

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

March 16, 2026



Washington Update

GOP Legislative Priorities: During their policy retreat last week, House Republican leaders, members, and President Donald Trump discussed legislative priorities for the remainder of the year.

Speaker Mike Johnson's agenda included reauthorization of the government's authority under Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which permits surveillance of foreign individuals located abroad using domestic electronic communications systems without individual court orders. Those authorities are scheduled to expire on April 20. He also called for legislation related to water projects and infrastructure, as well as a smaller farm bill. In addition, he said Republicans could pursue a second tax and spending package through the budget reconciliation process.

Members discussed potential components of a reconciliation package during the retreat. Proposals mentioned included measures addressing federal fraud and emergency supplemental funding related to the Iran war. Some senators have also outlined potential provisions. For example, Joni Ernst proposed measures to reclaim unspent COVID-era funds, rescind certain climate initiatives adopted during the Biden administration, increase penalties for states with high rates of inaccurate payments in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, establish a \$250 fee on new electric vehicle owners, and add additional oversight of government charge card use.

President Trump called for passage of the SAVE America Act, legislation that would require photo identification and proof of citizenship to vote in federal elections. A version of the bill previously passed in the House. The President has proposed amendments including a near-total ban on mail-in ballots, a prohibition on transgender women competing in women's sports, and restrictions on gender-affirming surgery for minors.

The President did not reference legislation related to cost-of-living issues, including housing legislation that has passed both chambers in different forms. The House passed its version, H.R. 6644, in early February. The Senate later amended and passed the bill. The Senate version faces additional consideration in the House. French Hill, chair of the House Financial Services Committee,

has indicated interest in adding provisions related to community bank regulation. Members of the House Freedom Caucus have also proposed changes to a provision in the Senate bill that temporarily prohibits the creation of a Federal Reserve-issued digital currency. Other members have raised concerns about a provision limiting ownership of single-family homes by large institutional investors.

The President did not discuss a second budget reconciliation bill during the retreat. Separately, a U.S. Department of the Treasury official stated that the administration may not release a “Greenbook” outlining revenue proposals alongside the President’s budget request. The Treasury Department has not released a Greenbook during Trump’s presidency.

SAVE America Act: The Senate is scheduled to consider the SAVE America Act this week. Opposition from Democratic senators and some Republican senators may prevent the bill from reaching the required vote threshold for passage.

Some supporters have suggested the Senate could use a parliamentary procedure known as a “talking filibuster.” Senate Minority Leader John Thune has stated that he does not support using that approach, citing procedural complexity and the amount of floor time it would require.

Senate Republican leadership instead plans to hold extended debate sessions that could continue into next week. Senators will be required to remain near the Senate floor to respond to procedural motions. Leadership also plans to hold votes on amendments reflecting changes proposed by the President. These amendments and the final bill would require 60 votes to advance. Supporters of the bill have indicated they may also attempt a vote to change Senate rules to eliminate the filibuster. A final cloture vote, which is required to end debate and proceed to a final vote, would also require 60 votes.

In the House, Anna Paulina Luna has said she may attempt to attach the SAVE America Act to legislation reauthorizing surveillance authorities under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. Some members have indicated they may seek to attach the legislation to other bills as well.

Additional War Powers Resolutions: Senate Democrats have stated they plan to introduce additional war powers resolutions unless Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth testify publicly regarding the war in Iran. War powers resolutions are privileged measures in the Senate and can take precedence over other business when introduced.

Appropriations: The U.S. Department of Homeland Security has been without enacted funding for 31 days. Senators have brought forward a Democratic proposal to fund the department excluding U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, as well as the House-passed DHS appropriations bill. Neither measure has received the 60 votes required to proceed in the Senate.

More than two weeks have passed since the White House sent Democrats a proposal related to immigration enforcement reforms. A formal Democratic

response has not been publicly released.

Operational impacts from the funding gap have begun to emerge. Employees of the Transportation Security Administration missed a full paycheck last week, and some airports have reported longer security lines and wait times.

The White House has indicated that it plans to submit a fiscal year 2026 supplemental appropriations request for the U.S. Department of Defense to cover expenses related to the Iran war. The request may total at least \$50 billion. Passage through the standard Senate process would require support from at least eight Democratic senators if Rand Paul maintains his opposition. One alternative under consideration is including the funding in a budget reconciliation package, which would require offsetting spending reductions elsewhere.

IRS Commissioner: The Federal Vacancies Reform Act limits the time an acting official may serve in a position that normally requires presidential nomination and Senate confirmation to 210 days from the date the vacancy occurred. Scott Bessent reached that limit earlier this month while serving as acting commissioner of the Internal Revenue Service.

The administration announced that Bessent will no longer hold the acting commissioner title but will continue performing the functions and duties of the position.

The commissioner position has remained vacant for an extended period. The President has not recently announced plans to nominate a permanent replacement. Any confirmed nominee would serve only until November 12, 2027, which is the end of the five-year term originally held by former commissioner Daniel Werfel.

