WASHINGTON UPDATE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF FEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
Week of May 11 – 15, 2020

THIS WEEK IN CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION

- This week, the Senate is in session. The House could return late in the week to vote on additional COVID-19 relief legislation.
- This week, the House will continue working on its own additional COVID-19 relief legislation, which could come up for a floor vote as early as this week. Informal conversation between the administration and lawmakers are ongoing, with a call between the administration and senators expected on Monday.
- This week, the Senate is expected to take up a reauthorization of lapsed intelligence programs, including a House-passed bill that would reauthorize three programs and make some changes to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act court.
- This week, the Senate is expected to continue discussions on the implementation of the nearly $3 trillion already allocated to address the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This week, the Senate is expected to take up the nominations of Brian Montgomery to be deputy secretary of Housing and Urban Development and Troy Edgar to be the chief financial officer at the Department of Homeland Security.

ADVOCACY UPDATE

- On Monday, FGR and UC Berkeley will participate in a California Higher Education Basic Needs Alliance COVID-19 webinar: Responses, Resources and Updates.
- Last week, at the invitation of UC FGR, Rep. Ami Bera (D-CA-7) participated in The Science Coalition’s first virtual headliner event where he highlighted the role of research universities to mitigate the adverse effects of COVID-19.
- Last week, UC FGR continued its ongoing advocacy related to COVID-19, engaging with Congress as well as partner organizations:
  - On May 8, the vice chancellors for research and lab deputy directors hosted a call with Dr. Michael Lauer, deputy director for extramural research at the National Institute of Health (NIH).

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

- UC’s FY 2021 Appropriations Tracker
- UC’s FY 2021 Funding Priorities
- UC’s FY 2021 Budget Advocacy Toolkit

THIS WEEK IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS AND POLICY BRIEFINGS

- On Tuesday, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a hearing titled, “COVID-19: Safely Getting Back to Work and Back to School.”
• On Wednesday, the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing titled, “The State of Broadband Amid COVID-19 Pandemic.”
• On Thursday, the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold a hearing on protecting scientific integrity in the COVID-19 response.

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