



March 11, 2022



## THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

### One Last Hurdle for Federal Spending Package

This week, President Biden imposed the strictest sanctions on Russia yet, banning the import of any Russian oil. This action will surely continue to impact the U.S. domestically, as Americans express their opinions all-over social media about the prices at the pumps currently.

Wednesday night, the House passed the \$1.5 trillion omnibus funding package (finally!), with a vote of 361-69 to back funding for the Pentagon, Department of Homeland Security and other national security priorities, and a record of 260-171 for domestic policy. Unsurprisingly, this did not come without any drama, with Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) being forced to take the knife to \$15 billion in COVID-19 relief funding that would have gone to preparation for future variants and global vaccine distribution. Along with the spending package, the House also approved a 4-day extension to allow the measures enough time to get through the Senate – which was accomplished late Thursday night. A summary of emergency management priorities was sent to all NEMA members yesterday.

Outside of spending and budgets, the House Committee on Homeland Security was busy at the voting block this week, passing 4 bipartisan homeland security measures. These bills address the needs of cities seeking to preserve homeland security capabilities after they stop receiving homeland security grants (H.R. 5615), seek to ensure DHS law enforcement training programs are accredited (H.R. 5616), authorize cybersecurity education and training partnerships to support state and local governments (S. 658), and improve the status of ICE officers in a Native American unit called the “Shadow Wolves” (H.R. 5681). More information can be found in the [Committee press release](#).

A reminder that, if you have not already, today is the last day before late fees to register for the NEMA Mid-Year Policy and Leadership Forum in Alexandria, Virginia! For more information and to register, visit the [NEMA website](#).

#### Hearings the Week of March 14, 2022

##### [Fighting Fire with Fire: Evaluating the Role of Forest Management in Reducing Catastrophic Wildfires](#)

House Committee on Oversight and Reform  
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 10:00am ET

##### [Proposals for a Water Resources Development Act of 2022: Members' Day Hearing](#)

House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 10:00am ET

##### [Violent Extremism and Terrorism: Examining the Threat to Houses of Worship and Public Spaces](#)

House Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 10:05am ET

##### [Business meeting to consider an original bill entitled, "PREVENT Pandemics Act"](#)

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
Tuesday, March 15, 2022 at 10:00am ET

*More News from the Nation's Capital...*

#### GAO Release Report on Opportunities to Improve Federal Climate Resilience

On Tuesday, GAO released a report on opportunities for the federal government to save costs by increasing the nation's climate resilience through targeted projects. GAO has previously found that enhancing climate resilience could help limit future costs. Enhancing climate resilience means taking actions to reduce potential future losses by planning and preparing for potential climate hazards. This testimony focuses on how Congress and federal agencies can improve climate resilience planning and implementation by applying principles of GAO's Disaster Resilience Framework.

This report is one of many that the Office has made over the last two decades. Since 2003, GAO has provided 81 recommendations and suggested six matters for congressional consideration related to enhancing climate resilience and limiting the federal government's fiscal exposure to climate change. Currently, 31 recommendations are not yet implemented.

The full report can be found [here](#), and a summary of the highlights can be found [here](#).

#### CSAC Release FY2021 Report on Programs

On Tuesday, the Chemical Security Analysis Center (CSAC) released their annual report, outlining their programs, analysis, studies and recommendations. As part of the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate, CSAC is the nation's only federal study, analysis and knowledge management center for assessing the threat and hazard(s) associated with an accidental or intentional large-scale chemical event or chemical terrorism event in the United States.

The full report can be found on the [DHS website](#).

#### GAO Release Report on Internet Architecture Resiliency

Last week, GAO released a report claiming that the architecture of the internet was resilient, but there were still steps that could be taken to further enhance security. The House Committee on Armed Services Report accompanying the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 included a provision for GAO to examine internet architecture security. This report (1) identifies security risks related to the internet architecture and (2) determines the extent to which U.S. federal agencies have taken actions to address security risks to the internet architecture. While the findings suggest that the internet is structured to withstand attacks, there are still physical and cyber risks that need protocols developed for response.

To read the report on internet architecture resiliency in full, click [here](#). A short summary of the report can be found [here](#).

#### Other News from DC and Around the Country:

263Chat: [Women More Vulnerable to Natural Disasters](#)

Governing: [Russia-Ukraine War Prompts New Cyber Reporting Mandates](#)

Route Fifty: [Modern Building Codes Slash Energy Costs, Boost Resiliency](#)

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