

Revised trade agreement announced; FBI investigates Kavanaugh allegations; unemployment falls to historic low

Week in Review: October 1 – October 5, 2018

Mon

Oct

1

- The White House authorized the FBI to interview anyone necessary in its investigation into sexual-assault allegations against Brett Kavanaugh.
- Trump praised the revised trade agreement between the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, which was announced late Sunday, as “a great deal for all three countries.”
- Trump said he expected his administration to ban so-called “bump stocks” in a matter of weeks.

Tues

Oct

2

- Sen. Jeff Flake criticized Brett Kavanaugh for his recent appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee, calling his interactions with lawmakers “sharp and partisan.” “We can’t have that on the Court,” he said.
- President Trump told reporters, “[i]t is a very scary time for young men in America, where you can be guilty of something you may not be guilty of.”
- Four members of a militant white-supremacy group were arrested in connection with last year’s United the Right rally

Wed

Oct

3

- Sen. Lindsey Graham said he “didn’t particularly like” Trump’s controversial comments about Christine Blasey Ford.
- The Senate passed a bipartisan bill to address the opioid crisis
- Secretary of State Mike Pompeo withdrew the United States from a 1955 treaty with Iran after the UN’s top court ordered the US to lift sanctions on certain “humanitarian goods”

Thurs

Oct

4

- Sen. Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley said the FBI’s supplementary investigation did not corroborate the sexual-assault allegations against Brett Kavanaugh. Democrats criticized the report.
- Thousands of protestors marched on Capitol Hill to rally against Kavanaugh’s confirmation.
- The Trump administration indicted seven Russian intelligence officials for allegedly launching a hacking campaign against the United States.

Fri

Oct

5

- Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, one of the remaining undecided Democratic senators, announced that she would oppose Kavanaugh’s nomination
- The Senate cleared a major procedural hurdle to confirming Kavanaugh, voting to advance his confirmation, with a final vote scheduled for Saturday.
- Unemployment fell to a historic low of 3.7%

Sources: The Atlantic Politics and Policy Daily; Politico