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May 30, 2025



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON:

Congress Juggling Multiple Priorities

I wrote last week about how the House GOP was able to pass their reconciliation bill, but that's far from all they have on their plate. First, the Senate may be poised to throw cold water on the House-passed bill. There's a coalition of conservative Senate Republicans currently working to oppose the reconciliation bill, arguing that it does not do nearly enough to reduce the deficit. There's also a separate moderate Republican coalition voicing issues with the bill, citing concerns about Medicaid cuts, elimination of renewable energy tax breaks, and other issues. Given the relatively small GOP majority in the Senate, and the extremely difficult negotiations in the House to pass the bill by a single vote, this is going to be tricky for Congressional Republican leadership to get over the finish line (especially by their self-designated July 4th deadline). Given that the reconciliation bill is how the GOP intends to raise the debt limit—which they will need to do by August—they have little margin for error.

There are also indications that the FY26 appropriations process is going to prove just as challenging. Congress will be hammering out appropriations bills over the next couple of months, working to keep federal government funding from running out on October 1st. House GOP appropriators will release the first of their spending bills over the next week, with the Homeland Security bill scheduled to be marked up on June 9th. Representative Cole, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, has stated that he wants all 12 spending bills marked up by the full committee by the end of July, which will be no easy feat.

This is complicated by the fact that the White House has still not released a detailed budget request to Congress. We've heard that they may finally do so in the coming days (potentially as early as today), but it's unclear how much detail that will include. There may also be a rescission package released soon as well, after its release was initially delayed back in April. Rescission refers to a process for cancelling previously appropriated funding by Congress. This can be initiated by both Congress and the President, though the processes vary. Those cancelled funds can then be redirected elsewhere in the federal government or sent to the Treasury. Once we see what the White House releases, we'll be summarizing it for our members, so keep an eye out for that!

[Upcoming Congressional Hearings...](#)

Hearings to Examine Nominations for Multiple DHS Positions

Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee
Thursday, June 5; 9:30 AM (ET)

[More News from the Nation's Capital...](#)

DHS RELEASES LIST OF IDENTIFIED "SANCTUARY JURISDICTIONS"

On Thursday, DHS [issued a list of sanctuary jurisdictions](#) including cities, counties, and states that the Department believes are obstructing the enforcement of federal immigration laws. This action follows the signing of an Executive Order on April 28, 2025, which directed the Secretary Noem and Attorney General Bondi to identify and publicly highlight jurisdictions that refuse to cooperate with federal immigration authorities. According to the announcement, each jurisdiction listed will receive formal notification of its non-compliance and all potential violations of federal criminal statutes.

While the specific implications of this list have not been clearly stated by the Department, it's very likely to have impacts on grant funding and other federal assistance to state and local governments.

FEMA ANNOUNCES PLANS TO RESUME IN-PERSON TRAININGS

Late last week, FEMA [announced](#) that in-person training will resume in early June at the Center for Domestic Preparedness, the National Fire Academy, and the National Disaster and Emergency Management University. This comes after all in-person training was paused in March 2025, as a result of President Trump's Executive Order 14222, Implementing the President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Cost Efficiency Initiative.

This reversal came after a review by FEMA and the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), in which it was determined certain courses provide effective training to enhance national readiness for state, local, tribal and territorial emergency managers, first responders, and local leaders.

USFA EXPECTED TO CLOSE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SHARING AND ANALYSIS CENTER

On Wednesday, it was reported in multiple news outlets that the U.S. Fire Administration Emergency Management and Response Information Sharing & Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC) will cease all operations on June 1, 2025. The EMR-ISAC is a major information sharing hub for the dissemination of critical infrastructure protection and emerging threat information for the Emergency Services Sector. The EMR-ISAC worked with CISA and the DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis to collect and share critical infrastructure protection and emerging threat information relevant to the Emergency Services Sector from federal, state, local, tribal, territorial and private sector partners.

While there has been no official press release or public notice of the closure (as of Thursday afternoon), the news was announced via a message from EMR-ISAC staff to emergency service sector partners. That message states that "As federal agencies evaluate programs to ensure compliance with administration directives and cost effectiveness of programs, the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA) can no longer support the Emergency Management and Response Information Sharing & Analysis Center (EMR-ISAC) at this time."

