess," Politico, July 10, 2016; "Statement by the Press Secretary on the President's Travel to Spain and Dallas, Texas," The White House, July 8, 2016.

This Week in the House: Looming Recess Heightens Partisan Divide Over Gun Control

House Outlook, Week of July 4, 2016:

*Tuesday,
July 11*

- **House Committee on Homeland Security** field hearing in Staten Island, NY titled, “A Prepared Community is a Resilient Community” regarding post-Superstorm Sandy extreme weather event preparedness
- **House Rules Committee** hearing on H.R. 4992, H.R. 5119, H.R. 5631, H.R. 5538, and H.R. 5620

*Also this
week:*

- The final week before summer recess is packed with hearings as Representatives race to the finish line, while frustrated Democrats push for a vote on gun control
- Divisions within the Republican Party have stalled process on House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy’s (R-CA) anti-terrorism bill that would prevent suspected terrorists from purchasing guns
- The Freedom Caucus argues the bill does not help national security and infringes on the rights of gun owners
- Democrats argue the bill does nothing to reduce gun violence

Analysis

- House Republican Leaders are considering crafting police and protester safety legislation to pass in the wake of the recent shootings in Dallas, TX
- Former county sheriff, Rep. Dave Reichert (R-WA), consulted with House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) about potential options
- For House Democrats, this could be a viable means of passing productive legislation before the recess

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Sources: Seung Min Kim, Rachael Bade, Heather Caygle, “Congress Will Flight Over Guns, Zika as it Sprints for Recess,” Politico, July 10, 2016.