



January 24, 2020



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Coronavirus

The impeachment trial in the Senate continues with debate regarding if a court battle will be required over the Trump Administration's exercise of executive privilege to prevent former national security advisor John Bolton from testifying. As we prepare to transition from opening statements, Senators will have 16 hours to ask both the White House counsel and House managers questions via written submissions to Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr.

In the midst of this process, the Senate remains busy with other facets of government. On the federal side, today, senior administration health officials are briefing all senators on the novel coronavirus outbreak that was first detected in Wuhan, China and how the federal government is prepared to respond if the situation requires. If you require any assistance in the states, please reach out.

FEMA continues to undergo senior staffing changes as FEMA Deputy Administrator for Resilience Daniel Kaniewski is resigning from his position effective next Friday, January 31. Staffing decisions are still pending but we expect additional clarity on that soon. In the meantime, Associate Administrator Carlos Castillo will be acting Deputy Administrator for Resilience. As a note, next Friday, January 31 is also the effective date of Associate Administrator for the Office of Response and Recovery Jeff Byard's previously reported resignation.

Hearings the Week of January 27, 2020

Hearing on "Out of Control: The Impact of Wildfires on Our Power Sector and the Environment"

House Committee on Energy and Commerce

Tuesday, January 28, 10:00am ET

More News from the Nation's Capital...

National Homeland Security Consortium Discusses Cybersecurity and Resilience

The Consortium discussed issues including cybersecurity and preparedness, FEMA resilience priorities, countering terrorism, BioWatch, and data tracking to eliminate heroin mills.

[Read More](#)

NEMA-ASTHO-GHSAC Joint Policy Work Group Considers Public Health Issues

The working group addressed public health threats including follow-on mental health impacts from disasters and gun violence, and the Public Health Emergency Preparedness cooperative agreement.

[Read More](#)

HMA Deadline Approaching

FEMA wants to ensure all grantees are aware of hard deadlines for this year's HMA grant submission and requests for technical support. As a new practice this year, they are implementing a hard stop two days in advance of the application deadline. All applicants must identify any technical issues or concerns by January 29th at 3:00pm EST, and the application deadline is January 31st.

[Read More](#)

DHS Announces Proposed Rule Regarding Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations in DHS-Supported Social Service Programs

The goal of the proposed rule is to remove regulatory burdens on religious organizations and ensure that religious and non-religious organizations are treated equally in DHS-supported programs.

[Read More](#)

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

EE News: [Feds Warn of 'Catastrophic' Blasts from Trump LNG Rule](#)

GovTech: [Mental Health Funding for Hurricane Michael Continues](#)

EDM Digest: [Virginia School Cancels Visit of Exchange Students from Wuhan Coronavirus Region](#)

nemaweb.org



Copyright NEMA 2019. All rights reserved.