



The Latest News and Updates from TIA's Government Affairs Department



IN THIS ISSUE

NEW GOP MEMBERS ON HOUSE T&I COMMITTEE

DEBT CEILING EXPIRES

TIA RECEPTION ON THE HILL

WH STILL SUPPORTING WASHINGTON FOR FAA

NEW GOP Members On T&I Committee

For the 118th Congress, 18 members were retained followed by 17 new members on the GOP side of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Out of the 14 members who were not retained on the committee, 10 of them are still in Congress. The returning members are as follows:

Sam Graves (R-Mo.), chair Rick Crawford (R-Ark.), Daniel Webster (R-Fla.), Thomas Massie (R-Ky.), Scott Perry (R-Pa.), Brian Babin (R-Texas), Garret Graves (R-La.), David Rouzer (R-N.C.), Mike Bost (R-Ill.), Doug LaMalfa (R-Calif.), Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.), Brian Mast (R-Fla.), Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colón (R-P.R.), Pete Stauber (R-Minn.), Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.), Jeff Van Drew (R-N.J.), Troy Nehls (R-Texas)

New GOP Members:

Burgess Owens (R-Utah), Tracey Mann (R-Kan.), Rudy Yakym (R-Ind.), Lance Gooden (R-Texas), Aaron Bean (R-Fla.), Lori Chavez-DeRemer (R-Ore.), Mike Collins (R-Ga.), Anthony D'Esposito (R-N.Y.), Chuck Edwards (R-N.C.)

T&I Democrats have not yet announced their roster for the 118th Congress.

Debt Ceiling Expires

Janet Yellen, Secretary of the Treasury, said on Thursday that the U.S. has begun the use of extraordinary measures to satisfy the nation's bills because of the country reaching its \$31.4 trillion borrowing limit.

In a letter, Yellen told Congress that forecasting the period of time extraordinary measures would be used is hard to say because of the challenges of monitoring the money moving in and out of the government.

A potential early Congressional stalemate hangs in the balance as republicans want a deal that makes spending cuts, but the White House says meeting our obligation of not defaulting on our debt should be non-negotiable – we should raise the debt ceiling. The long-term question for Congress and the White House remains; Do we finally tackle our spending crisis, or default on our debt for so-called obligatory reasons and keep kicking the can down the road? Both solutions come with great consequences.

The “extraordinary measures” meaning that the remaining cash we have will buy us time until June is consequential. These emergency funds are coming from the government shutting down contributions to any investment funds so it can continue paying its bills.

If stalemate continues, the extraordinary measures will expire. With that potential circumstance, Washington and Wall Street will have to negotiate a deadline (The X date) when the U.S. is unable to meet its financial obligations.

That scenario carries unknown risks. A failure to pay Treasury bond holders would rattle financial markets. Missed payments for other government programs like Social Security and military salaries could also wreak economic havoc.

TIA will keep you updated.

TIA Reception on The Hill

TIA is hosting a Congressional staff reception on Capitol Hill on 1/26/2023 at noon in Rayburn House Office Building room 2046.

The TIA will be providing appetizers and supply chain updates from industry experts. This reception serves as an opportunity to converse with key Capitol Hill staff in talking policy and what hinders our industry.

For those of you who are coming, we look forward to seeing you for a great time and taking advantage of a relationship-building opportunity with our friends on the Hill.

White House Still Supports Phil Washington for FAA

Despite Republicans calling to require a congressional waiver, the White House is still insisting on Phil Washington to be confirmed quickly as head of FAA.

The controversy comes from Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) – incoming ranking member of the Senate Commerce Committee – saying that Washington does not qualify as a civilian (required for nomination) under the law and is ineligible without a congressional waiver to serve as FAA administrator. A waiver would have to be passed by the House in addition to a 60-vote threshold in the Senate.

Mr. Washington retired from the Army after 24 years of service before exploring other careers. His duty raises questions on whether he is a civilian (requirement for FAA administrator). Again, if he does not qualify as one, he would need a waiver by Congress to bypass the requirement.