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05/16/22 Weekly Washington Update

Headlines to Know

- The Senate overwhelmingly voted on Monday, 5/16, to move toward passage of \$40 billion in aid to Ukraine, underscoring the broad Republican and Democratic support for the country as it defends itself against Russia's invasion. Monday's 81-11 procedural vote sets up Senate passage of the legislation this week, if all lawmakers consent to waive rules on debate. That would send it to President Joe Biden for his signature if no changes are made from the version passed in the House. The package has been held up by Senator Rand Paul (R-KY). Last Thursday, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and GOP leader Mitch McConnell, also of Kentucky, made a rare joint offer to allow an amendment vote on language Paul sought. But he wanted the provision, which would have likely failed on the floor, written into the legislation itself.
- The FDA has reached a deal with baby formula manufacturer Abbott to resume operations at their Sturgis, MI plant in an effort to address the critical shortage consumers are facing. House Democrats on Tuesday also introduced legislation to provide an additional \$28 million to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to help address the baby formula shortage affecting families across the country.

Other News to Know

- House Democratic leaders have renewed their efforts to pass the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act. Three weeks ago, House Democratic leaders had to pull the bill after several progressive Democrats pushed back on certain provisions related to the definition of "domestic terrorism" and over-policing. However, recent tweaks have led to those Democratic Members who were previously opposed to speak positively about the bill, indicating that it has the potential to pass.
- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2022 (WIOA) is expected to pass the House this week. The bill, which passed out of the Education and Labor Committee last month with Democratic support, would reauthorize key workforce development programs through the Department of Labor. The bill's future in the Senate, however, is unclear.

This Week on Capitol Hill

Hearings of Interest: (all times EST)

- Tuesday, May 17th | 9:00 AM Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee FY 2023 Budget Request for the Department of Labor

- Tuesday, May 17th | 9:00 AM House Education and Labor Hearing Civil Rights and Human Services Subcommittee Examining Ways to Improve the Juvenile Justice System and Support America's Young People
- Tuesday, May 17th | 11:45 AM House Oversight and Reform Hearing Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis Hybrid Hearing on “Underpaid, Overworked, and Underappreciated: How the Pandemic Economy Disproportionately Harmed Low-Wage Women Workers”
- Wednesday, May 18th | 10:00 AM Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Meeting Hearings to examine cybersecurity in the health and education sectors
- Wednesday, May 18th | 10:15 AM House Education and Labor Markup “H.R. 604, Reopen and Rebuild America’s Schools Act (RRASA); H.R. 7701, Wage Theft Prevention and Wage Recovery Act; H.R. 5407, Enhancing Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Through Campus Prevention and Recovery Services for Students Act of 2022, and H.R. 7780, Mental Health Matters Act
- Thursday, May 19th | 10:00 AM House Oversight and Reform Hearing Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Subcommittee “Free Speech Under Attack (Part II): Curriculum Sabotage and Classroom Censorship”

Schedule of Floor Activity:

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