



Federal Legislative Activities - Week of April 27, 2015

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of April 27, 2015, below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Monday, April 27th

3:00 | Senate meets for legislative business to consider:

[H.R.1191](#) - Protecting Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Responders Act - This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to exclude services rendered by bona-fide volunteers providing firefighting and prevention services, emergency medical services, or ambulance services to a state or local government or a tax-exempt charitable organization from the category of services usually rendered by an employee of an applicable large employer subject to the mandate to provide minimum essential health care coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), thus exempting such employers from ACA requirements with respect to such volunteers.

Tuesday, April 28th

2:00 | House meets for legislative business to consider:

[H.R. 373](#) – Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act - This bill requires the Interior and Agriculture departments to develop and implement a process to quickly grant access to federal land to individuals and organizations who wish to perform good-Samaritan search-and-recovery missions for persons missing and believed to be deceased. Under the measure, the process developed by the department must provide for approval or denial of the request within 48 hours of the time the request is made. Individuals or groups requesting access must be acting in a not-for-profit capacity, and must release the federal government from liability and agree to indemnify and hold the U.S. government harmless for any claims or lawsuits that result from their actions while on federal land.

2:30 | Senate Commerce Subcommittee Hearing: Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on aviation safety and general aviation. The hearing is part of an ongoing process for reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

Wednesday, April 29th

9:30 | Senate Banking Subcommittee Hearing: Opportunities for private investment in public infrastructure. The witnesses will include Mr. Cal Hollis, Managing Executive Officer for Countywide Planning and Development, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Authority. Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

9:30 | House Appropriations THUD Subcommittee Markup: FY16 THUD bill.

10:00 | House Armed Services Committee Markup: H.R. 1735 National Defense Authorization Act for FY16. Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

1:30 | House Agriculture Committee, Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

2:00 | House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee Hearing: The Impact of EPAs Proposed Ozone Standards on Rural America. Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

2:00 PM House T&I Highways and Transit Subcommittee Hearing: The Future of Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety: Technology Safety Initiatives and the Role of Federal Regulation

2:30 PM Senate Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing: FY16 budget estimates and justifications for the Environmental Protection Agency.

2:30 PM Senate Veterans' Affairs Hearing: Government Accountability Office's High Risk List and the Veterans Health Administration

Thursday, April 30th

9:00 | House Oversight & Government Reform Committee Hearing: EPA Mismanagement. Click [here](#) to view the webcast live.

10:30 | House Veterans' Affairs Committee Hearing: Examining Access and Quality of Care and Services for Women Veterans.

2:00 | House Homeland Security Subcommittee Hearing: A Review of Access Control Measures at Our Nation's Airports Part II. This hearing builds upon the Subcommittee's first hearing of the 114th Congress by continuing to examine how airport access control measures can be improved at airports nationwide. In January of this year, the Aviation Security Advisory Committee (ASAC) was tasked with conducting a review of airport access control measures and released a final report earlier this month. This hearing will provide an opportunity for the Subcommittee to better understand the ASAC's findings and discuss the feasibility of implementing the report's recommendations. Click [here](#) to watch the webcast live.

Friday, May 1st

9:00 | House meets for legislative business to consider:

- [H.R. 2029](#) – Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 - The bill provides a total of \$171.1 billion in FY 2016 to fund military construction projects and programs of the Veterans Affairs Department, \$5 billion more than current comparable funding but \$2.2 billion less than requested. It also includes \$167.3 billion in advance FY 2017 funding – \$63.3 billion for VA medical programs and \$104 billion for mandatory veterans benefits. The measure increases discretionary VA funding by 6% and military construction spending by 13%.
- [H.R. 2028](#) - Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2016 -The bill provides a total of \$36.1 billion in programmatic funding for the Energy Department and federal water projects in FY 2016 (\$1 billion more than comparable current funding) – including \$35.4 billion in discretionary funding subject to budget caps after scorekeeping adjustments. That discretionary total is \$1.2 billion (3%) more than the current level but \$633 million less than requested by the president.
- Possible Consideration of the Conference Report to [S. Con. Res. 11](#) – FY2016 Budget -House and Senate conferees are expected to reach agreement this week. The GOP budgets adopted by the two chambers are similar in that they would reach balance within 10 years exclusively by cutting spending. Each also includes reconciliation instructions that could be used to pass filibuster-proof legislation to cut mandatory spending programs, which many Republicans want to use to repeal the ACA.
- Possible Consideration of [H.R. 1732](#) –Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015 - The measure prohibits EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers from finalizing or implementing a rule proposed last year that seeks to clarify the federal government's authority to regulate certain intrastate waters under the Clean Water Act, and it requires the agencies to consult with state and local officials to develop a new regulatory proposal.