The TRP Tip Sheet

April 25, 2025

Editor's note: With Congress out the next two weeks, we'll be scaling back publication of The TRP Tip Sheet to Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Our daily cadence will pick back up on Monday, April 28.

QUICK TAKES

— CONGRESS RETURNS NEXT WEEK. Lawmakers will be in session for the next three months, with budget reconciliation at the top of the to-do list.

— TRUMP ISSUES NEW EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON EDUCATION. Click to view TRP's running tracking document of the Trump administration EOs and other prominent executive actions.

— A LOOK INSIDE BURGUM'S DRAFT PLAN FOR INTERIOR. Interior Secretary Doug Burgum wants to marshal his agency to speed production of oil and gas on public lands.

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE

— CONGRESS RETURNS NEXT WEEK. Congress will return next week for a busy three-month work period, headlined by Republican action on budget reconciliation. When lawmakers return to Washington at the end of the month, key House authorizing committees are slated to kick off markups on their respective instructions that will be combined into a single reconciliation bill. It's the goal of congressional leadership to try and move as quickly as possible to get "one big, beautiful" reconciliation package on the president's desk for signature by Memorial Day — an ambitious timeline that will require cooperation from the entire Republican Conference in order to be maintained. Several key debates tied to the total cost of the package, cuts to public benefit programs like Medicaid and SNAP, as well as key tax policy decisions must be resolved in the coming weeks.

- **On the floor...** Early next week, lawmakers will look to clear a slate of bipartisan suspension bills out of the Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee. This includes legislation that seeks to require additional fee disclosures in the ticketing and hotel industries, as well as combat deepfake pornography on online platforms. Lawmakers will also consider a bill to establish a critical supply chain resiliency and crisis response program within the Department of Commerce. A full list of suspension bills for next week can be viewed here. Meanwhile, the Senate will meet to consider a slate of pending ambassadorial nominations, starting with David Perdue to be Ambassador to China.

— TRACKING DATES FOR UPCOMING HOUSE RECONCILIATION MARKUPS. We'll keep this chart updated as additional reconciliation markups get placed on the books. New updates to reconciliation markup dates are indicated in bold.

House Committee	Date	Instruction
Agriculture	May 8	Cut at least $230 billion
Armed Services	Week of April 28	Spend up to $100 billion
Education & Workforce	Week of April 28	Cut at least $330 billion
E&C	May 7	Cut at least $880 billion
Financial Services	April 30	Cut at least $1 billion
Homeland Security	Week of April 28	Spend up to $90 billion
Judiciary	April 30	Spend up to $110 billion
Natural Resources	**May 6**	Cut at least $1 billion
Oversight	**April 30**	Cut at least $50 billion
T&I	April 30	Cut at least $10 billion
Ways and Means	**May 12-13**	Spend up to $4.5 trillion, can increase debt limit by $4 trillion

WHAT WE'RE TRACKING

NEW TODAY...

— TRUMP ISSUES NEW EXECUTIVE ORDERS ON EDUCATION. The Trump administration issued a series of education-focused executive orders (EO) that seek to:

- Reform higher education accreditation standards (text);
- Require additional disclosure of foreign funding at U.S. universities (text);
- Establish a White House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence (AI) Education (text);
- Establish a new White House Initiative on Historically-Black Colleges and Universities

(HBCU) (text); and
- Promulgate new guidance to local and state educational agencies regarding school discipline, emphasizing compliance with Title VI protections against racial discrimination and preferencing (text).

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS...

— TRP SPECIAL REPORT: TRACKING THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S TARIFF POLICIES. We've updated the content within this TRP special report to reflect key updates over the past two weeks, as well as what to look out for moving forward as the Trump administration undertakes sweeping trade negotiations.

— TRUMP ISSUES ORDER ON DRUG PRICING. The Trump administration issued an order directing federal agencies to implement and expand certain initiatives aimed at lowering prescription drug costs. Click here to read TRP's summary of the order.

— CMS PUBLISHES ANNUAL PAYMENT RULES FOR FY 2026. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has released its annual updates to Medicare payment policies and rates for fiscal year (FY) 2026. TRP's summaries of the proposed rules are hyperlinked below.
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Inpatient, Long Term Care Hospitals

— FTC REQUESTS PUBLIC FEEDBACK ON ANTI-COMPETITIVE REGS. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is requesting public feedback to further understand how federal regulations can harm competition in the U.S. economy. Comments should be submitted to Regulations.gov no later than May 27, 2025.

— T&I REQUESTS FEEDBACK ON UPCOMING SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION. The House Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee issued a bipartisan request for information (RFI) seeking legislative proposals as a part of the committee's effort to craft a surface transportation reauthorization bill for the 119th Congress.
- Proposals are due on April 30 by 6:00 PM EST.

— SENATE APPROPRIATIONS LEADERS POST FY 2026 GUIDANCE. Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) posted Member guidance to participate in the annual appropriations process through the submission of programmatic, language, and Community Project Funding requests. Subcommittee-specific guidelines & deadlines can be viewed here.

