



February 7, 2020



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

And Exhale

After months of hearings and a Senate trial, the President was acquitted this week of the impeachment articles brought against him in the House last fall. The Senate voted 48-52 to reject the charge of "abuse of power" and 47-53 to reject the charge of "obstruction of Congress." The President also delivered his State of the Union address on Tuesday night, focusing on the strong economy and healthcare, including coordination with the Chinese government on the coronavirus outbreak.

Relatedly, the President's budget is due to be released on Monday, and you can expect a write-up from us shortly thereafter. The budget will begin the process for outlining the administration's FY21 priorities for the subsequent appropriations process. It is reasonable to expect we will have to once again work diligently against proposed cuts to grants and there are whispers of moves toward grant effectiveness requirements, but we will see how that shakes out and update you accordingly. It's important to remember the old D.C. adage, however, "the President proposes and Congress disposes," so regardless of what is included in the budget request, we'll continue impressing the importance of NEMA's priorities with the appropriate Congressional committees.

Finally, in case you missed it last week, [the news](#) was made official of Carlos Castillo taking over for the departing Dan Kaniewski as head of resilience at FEMA. Also, Politico reported that Team Rubicon hired Jeff Byard as Vice President of Government Relations and Emergency Management, effective February 18. He'll focus on local, state, territorial and tribal governments.

With the conclusion of the impeachment process and expected delivery of the Budget, it's hoped that Washington will get back to its regular duties for a few months before the 2020 election ramps up.

Hearings the Week of February 10, 2020

[What States, Locals and the Business Community Should Know and Do: A Roadmap for Effective Cybersecurity](#)

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Tuesday, February 11, 9:30am EST

[Roundtable: Are We Prepared? Protecting the U.S. from Global Pandemics](#)

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Wednesday, February 12, 9:30am EST

More News from the Nation's Capital...

FEMA Announces Adjustment of Statewide per Capita Indicator

The annual adjustment for disasters declared during calendar year 2020 is \$149. The adjustment is based on a Consumer Price Index increase of 2.3 percent.

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FEMA Will Host 2020 Dam Failure Life Loss Consequence Workshop in August

Held August 19-20 in Washington, D.C., the workshop will focus on defining dam failure scenarios and assessing life loss consequences through tools and case studies.

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GAO Recommends FEMA Strengthen Project Cost Estimation and Awareness of Program Guidance

Delays in developing and changes to cost estimation guidance has slowed starting projects to repair or rebuild infrastructure in Puerto Rico following the 2017 hurricane season.

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Trust for America's Health Public Health Emergency Readiness Report Published

The annual report measures states' level of preparedness to protect the public's health during an emergency and ranks states' preparedness into performance tiers: low, middle, and high.

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Request for Applications: NGA Workshops to Advance State Cybersecurity

States and territories can now apply to work with the National Governors Association to enhance their state cybersecurity posture through convenings and technical assistance.

[Read More](#)

Other News from DC and Around the Country:

Newswise: [S&T and FEMA Social Media Planning Tool Supports Enhanced Emergency Management Operations and Communications Nationwide](#)

CNBC: [DHS Suspends New York State Access to Travel Programs Over 'Sanctuary' Law](#)

CBS Denver: [Colorado Home, Auto Insurance Premiums Could Go Up to Fund Disaster Mitigation](#)

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