NOAA FORECAST: ABOVE AVERAGE 2025 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) recently [released its](#) 2025 Atlantic Hurricane Season outlook during a press conference at the Jefferson Parish Emergency Operations Center in Gretna, Louisiana. NOAA also issued seasonal hurricane outlooks for the eastern Pacific and central Pacific hurricane basins. NOAA forecasts a 60% chance of an above-normal season, a 30% chance of a near-normal season and a 10% chance of a below-normal season.

The forecast calls for between 13 to 19 total named storms with winds of 39 mph or higher. Of those, 6-10 are forecast to become hurricanes with winds of 74 mph or higher, including three to five major hurricanes of category 3, 4 or 5 with winds of 111 mph or higher. NOAA has a 70% confidence in these ranges.

This yearly outlook is an important preparedness tool to help people to understand the potential for tropical storms.

CISA RELEASES NEW CYBERSECURITY GUIDANCE

On Tuesday, CISA, in collaboration with the Australian Signals Directorate's Australian Cyber Security Centre (ASD's ACSC) and other international and U.S. partners, [released new guidance](#) for organizations seeking to procure Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) and Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR) platforms. This guidance includes the following three resources:

- **Implementing SIEM and SOAR Platforms** – Executive Guidance outlines how executives can enhance their organization's cybersecurity framework by implementing these technologies to improve visibility into network activities, enabling swift detection and response to cyber threats.
- **Implementing SIEM and SOAR Platforms** – Practitioner Guidance focuses on how practitioners can quickly identify and respond to potential cybersecurity threats and leverage these technologies to streamline incident response processes by automating predefined actions based on detected anomalies.
- **Priority Logs for SIEM Ingestion** – Practitioner Guidance offers insights for prioritizing log ingestion into a SIEM, ensuring that critical data sources are effectively collected and analyzed to enhance threat detection and incident response capabilities tailored for organizations.

CISA encourages organizations to review this guidance and implement the recommended best practices to strengthen their cybersecurity.

[Other News from DC and Around the Country...](#)

CNN: [DHS Inserts Staffers at FEMA in Major Shakeup Before Hurricane Season](#)

HS Today: [U.S. Fire Administration to Close Emergency Management Information Sharing and Analysis Center Within Days](#)

Homeland Security News Wire: [As Hurricane Season Approaches, Trump's NOAA Budget Cuts Threaten Safety](#)

AP News: [Alabama Study Reveals Hurricane Resilience Programs are Paying Off for Homeowners and Insurers](#)

Washington Post: [FEMA Faces Backlog of Emergency Aid Requests as Hurricane Season Nears](#)

NACO: [Prepared to Respond: How Counties Can Strengthen Readiness Amid Federal Emergency Management Policy Changes](#)

GovTech: [With FEMA Support in Question, Florida Preps for Hurricane Season](#)

The Handbasket: [FEMA at 'High Risk' of Disrupting 'Life-Saving' Disaster Relief, Per Internal Memo](#)

Miami Herald: [Florida Says it's Ready for Hurricane Season, With or Without FEMA's Help](#)

Louisiana Illuminator: [Uncertainty Swirls Around FEMA, NOAA Ahead of 'Above-Normal' Hurricane Season](#)

NPR: [In Reversal, Trump Administration Restores Classes at the National Fire Academy](#)

HS Today: [CISA Loses Nearly All Top Officials as Purge Continues](#)

Tennessee Lookout: [Uncertainty About Federal Disaster Aid Looms as Storms Roll In](#)

Bloomberg: [Trump Administration Is Rolling Out a New Way to Shrink FEMA's Role](#)

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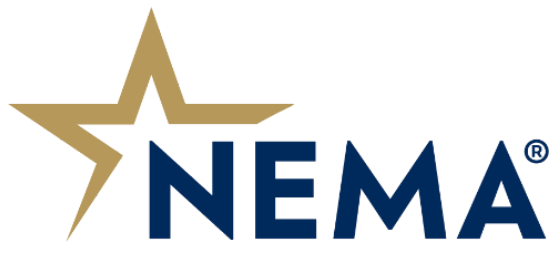
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