

**WASHINGTON UPDATE**  
**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**  
**OFFICE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**  
**Week of Feb. 22 – 26, 2021**

**THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION**

- This week, the House and Senate are in session.
- This week, the House is expected to take up the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 bill.
- This week, the House is expected to take up [H.R. 5](#), the Equality Act.
- On Monday, the Senate is expected to hold an initial vote on the nomination of Linda Thomas-Greenfield to be United Nations ambassador.

**ADVOCACY UPDATE**

- This week, the UC Student Association is holding a Double the Pell congressional week of action that includes a [press conference](#) on Monday and a [Hill briefing](#) on Tuesday.

**THIS WEEK IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND POLICY BRIEFINGS**

- On Monday, the House Budget Committee will markup the [American Rescue Plan Act of 2021](#).
- On Monday, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a confirmation hearing on the nomination of Merrick Garland to be attorney general.
- On Monday, the Senate Rules and Administration Committee will hold a business meeting on committee rules, budget authorization and the omnibus committee funding resolution.
- On Tuesday, the House Agriculture Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Climate Change and the U.S. Agriculture and Forestry Sectors.”
- On Tuesday, Water and Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Strategies for Energy and Climate Innovation.”
- On Tuesday, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Pathway to Protection: Expanding Availability of COVID-19 Vaccines.”
- On Tuesday, the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Building Back Better: The Urgent Need for Investment in America’s Wastewater Infrastructure.”
- On Tuesday, the Cyber, Innovative Technologies and Information Systems Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, “Innovation Opportunities and Vision for the Science and Technology Enterprise.” Dr. Victoria Coleman, senior advisor to the director, Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS), UC Berkeley, will testify.

- On Tuesday, the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Near-Peer Advancements in Space and Nuclear Weapons."
- On Tuesday, the Senate Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Emerging Technologies and Their Impact on National Security."
- On Tuesday, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee will hold a confirmation hearing on the nomination of the Deb Haaland to be secretary of the Department of the Interior.
- On Tuesday, the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a confirmation hearing on the nomination of Merrick Garland to be attorney general.
- On Tuesday, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a confirmation hearing on the nomination of Xavier Becerra to be secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- On Wednesday, the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Future Defense Spending."
- On Wednesday, the House Homeland Security Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Confronting the Coronavirus: Perspectives on the COVID-19 Pandemic One Year Later."
- On Wednesday, the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Ready or Not: U.S. Public Health Infrastructures."
- On Wednesday, the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will hold a business meeting to consider the nomination of Neera Tanden, UCLA alumnus, to be director of the Office of Management and Budget.
- On Wednesday, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Building Back Better: Investing in Transportation while Addressing Climate Change, Improving Equity and Fostering Economic Growth and Innovation."
- On Wednesday, the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Vaccines for Vets: Our Best Shot at Ending the COVID-19 Pandemic."
- On Thursday, the House Science, Space and Technology Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Building Back the U.S. Research Enterprise: COVID Impacts and Recovery."
- On Thursday, the House Agriculture Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Climate Change and the U.S Agriculture and Forestry Sectors."
- On Thursday, the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will hold a hearing titled "Strategies for Energy and Climate Innovation."
- On Thursday, the Investor Protection, Entrepreneurship and Capital Markets Subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, "The Challenge of Our Time: Climate Change, the Capital Markets and Sustainable Investment."
- On Thursday, the Senate Armed Services Committee will hold a hearing titled, "Department of Defense Support to the COVID-19 Response."

- On Thursday, the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Coronavirus Crisis: Next Steps for Rebuilding Main Street.”
- On Thursday, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a confirmation hearing on the nomination of Vivek Murthy be medical director of the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service and surgeon general of the Public Health Service, and Rachel Levine to serve as assistant secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.
- On Thursday, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold an executive session to consider subcommittee assignments for the committee.
- On Friday, the Health Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The Path Forward on COVID-19 Immunizations.”

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