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3/22/21 Weekly Washington Update

Headlines to Know

- Over the weekend, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas defended President Biden's response to the border crisis, reiterating that, "the border is closed," but that the US would not be turning back, "young, vulnerable children." Mayorkas is working to re-establish an orderly process for handling migrant children.
- The full Senate will vote to confirm Shalanda Young as the Deputy OMB this week. Talks continue as to whether or not she will receive a nomination to serve as Director, though the White House has not indicated that they would make any decisions until she has been confirmed as deputy.
- K-12 Schools are set to receive just under \$122B from the Covid Relief Package that the President signed last week. This comes as the CDC releases new guidelines for safely reopening schools. The CDC has also indicated that they will provide \$10B to assist states and cities in creating Covid-19 Screening procedures for their K-12 schools.

This Week on Capitol Hill

Hearings of Interest:

- Monday, Mar. 22 | 11 a.m. House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing on H.R. 1848 (117), the "Leading Infrastructure for Tomorrow's America Act: Revitalizing Our Nation's Infrastructure and Economy."
- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 10 a.m. House Appropriations Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "Wood Innovation: Sustainable Forest Products to Reinvigorate Rural Economies."
- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 10 a.m. House Natural Resources National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands Subcommittee hearing on "Building Back Better: Examining the Future of America's Public Lands."
- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 10 a.m. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Primary Health and Retirement Security Subcommittee hearing on why the U.S. pays the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs.
- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 10 a.m. House Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis."
- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 11 a.m. House Transportation and Infrastructure Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee hearing on "The Water Resources Development Act of 2020: Status of Essential Provisions." 2167 Rayburn.

This Week on Capitol Hill *(continued)*

Hearings of Interest: *(continued)*

- Tuesday, Mar. 23 | 11 a.m. House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing on "Building on the ACA (Affordable Care Act): Legislation to Expand Health Coverage and Lower Costs."
- Wednesday, Mar. 24 | 2 p.m. House Appropriations Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "The Rural Economy."
- Thursday, Mar. 25 | 10 a.m. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee hearing on "Examining Our COVID-19 Response: Improving Health Equity and Outcomes by Addressing Health Disparities." 430 Dirksen.
- Thursday, Mar. 25 | 1 p.m. House Appropriations Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Subcommittee hearing on "The Effects of COVID-19 on Arts and Humanities Organizations."
- Thursday, Mar. 25 | 1 p.m. House Education and Labor Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee hearing on "Lessons Learned: Charting the Path to Educational Equity Post-COVID-19."