



Week in Review

Friday, November 3

- President Trump set off on a 12-day, five-nation [tour of Asia](#)—the longest presidential visit to the region since 1991.
- Before leaving for the trip, Trump repeatedly [called on](#) the Justice Department to investigate Hillary Clinton and the Democrats, despite acknowledging that he isn't supposed to interfere with investigations.
- A military judge [ruled](#) that Army Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl will receive a dishonorable discharge, but will not go to prison for desertion and misbehavior before the enemy.
- An extensive federal climate-change report was [unveiled](#) that attributes global warming to human activity.
- The U.S. economy [added](#) 261,000 jobs in October and the unemployment rate fell to 4.1 percent.

Monday, November 6

- Texas Governor Greg Abbott [confirmed](#) that 26 people, ranging from 18 months to 77 years old, were killed in a shooting at First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, on Sunday.
- Officials [said](#) the alleged gunman, Devin Patrick Kelley, had previously sent threatening text messages to his mother-in-law, who attended the church, and revealed that Kelley had been discharged from the Air Force for assaulting his wife and a child.
- During a joint news conference with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Tokyo, President Trump [said the shooting](#) was the result of a "mental health" problem, not "a guns situation."
- The House Ways and Means Committee [began their markup](#) of the GOP tax reform bill.
- And Senator Rand Paul is recovering from multiple injuries after he was allegedly assaulted by a neighbor at his home; the suspect's lawyer called the altercation a "[matter that most people would regard as trivial](#)."

Tuesday, November 7

- Voters [head to the polls](#) to cast their ballots in gubernatorial races in Virginia and New Jersey. Polls close at 7 p.m. ET in Virginia and 8 p.m. ET in New Jersey.
- During his testimony before the House Intelligence Committee on November 2, Carter Page, a former Trump aide, said he [told campaign officials](#) about his trip to Russia over the summer, contradicting his earlier statements.
- In a news conference with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, President Trump [stressed the importance of diplomacy](#) with North Korea, adding that “ultimately, it will all work out.”
- Syria [signed the Paris climate agreement](#), making the United States the only country in the world not to agree to the deal.

Wednesday, November 8

- Today [marked](#) the first anniversary of Donald Trump's election.
- Ralph Northam's victory in the Virginia governor's race [energized Democrats nationwide](#), as they look to make gains in 2018.
- During his [visit to China](#), Trump called on Beijing to put greater economic pressure on North Korea.
- In her confirmation hearing, Kirstjen Nielsen, Trump's pick to lead the Department of Homeland Security, said she backed border security, but [opposed a wall](#) across the entire U.S.-Mexico border.
- The Justice Department [called on AT&T to sell Turner Broadcasting](#), which includes CNN, for approval of its \$85.4 billion merger with Time Warner.

Thursday, November 9

- The Washington Post reports that Roy Moore, the GOP nominee in Alabama for a U.S. Senate seat, [initiated a sexual encounter](#) with a 14-year-old girl in the 1970s.
- Multiple senators called for Moore to [drop out of the race](#) if the allegations detailed in the Post are true.
- “If these allegations are true, he must step aside,” said Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell.
- The House Ways and Means Committee [voted to advance](#) a Republican tax-reform bill.
- White House Chief of Staff John Kelly [reportedly pressured](#) Acting Secretary of DHS Elaine Duke to end protections for thousands of Hondurans living in the United States.

Top Stories: Visualized

1. [House tax plan](#) — House Republicans revealed the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act" on Thursday, November 2nd

House Republicans reveal “Tax Cuts and Jobs Act”

Tenets of the tax plan



Reduces 7 tax brackets to 4 brackets of 12%, 25%, 35% and 39.6%



\$300 per person credit for filers, their spouses and non-child dependents for a five-year period



Doubles the standard deduction for middle-class families and expands the child tax credit



Caps the mortgage interest deduction at \$500,000



Doubles estate tax exemption and repeals the tax by 2024



Establishes global minimum tax at 10%



Reduces the corporate tax rate from 35% to 20%



Repeals medical expense deductions



Limits state and local tax deductions to property taxes and caps at \$10,000

2. [Key takeaways from the November 2017 elections](#) — Takeaways from and commentary on key elections around the country, particularly in Virginia.

Voices from election night

What did leaders and commentators around the country say about the election results?



"I don't know how you get around that this wasn't a referendum on the administration, I just don't. Some of the very divisive rhetoric really prompted and helped usher in a really high Democratic turnout in Virginia."

— Scott Taylor, (R-VA)



"Ed Gillespie worked hard but did not embrace me or what I stand for. Don't forget, Republicans won 4 out of 4 House seats, and with the economy doing record numbers, we will continue to win, even bigger than before!"

— President Trump, via Twitter



"[My voters] were expressing very legitimate concerns about...safety for themselves and their families and their businesses."

— Ed Gillespie, GOP candidate for governor



"Virginia has told us to end the divisiveness, that we will not condone hatred and bigotry. It's going to take a doctor to heal our differences. And I'm here to tell you, the doctor is in!"

— Ralph Northam, VA governor



"Ed couldn't escape being a proxy for Trump, which killed him. It's a huge drag on the ticket. It motivated the Democratic base...The lesson here is that Republicans have to get their act together. Ed did as well as he could do with the hand he was dealt."

