



WASHINGTON, DC WEEKLY UPDATE

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PREPARED BY:
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REP. MARJORIE TAYLOR TO OUTST SPEAKER MIKE JOHNSON, DEMOCRATS TO PLAN TO PROTECT HIM

On Wednesday, Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene's (R-Ga.) announced she would force House Republicans to vote on ousting Speaker Mike Johnson (R-La.). Greene intends to act sometime next week and as of Wednesday afternoon, there were only two other Republicans – Reps. Thomas Massie (Ky.) and Paul A. Gosar (Ariz.) – who publicly backed her motion. The House would have two legislative days to consider the motion, but would first consider a move to reject it that Democrats are expected to support.

Greene's likelihood of success is uncertain due to House Democratic leadership's commitment to shielding Johnson by moving to quash the proposal before it garners momentum. Initially, a vote to "table" or essentially halt the proposal would take precedence, a motion Democrats have vowed to back. Should this fail, only then would a decisive vote to remove Johnson proceed – and Democrats have affirmed they won't step in to preserve the speaker in such a scenario.

It remains uncertain how Republicans would cast their votes if the motion to vacate came to the floor. With all lawmakers present and participating in a final vote to remove Johnson, the support of Greene, Massie, and Gosar would suffice to oust the speaker from office, given that House Republicans' narrow voting margin will temporarily decrease to one once Democrat Tim Kennedy is sworn in to fill an open seat in New York.

Trump has given his endorsement to Johnson's management of the speakership, but it remains uncertain whether the presumed GOP presidential nominee will actively step in to prevent Greene from introducing her "motion to vacate," given her consistent loyalty as an ally. Greene, speaking passionately on Wednesday morning, asserted that she was bringing forth her motion to support Trump, alleging that Johnson has fully funded the Justice Department, which she accuses of aiming to imprison Trump "for life."

"I fight for [Trump's agenda] every day, and that's why I'm fighting my colleagues now," Greene said. "We have to do this. We have to win in November. We have to keep the majority."

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ELECTION: TRUMP SAYS HE WILL NOT COMMIT TO ACCEPTING 2024 RESULTS

In an interview with The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel, Trump said, “If everything’s honest, I’ll gladly accept the results. I don’t change on that. If it’s not, you have to fight for the right of the country.”

This comes after an interview with Time magazine published on Tuesday, where he also dismissed questions about political violence in November by suggesting that his victory was inevitable. When pressed about what might happen should he lose, he said, “if we don’t win, you know, it depends. It always depends on the fairness of an election.”

At a rally in Freehand, Michigan, on Wednesday, Trump announced a joint effort with the Republican National Committee, dubbed “Protect the Vote,” which he described as an effort to “ensure what happened in 2020 will never happen again.”

“We’re not going to allow it to happen,” Trump said. Trump’s campaign and the RNC last month also vowed to deploy 100,000 volunteers and attorneys to battleground states to monitor early voting, mail-in ballots, Election Day voting and any recounts, part of an effort they described as “protecting the vote and ensure a big win” in November.

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HOUSE PASSES ANTISEMITISM BILL WITH BROAD BIPARTISAN SUPPORT AMID CAMPUS ARRESTS

The House passed a bipartisan bill Wednesday to combat antisemitism as pro-Palestinian protests spread across colleges in the U.S.

The Antisemitism Awareness Act would require the Education Department to adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's definition of antisemitism. The measure passed 320-91. Twenty-one Republicans and 70 Democrats voted against it.

The international group defines antisemitism as a "certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews." The group adds that "rhetorical and physical manifestations" of antisemitism include such things as calling for the killing or harming of Jews or holding Jews collectively responsible for actions taken by Israel.

The bill's prospects in the Senate are unclear. Asked whether the Senate would take up the legislation, Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., told reporters earlier Wednesday that "we haven't seen what the House is sending us yet."

Republicans are seeking to launch investigations into antisemitism on college campuses in response to the pro-Palestinian protests. The current version of the legislation was introduced in late October after Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel but not brought to the floor until this week.

The bill faced opposition from some progressive and far-right lawmakers, as well as the American Civil Liberties Union, which called the bill's definition of antisemitism "overbroad."

UPCOMING HOUSE HEARINGS

House Committee on Rules

- On Monday at 4pm, the Committee will hold a hearing titled: "H.R. 6192 – Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act; H.R. 7109 – Equal Representation Act; H.J. Res. 109 – Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121.; H.R. 2925 – Mining Regulatory Clarity Act of 2024 [Rule Markup Only]."

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- On Tuesday at 9:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing."

House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security

- On Tuesday at 10:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "Building the Fleet: Assessing the Department of Homeland Security's Role in the United States Coast Guard's Acquisitions Process."

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity

- On Tuesday at 10:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "Examining Employment Opportunities for Veterans: An Analysis of Veteran Services Provided by DOL-VETS."

See the other 15 hearings on Tuesday [here](#).

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- On Wednesday at 9:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "American Indian and Alaska Native Public Witness Hearing."

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- On Wednesday at 10:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "Stifling Innovation: Examining the Impacts of Regulatory Burdens on Small Businesses in Healthcare."

See the other 27 meetings on Wednesday [here](#).

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

- On Thursday at 10:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2025 Member Day."

UPCOMING SENATE HEARINGS

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

- On Thursday at 10:00am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled “Hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Labor.”

Senate Committee on the Judiciary

- On Thursday at 10:00 am, the Committee will hold a hearing entitled “Business meeting to consider S.1306, to reauthorize the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, S.1979, to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving age discrimination, and the nominations of Kevin Gafford Ritz, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Brian Edward Murphy, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts, Rebecca L. Pennell, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, and Jeannette A. Vargas, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.”

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

- On Thursday at 10:00 am, the Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled “Hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2025 for the Department of Labor.”

IIJA UPDATE

- **May 06, 2024** – Applications due for Department of Transportation MEGA Grants
- **May 06, 2024** – Applications due for Department of Transportation INFRA Grants
- **May 06, 2024** – Applications due for Department of Transportation Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program
- **May 10, 2024** – Applications due for USDOT’s Build America Bureau Innovative Finance and Asset Concessions Grant Program
- **May 10, 2024** – Applications due for USDOT’s Port Infrastructure Development Program

NOMINATIONS

President Biden announced his intent to nominate the following individuals to serve in key roles:

- No new nominations