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05/09/22 Weekly Washington Update

Headlines to Know

- Congress is expected to move forward this week on a nearly \$40 billion Ukraine aid package. The proposal is \$6.8 billion above the White House's \$33 billion request. It provides \$3.4 billion more than the Biden administration requested for military aid, plus another \$3.4 billion in humanitarian aid. House and Senate appropriators spent the last week privately negotiating the proposal. This package is expected to pass, although we anticipate several questions will be raised regarding long-term US strategy in Ukraine.
- Covid preparedness funding, which a number of senior Hill Democrats repeatedly had said they wanted to attach to the Ukraine money, was left out of the Ukraine package. The Covid funding would provide the Biden administration with the resources it needs to purchase new tests, therapeutics and vaccines to continue to deal with the pandemic. With its removal from the Ukraine package, the future of Covid funding on the Hill is unclear.

Other News to Know

- Education Secretary Cardona is preparing to roll back Title IX guidelines initially imposed by previous Secretary Betsy DeVos. Along with casting off these Trump Administration guidelines, Secretary Cardona is also expected to codify safeguards for transgender students for the first time.
- President Biden spoke today at the White House about his Administration's efforts to curb inflation. The President labeled addressing rising inflation as his "top domestic priority." The issue is a rising concern for Democrats as it threatens to derail their chances in the midterms later this year.

This Week on Capitol Hill

Hearings of Interest: (all times EST)

- Wednesday, May 11th | 10:00 AM House Oversight and Reform Markup 1. HR _____, the Artificial Intelligence Training for the Acquisition Workforce Act; 2. H.R. 4176, the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act; 3. H.R. 7331, the Improving Government for America's Taxpayers

Schedule of Floor Activity:

- Both the House and Senate are in session this week.