The acting chief counsel of the IRS, Deputy Treasury Secretary for Tax Policy Ken Kies, has an acting service end date of June 16.

House: The House will return for votes Tuesday through Thursday. The schedule includes three bills to be considered under a rule requiring a simple majority for passage.

Two of the bills were previously scheduled for votes during the week of March 2 but were postponed. The Deporting Fraudsters Act (H.R. 1958) would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify that individuals convicted of defrauding the U.S. government or unlawfully receiving public benefits are inadmissible and subject to removal. The BOWWOW Act (H.R. 4638) would apply similar provisions to individuals convicted of harming animals used in law enforcement.

The third measure, the Protecting Access for Hunters and Anglers Act (H.R. 556), would prohibit restrictions on the use of lead ammunition or tackle on federal land and water.

The House schedule also includes 17 measures under suspension of the rules, which require a two-thirds majority for passage. Thirteen originate from the House Natural Resources Committee and address issues such as federal land management, communications facilities on federal land, ocean data collection, and recovery from fires near the Grand Canyon.

Two Senate-passed bills are also scheduled for consideration. One (S. 3971) would reauthorize the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program. The second (S. 1884) would limit defenses in claims brought under the Holocaust Expropriated Art Recovery Act.

Another bill (H.R. 1422) would authorize sanctions on foreign entities engaged in transactions related to Iran's oil sector. The schedule also includes a joint resolution (H.J. Res. 139) proposing a balanced budget amendment to the United States Constitution.

Senate: The Senate will convene this afternoon. The chamber is expected to vote on several administration nominees during the week. Most Senate floor time is expected to be devoted to debate on the SAVE America Act (S. 3752), which may be interrupted by at least one Iran War Powers resolution.

Updated Tax Withholding Estimator lets millions of taxpayers take One, Big, Beautiful Bill changes into account when calculating their withholding

The Internal Revenue Service recently unveiled enhancements to the IRS Tax Withholding Estimator to reflect changes to credits and deductions under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill, including no tax on tips, no tax on overtime, and other tax benefits.

The IRS Tax Withholding Estimator is a free, easy-to-use tool that helps workers and retirees estimate the amount of federal income tax to withhold from their paychecks now for the taxes they will owe next year.

Updated to reflect current law

In addition to no tax on tips and no tax on overtime, the calculator takes into account other OBBA-related provisions, such as no tax on car loan interest and the deduction for seniors. It also more accurately accounts OBBA modifications tied to family-related credits, homeownership, and charitable giving.

The estimator guides taxpayers step-by-step through entering income, withholding, credits, and deductions, and takes around 25 minutes on average (less for those with simpler financial situations). By entering information about income, dependents, deductions, and multiple jobs, taxpayers receive a personalized recommendation on whether to adjust withholding. If changes are recommended, the tool helps taxpayers complete a new Form W-4, Employee's

Withholding Certificate, or Form W-4P, Withholding Certificate for Periodic Pension or Annuity Payments PDF, to submit to their employer or pension provider.

The Tax Withholding Estimator is available 24/7 and does not require taxpayers to log in or provide personally identifiable information.

Who should use the estimator

In addition to those who want to see how OBBB impacts them, taxpayers who may benefit from using the estimator include those who:

- Have more than one job or a working spouse.
- Experienced a major life change recently, such as marriage, divorce, the birth or adoption of a child.
- Claim credits such as the Child and Dependent Care Credit or Adoption Credit.
- Itemize deductions, including mortgage interest or charitable contributions.
- Receive income without automatic tax withheld, such as gig, freelance, or investment income.
- Owed additional tax or received a larger-than-expected refund during their most recent filing season.

Avoiding surprises at tax time

Withholding that closely matches a taxpayer's anticipated tax liability can help prevent unexpected tax bills and potential underpayment penalties. It can also help taxpayers avoid over-withholding and increase take-home pay throughout the year. To get the most accurate results, taxpayers should gather recent pay statements and a copy of their latest federal income tax return before using the estimator.

More information

For more information on the IRS Tax Withholding Estimator, review the [Tax Withholding Estimator FAQs](#) at IRS.gov.

TIA Right to Repair- Send a letter! Report Your Issue Webpage/QR Code

Today's vehicles rely on advanced software, diagnostics, and data to perform even routine tire and service work. **Right to Repair** ensures tire dealers and service professionals have access to the tools and information needed to safely diagnose, repair, and recalibrate modern vehicles—without being forced to rely solely on automakers.

The **REPAIR Act**, now before Congress, would protect this access at the federal level, helping preserve consumer choice, support roadway safety, and

ensure independent tire and service businesses can continue to compete and serve their communities.

Take action today: Urge your members of Congress to support the REPAIR Act by sending a quick letter at repairact.com.

Add your voice and help protect Right to Repair for the tire and service industry.

To view the “Right to Repair - Report Your Issue” webpage click [here](#).

Report your issue QR code:



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