— Tom Davis, former GOP congressman in Virginia



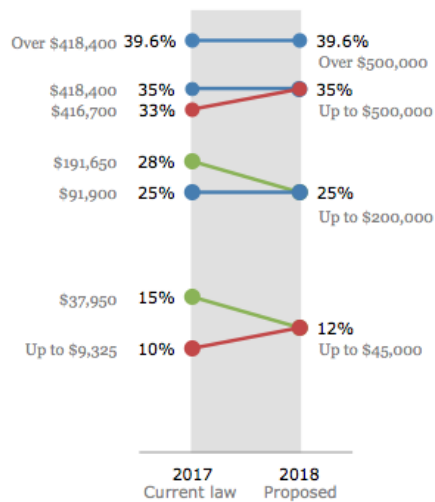
"I guarantee you that the Republicans up for re-election...will spend the next weeks and months trying to figure out just how much trouble their party is in and precisely how to repair it."

— Frank Bruni, New York Times political commentator

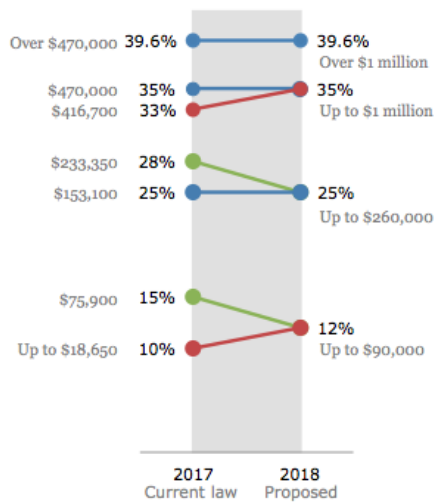
3. [Tax Cuts and Jobs Act: overview of rates and deductions](#) — Visualize tax rate and bracket changes under the House's proposed tax reform legislation

GOP Tax Cuts and Jobs Act would decrease seven brackets to four, but keep the top rate

Single filers



Married filers, filing jointly



Hotline: Overlooked

You Never Met a [Fake Candidate] Quite Like Him: It's unclear where the money went that was raised through the sales of merchandise affiliated with the Senate campaign musician **Kid Rock** was purportedly considering. As *BuzzFea* [reported](#), a disclaimer on the Warner Bros. Records website where the merchandise was sold stating that proceeds would "go to voter registration efforts" has disappeared.

Trumpless in Virginia: **Donald Trump** is the first president since **Richard Nixon** not to campaign in the Virginia governor race, *Politico* [reported](#). He also did not stump in New Jersey.

Spending Goes North by Northwest: Between the candidates and outside groups, there has been some \$8.5 million in spending in a single state Senate special election in Washington that will determine control of that chamber, the *Seattle Times* [reported](#).

Taking Control: New Jersey Gov.-elect **Phil Murphy**'s election and **Manka Dhingra**'s [likely victory](#) in a Washington state Senate special increases from six to eight the number of states where Democrats hold unified control of the government. Murphy's win also increases Democrats' total governorships to 16, a net increase from the [century-low](#) mark it hit when West Virginia Gov. **Jim Justice** switched to the Republican Party in August.

Probably a First: Palm Springs, CA has elected an entirely LGBT city council, the Palm Springs *Desert Sun* [reported](#).

Hotline: Quotes of the Week

"I feel like telling them 'Don't make me turn this car around!'" — Virginia governor candidate Cliff Hyra (L), on his opponents' negative ads, release, 11/2.

"I mean, everyone in Tallahassee knows that Jack Latvala is an absolute hound." — Rep. **Matt Gaetz** (R-FL 01), on the Republican state senator running for governor, [Politico](#), 11/3.

"It's serving folks like you that is really such a unique joy." — New Jersey Gov. **Chris Christie** (R), in an argument with a constituent after voting, [New York Times](#), 11/7.

"I think last night was a referendum. I don't think there was any way you could look at it a different way ... and be intellectually consistent." — Rep. **Scott Taylor** (R-VA 02), one of two House Republicans whose district was carried by **Ralph Northam**, [CNN](#), 11/8.

"I just want to encourage you to turn on the television, if it's not already on." — DCCC Chairman **Ben Ray Lujan**, in phone calls with potential recruits Tuesday evening, [New York Times](#), 11/8.

Look Ahead

Monday, November 13

[Tax reform/cuts](#) - Senate Finance Committee: Full committee hearing on the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act"

Tuesday, November 14

[Hurricanes](#) - Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: Full committee hearing on "Hurricane Recovery Efforts in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands."

[Attorney General Sessions](#) - House Judiciary Committee: Oversight hearing of the Justice Department with testimony by AG Sessions

[Nuclear strike authority](#) - Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Full committee hearing on "Authority to Order the Use of Nuclear Weapons."

[Gene-editing](#) - Senate HELP Committee: Full committee hearing on gene editing technology.

[Congressional sexual harassment policy](#) - House Administration Committee: Full committee hearing on the committee's review of the U.S. House of Representatives' existing training, policies, and mechanisms in place to guard against and report sexual harassment.

[Brexit](#) - House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee: Update on Brexit negotiations

Wednesday, November 15

[Oil/gas drilling in Alaska](#) - Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee: Full committee markup of H.Con.Res.71, the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for FY2018, reconciliation legislation to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish and administer a competitive oil and gas program in the non-wilderness portion of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, known as the "1002 Area" or Coastal Plan.

[Department of Labor](#) - House Education and the Workforce Committee: Full committee hearing on "Examining the Policies and Priorities of the U.S. Department of Labor."

[Surgeon General](#) - Senate HELP Committee: Full committee hearing on "Encouraging Healthy Communities: Perspective from the Surgeon General."

[Cuba attacks](#) - Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Full committee hearing on "Attacks on U.S. Diplomats in Cuba: Response and Oversight."

Thursday, November 16

[New counter-terrorism measures](#) - Senate Foreign Relations Committee: Full committee closed briefing on "New Counterterrorism Guidance."

Final day the House is in session until after Thanksgiving break

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