WHAT WE'RE READING

E&E News: A look inside Burgum's draft plan for Interior ($)

Interior Secretary Doug Burgum wants to marshal his agency to speed production of oil and gas on public lands, cut regulations and "right-size" national monuments, according to a draft strategic plan viewed by POLITICO's E&E News. The draft document calls for targeting "our National assets for the benefit of the American people" by, among other things, increasing development of "clean coal, oil, and gas" with "faster and easier permitting." Interior aspires to "streamline processes," with the goal of also ramping up "revenues from grazing, timber, critical minerals, gravel and other non-energy resources." The working plan offers a look at how Burgum, who is also chair of President Donald Trump's National Energy Dominance Council, is running an agency whose day-to-day business of overseeing public lands has been overshadowed by the White House's efforts to cajole, pressure or force a historic downsizing of the federal workforce.

POLITICO: Dems' megabill battle plans

Republicans will begin marking up their big party-line bill next week to enact President Donald Trump's legislative agenda. Democrats are gearing up to capitalize on it — and are hoping to orchestrate another "blue wave." As Speaker Mike Johnson looks to pass the megabill before Memorial Day, Democrats are ready to accelerate their offensive, our Nicholas Wu reports this morning. They're mapping out a committee-by-committee plan of attack to force amendment votes and put vulnerable Republicans on the record over some of the bill's most controversial issues. It's the same playbook Democrats used to take back the House in 2018, when they hammered Republicans for votes they took to repeal the Affordable Care Act and enact tax cuts for the wealthy. This time, they think the GOP's Achilles heel could be potential cuts to Medicaid and to food aid. Democrats are also gunning for the tax portion of the bill as Republicans attempt to extend those 2017 tax cuts.

The New York Times: Senators Investigate Private Equity Role in Soaring Fire-Truck Costs ($)

As fire departments around the country report soaring prices and waiting times for new fire engines, two United States Senators are investigating the effect on public safety and the role that private equity investment has played in disrupting the firefighting equipment industry. The senators — Elizabeth Warren, Democrat of Massachusetts, and Jim Banks, Republican of Indiana — reported on Tuesday that they had heard from dozens of fire departments about delayed deliveries, defective parts and escalating prices. In a letter to the International Association of Fire Fighters, they said they were concerned that "private equity is padding shareholders' wallets at the expense of public safety" and that they were seeking to learn more about the situation. ...The New York Times reported earlier this year that prices for fire trucks have soared in recent years and that manufacturers are taking longer to deliver vehicles.

Punchbowl: New details on the House GOP tax plan

House Republican tax writers have been soft-selling to corporate lobbyists a new cap on businesses' state and local tax deductions. The effort is a sign that Republicans are seriously considering including the tax hike in their reconciliation package. Remember, House Republican leadership is pushing to pass the reconciliation bill by Memorial Day. The Ways and Means Committee hasn't finalized its tax plans yet, and the real test of the GOP's search for revenue will begin when members return to town next week. … There's heavy pressure from conservative House Republicans to find offsets. The White House is looking at a four-year timespan for Trump's priorities of no taxes on tips, overtime pay and Social Security benefits, as we scooped. Those provisions could carry a heavy price tag. Even though the potential tax increases for corporate America — SALT deductions in particular — are causing heartburn on K Street, there are likely to be plenty of big wins for the business world in the bill. Ways and Means is planning to revive tax breaks for research and development, interest expenses and purchases of short-term assets like equipment and machinery. Republicans will try to extend these provisions permanently, according to multiple sources.

Bloomberg: Trump Sees Trade Deals Coming in Three to Four Weeks

President Donald Trump said he expected to wrap up trade deals with US partners looking for lower tariffs soon. "I would say, over the next three to four weeks, and we're finished, by the way," Trump said of the deals in an interview with Time magazine published Friday. .. In a wide-ranging interview Trump defended his trade policies which have unnerved financial markets and sent foreign governments racing to Washington to cut deals. But the president gave conflicting signals about the status of talks with China, even as Beijing has denied that negotiations between the world's two largest economies are taking place.

Bloomberg: Trump Says He Loves Millionaire Tax, Worries of Political Risk ($)

President Donald Trump said he is open to the idea of higher taxes on millionaires — an idea that is being hotly debated in Republican circles — but said he worries that a levy increase could hurt the party. “I actually love the concept, but I don’t want it to be used against me politically, because I’ve seen people lose elections for less,” Trump told TIME magazine in an interview published Friday. ...Trump cited former President George H. W. Bush’s now infamous line to “read his lips” that there would be no new taxes, a phrase that turned out to be a cudgel used against the one-term president. Trump said he would be “honored” to pay more and said the tax increases being proposed were a relatively small increase. Republicans in recent weeks have discussed the idea of taxing the rich at a higher threshold to pay for a sweeping Republican tax bill. Creating a new 40% tax bracket for those earning more than $1 million could help raise revenue to offset the cost of the bill, as well as fend off criticisms that the legislation primarily benefits businesses and the wealthy. Trump has flip-flopped on the idea of a new millionaires’ tax in the past week. He told reporters on Wednesday that such a tax could spur rich Americans to relocate to other countries.

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