



Federal Legislative Activities - Week of November 17, 2014

Please find a listing of federal legislative activities the County and our federal advocates are monitoring during the week of November 17th below.

Congressional Hearings and Floor Activity

Monday, November 17th

2:00 | Senate resumes consideration of [S. 1086](#), the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 2014

5:00 | House Committee on Rules Business Meeting:

[H.R. 1422](#) - EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2013. The bill modifies the qualifications and selection process for individuals to serve on EPA's Science Advisory Board and expands the disclosure requirements for members of the board. It also requires the board and its subcommittees to publicly release scientific information used in determining its advisories to EPA. Proponents say the bill is needed to ensure there is a balance of views on the advisory board and members don't have any conflicts of interest, while opponents contend it is a veiled attempt to get industry-funded scientists on the board at the expense of independent scientists.

[H.R. 4012](#) Secret Science Reform Act of 2014 - The bill prohibits EPA from proposing, finalizing or disseminating a rule or other "covered action" unless all scientific and technical information used to decide upon the rule is made available to the public so the research can be independently analyzed and reproduced.

[H.R. 4795](#) Promoting New Manufacturing Act - The measure requires the EPA to make modifications to its Clean Air Act preconstruction permits program that are intended to increase transparency and reduce delays. It requires the agency to make public certain information regarding the number of permit applications it issues each year, and to publish implementing rules and guidance at the same time it issues new or revised air quality standards. Proponents argue the bill is needed to provide greater transparency and certainty to manufacturers who want to build new facilities, while opponents say it would effectively weaken the nation's air quality protections.

Tuesday, November 18th

10:00 | House Committee on Foreign Affairs Hearing: Fighting Ebola: A Ground-Level View. Click [here](#) to view the live webcast.

10:00 | House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Hearing: FAA Reauthorization: Issues in Modernizing and Operating the Nation's Airspace. The hearing will explore issues related to the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) modernization and operation of the Nation's complex airspace system. The Committee will receive testimony from the Department of Transportation Inspector General (IG) and representatives of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), Airlines for America (A4A), Business Roundtable (BRT), and National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA). Click [here](#) for background material and to view the live webcast.

10:00 | House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Hearing: Assessing the Implementation of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014

10:00 | House Committee on Foreign Affairs Hearing: Combating Ebola in West Africa: The International Response

12:00 | The House will meet for legislative business to consider:

[H.R. 1422](#)- EPA Science Advisory Board Reform Act of 2013

1:00 | House Committee on Energy and Commerce Hearing: Update on the U.S. Public Health Response to the Ebola Outbreak. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the 2014 Ebola epidemic is the largest outbreak of the virus in history. As of November 14, 2014, the CDC, in conjunction with the World Health Organization (WHO), has identified 14,194 cases of Ebola in West Africa since the outbreak began in March. This has resulted in 5,492 recorded deaths so far. The following issues will be examined at the hearing: Is the administration operating under a Federal emergency response plan, what should be done to better prepare the U.S. public health system for any future Ebola cases, are new U.S. guidelines and protocols both sufficient and appropriate, are current screening, flight restriction, and quarantine policies appropriate, is the administration's most recent supplemental spending request appropriate. Click [here](#) to view background material and the webcast live.

Wednesday, November 19th

10:00 | House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Hearing: The Role of the State Approving Agencies in Ensuring Quality Education Programs for Veterans

10:00 | House Committee on Energy and Commerce Hearing: Examining Medical Product Development in the Wake of the Ebola Epidemic

2:00 | House Committee on Financial Services Hearing: Hearing entitled "Opportunities for a Private and Competitive Sustainable Flood Insurance Market"

Thursday, November 20th

9:00 | The House will meet to consider:

[H.R. 4795](#)- Promoting New Manufacturing Act