



Federal Legislative Activities Week of February 8, 2016

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of February 8, 2016, below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Tuesday, February 9th

2 PM | House will meet for legislative business to consider:

[H.R. 677](#) - American Heroes COLA Act of 2015 - Requires that, whenever there is an increase in benefit amounts payable under title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall increase by the same percentage the amounts payable as veterans' disability compensation, additional compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled adult children, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children.

[H.R. 2915](#) - Female Veteran Suicide Prevention Act - This bill directs the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to identify: (1) VA mental health care and suicide prevention programs that are most effective for women veterans, and (2) those programs with the highest satisfaction rates among women veterans.

[H.R. 3036](#) - 9/11 Memorial Act - This bill designates the National September 11 Memorial located at the World Trade Center in New York City, New York, as a national memorial. The Department of the Interior may award a grant of not more than \$25 million each fiscal year to the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc., for the operation and maintenance of the memorial.

[S. 2012](#) – The Senate will resume consideration of The Energy Policy Modernization Act (EPMA). The bill focuses on energy efficiency, energy infrastructure, energy supply, and conservation. The bill would benefit conservation by permanently reauthorizing the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Historic Preservation Fund, and by creating a new Park Maintenance and Revitalization Fund to help address the maintenance backlog at our National Parks. Click [here](#) for additional information.

Wednesday, February 10th

10:00 AM Senate Environment & Public Works Committee Hearing: An oversight hearing to examine the importance of enacting a new Water Resources Development Act.

10:00 AM Senate Judiciary System: Hearings to examine mental health and the justice system.

10:00 AM House Education & Workforce Subcommittee Hearing: “Next Steps for K-12 Education: Implementing the Promise to Restore State and Local Control.” Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

10:00 AM House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Hearing: Review of Air Traffic Control (ATC) Reform Proposals. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

2:00 PM House Armed Services Committee Hearing: A Review of VA's Loan Guaranty Program and Specially Adaptive Housing Grant Programs

Wednesday, February 10th & the Balance of the Week

[H.R. 3442](#) - Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2015 - This bill requires the Secretary of the Treasury to provide a report to Congress prior to any date on which the Secretary anticipates the public debt will reach the statutory limit. The Secretary must appear before the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee to submit a report including: the historic, current, and projected levels of the debt; the drivers and composition of future debt; and how the United States will meet debt obligations if the debt limit is raised. The Secretary must also provide a detailed explanation of: proposals of the President to reduce the debt and a progress report on implementing them; the impact an increased debt limit will have on future government spending, debt service, and the position of the U.S. dollar as the international reserve currency; and projections of the fiscal health and sustainability of major entitlement programs (including Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid).

[H.R. 2017](#) - Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act of 2015 - This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise the nutritional information that restaurants and retail food establishments must disclose. The nutrient content disclosure statement on the menu or menu board must include: (1) the number of calories contained in the whole menu item; (2) the number of servings and number of calories per serving; or (3) the number of calories per common unit of the item, such as for a multi-serving item that is typically divided before presentation to the consumer. Nutritional information may be provided solely by a remote-access menu (e.g., an Internet menu) for food establishments where the majority of orders are placed by customers who are off-premises.

[SJ Res 22](#) - Disapprove EPA/Corps of Engineers Rule Governing Waters of the United States. The resolution disapproves of the rule issued by EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers on June 29, 2015, commonly known as the "waters of the United States" rule that seeks to clarify the federal government's authority to regulate certain intrastate waters under the Clean Water Act, providing that the rule will have no force or effect. The bill nullifies the rule submitted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency relating to the definition of "waters of the United States" under the Clean Water Act and published on June 29, 2015. The president is expected to veto the measure, which is expected to be considered under a closed rule that prohibits amendments.

Thursday, February 11th

9:30 AM House Financial Services Subcommittee Hearing: "The Future of Housing in America: Examining the Health of the Federal Housing Administration"

10:00 AM House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee Hearing: Choice Consolidation: Improving VA Community Care Billing and Reimbursement