

# NCDA

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## 4/12/21 Weekly Washington Update

### Headlines to Know

- Last week, Biden pushed up the date for all U.S. adults to be eligible for the Covid-19 Vaccine to April 19<sup>th</sup> from its original date of May 1<sup>st</sup>. Efforts to mitigate vaccine hesitation are also underway, particularly in communities where vaccine hesitancy is more prevalent.
- The House is expected to vote on D.C. statehood in the next few weeks. Similar legislation passed last session, though they never made it to the Senate floor. D.C. gaining statehood would make for the only state with a plurality-Black population of 46%.
- Puerto Rico Statehood is also a hearing topic being brought forth on Wednesday of this week in the House Natural Resources Committee.
- Last Friday, the Biden Administration chose not to order the shutdown of the Dakota Access Pipeline that runs through the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Reservation. The Army Corps will leave the final decision to be made by a Federal Judge, with the ruling expected in late April.

### Other News to Know

- In South Carolina, last week Wednesday, former pro-football player Philip Adams shot and killed five people, including an air condition technician, a doctor, his wife, and their two grandchildren, ages 9 and 5, before turning the gun on himself.
- President Biden's Infrastructure Plan tackles the issues of connectivity providing broadband and electricity to parts of America that are currently lacking. He is also uplifting shifts toward climate-safe alternative sources of Energy.

### This Week on Capitol Hill

#### ***Hearings of Interest:***

- Tuesday, Apr. 13 | 10 a.m. Senate Finance Committee hearing on "The 2021 Tax Filing Season and 21st Century IRS." 215 Dirksen.
- Tuesday, Apr. 13 | 2 p.m. Senate Appropriations Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on the President's proposed budget estimates for FY2022 for the National Science Foundation and securing U.S. competitiveness. 106 Dirksen.
- Tuesday, Apr. 13 | 2:30 p.m. Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Economic Policy Subcommittee hearing on "The Student Debt Burden and Its Impact on Racial Justice, Borrowers and The Economy."
- Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10 a.m. House Financial Services Committee hearing on "Building Back Better: Examining the Need for Investments in America's Housing and Financial Infrastructure."

**This Week on Capitol Hill** *(continued)*

***Hearings of Interest:*** *(continued)*

- Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10 a.m. House Veterans' Affairs Economic Opportunity Subcommittee hearing on H.R. 147 (117), the "Bringing Registered Apprenticeships to Veterans Education Act,"; and other bills.
- Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10 a.m. House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "The U.S. Department of Agriculture - The Year Ahead."
- Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10 a.m. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee hearing on "Long-term Solvency of the Highway Trust Fund: Lessons Learned from the Surface Transportation System Funding Alternatives Program and Other User-based Revenue Solutions, and How Funding Uncertainty Affects the Highway Programs." 106 Dirksen.
- Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10:30 a.m. House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing on "An Epidemic within a Pandemic: Understanding Substance Use and Misuse in America."
- Thursday, Apr. 15 | 10:15 a.m. House Education and Labor Committee Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee hearing on "Meeting the Moment: Improving Access to Behavioral and Mental Health Care."
- Thursday, Apr. 15 | 11 a.m. House Transportation and Infrastructure Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee hearing on "Practical Steps Toward a Carbon-Free Maritime Industry: Updates on Fuels, Ports, and Technology." 2167 Rayburn.

***Markups of Interest:***

Wednesday, Apr. 14 | 10 a.m. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee markup of S. 914 (117), the "Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021." 106 Dirksen.

***Schedule of Floor Activity:***

The House will return Tuesday and the Senate on Monday following their two-week district work period.