



BROOKS BAWDEN LLC

Weekly Update

June 6 – 10, 2016

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Latest News

- The House and Senate are in session this week, with the Senate continuing consideration of the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act. The Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to mark-up legislation to reform the Electronic Communications Privacy Act on Thursday. Law enforcement organizations have expressed concerns with this legislation for its failure to consider long-standing problems that law enforcement has encountered with service provider responsiveness, and other items that was not included within the legislation. You can view the most recent law enforcement group letter outlining their concerns [here](#).

ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

Uncrackable phones: the problem's getting worse **New York Post | Col. Rick Fuentes**

As the political season heats to a boil, the issue of San Bernardino terrorist Syed Rizwan Farook's encrypted and temporarily inaccessible cellphone has been all but forgotten. But for the rest of us in law enforcement, the problem persists — and that means the threat to the public does as well. When it comes to the operating systems on a smartphone, the worldwide consumer market is securely in the grip of Apple and Google. Their software is installed on more than 95 percent of all mobile phones. Until recently, Apple and Google had maintained a wary but cooperative relationship with American law enforcement in complying with court orders to extract information from a smartphone seized in a crime. This relationship was critical to law enforcement's ability to solve the most violent crimes against society — homicides, shootings, armed robberies, rapes and child-sex crimes.

Continue reading [here](#).

The Marijuana Industry's War on the Poor **Politico | Jon Murray**

Take a stroll past the gray stucco-clad building in northeast Denver and it's not hard to figure out what's going on behind the bright green doors. On a recent afternoon, outside Green Fields Cannabis Co., a sweetly pungent, slightly skunky odor filled the air before a light rain began to rinse it away. Just a block south on Brighton Boulevard, past a salvage yard and a Mexican grocery, the smell of what's growing inside Starbuds is sometimes noticeable before you arrive in front of the medical and recreational marijuana chain's original location. Even drivers whizzing by on Interstate 70 catch a heady whiff of Denver's hottest new product as they zip across town. But they don't have to live here. **Continue reading [here](#).**

Should Congress Give Marijuana to Our Veterans Suffering from PTSD? **The Weekly Standard | David Murray**

It has been another rough couple of weeks for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). After the long-running scandals of shameful wait times, neglect to the point of lives lost, and the need for new leadership, they have faltered again recently with tone-deaf comparisons to Disneyland visits and mistakenly thinking that 4,000 living veterans had

somehow expired, according to incorrect records. Hardly comforting news for those who served, and to whom we owe so much, as Memorial Day is upon us. Yet even that record, sad enough, speaks more of bureaucratic neglect and indifference, and not of policies doing active damage. The Obama administration's enabling of legal marijuana can become even worse, however, were the VA to support marijuana for afflicted veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Such action risks precisely committing "active damage." **Continue reading [here](#).**

Fake bomb threats force evacuations at several schools

WCAX | Jennifer Costa

Fake bomb threats prompted hundreds of kids to be evacuated from schools across our region. It's a call no parents wants to hear. A bomb threat at your child's school. Investigators say it's happening across the country. Similar automated threats were detected at schools in 17 states just this week. Authorities in Vermont say these hoaxes are highly disruptive to police and emergency crews. "We don't believe they're coming from inside of Vermont. We believe it's outside, but we can't say for sure at this time. The investigation is ongoing," said Patno. Patno works for the Vermont Intelligence Center. His job is to identify patterns in criminal and terrorist-related activity. He says these bomb threat robocalls are part of a national trend. Schools in Morrisville, New York, and Berlin and Keene, New Hampshire, have been targeted, too. **Read the article [here](#).**

As marijuana goes mainstream, who's to blame when things get deadly?

Washington Examiner | Rudy Takala

In April, 2014, Kristine Kirk, 44, was at home with her three children when her husband, 47-year-old Richard Kirk, arrived "delirious" and "paranoid." He was "totally hallucinating," Kristine said in a 911 call, climbing in and out of a first-story window, and asking for someone to kill him. Kirk allegedly took a gun out of a safe and shot and killed his wife. Moments later, as two of the couple's children escaped through a window, Kirk walked into his seven-year-old son's room and asked the child to kill him so that "dad and mom could be together with God." The son didn't go through with it, and police arrived shortly afterward. They discovered that, in the hours leading up to the incident, Kirk had eaten part of a marijuana candy bought legally from a pot dispensary.

Continue reading [here](#).

Hearings & Markups Happening This Week

Senate Judiciary Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Deadly Synthetic Drugs: The Need to Stay Ahead of the Poison Peddlers](#)

June 7 @ 10:00 am - 226 Dirksen

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Frustrated Travelers: Rethinking TSA Operations to Improve Passenger Screening and Address Threats to Aviation](#)

June 7 @ 10:00 am - 342 Dirksen

House Financial Services Committee - Task Force to Investigate Terrorism Financing Subcommittee

[The Enemy in our Backyard: Examining Terror Funding Streams from South America](#)

June 8 @ 9:00 am - 2128 Rayburn

House Homeland Security Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - June 8 @ 2:00 pm - 311 Cannon

[H.R. 5064 - Improving Small Business Cyber Security Act of 2016](#)

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: This bill requires the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop a Small Business Development Center Cyber Strategy after the Government Accountability Office issues a report that reviews federal cybersecurity resources aimed at assisting small businesses. The strategy must include: plans for incorporating small business development centers (SBDCs) into existing cyber programs to assist small businesses; counsel and assistance to improve small businesses' cyber security infrastructure, threat awareness, and training programs for employees, including agreements

with Information Sharing and Analysis Centers to gain awareness of actionable threat information that may be beneficial to small businesses; and an analysis of how SBDCs can leverage federal programs and develop partnerships with federal, state, and local governments and private entities to improve cyber support services to small businesses.

[H.R. 5253](#) - Strong Visa Integrity Secures America Act

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve visa security, visa applicant vetting, and for other purposes.

H.R. XXXX - Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Agency Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: TBD

H.R. XXXX - Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: TBD

H.R. XXXX - Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: TBD

H.R. XXXX - Gains in Global Nuclear Detection Architecture Act

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: TBD

H.R. XXXX - Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Correction Act of 2016

Status: To be marked up by the House Homeland Security Committee on 6/8

Summary: TBD

House Budget Committee - Full Committee Hearing

[Congressional Budgeting: The Need to Control Automatic Spending and Unauthorized Programs](#)

June 9 @ 9:30 am - 210 Cannon

Senate Judiciary Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - June 9 @ 10:00 am - 226 Dirksen

[S. 247](#) - Expatriate Terrorist Act

Status: To be considered by the Senate Judiciary Committee on 6/9

Summary: Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to include as grounds for losing U.S. nationality by a native-born or naturalized citizen taking an oath or making a declaration of allegiance to a foreign terrorist organization after becoming 18 years old. The bill would bar the secretary of state from issuing a passport to anyone attempting to become a member of a terrorist group.

[S. 356](#) - Electronic Communications Privacy Act Amendments Act of 2015

Status: To be considered by the Judiciary Committee on 6/9

Summary: Amends the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 to prohibit a provider of remote computing service or electronic communication service to the public from knowingly divulging to a governmental entity the contents of any communication that is in electronic storage or otherwise maintained by the provider, subject to exceptions. Revises provisions under which the government may require a provider to disclose the contents of such communications. Eliminates the different requirements applicable under current law depending on whether such communications were: (1) stored for fewer than, or more than, 180 days by an electronic communication service; or (2) held by an electronic communication service as opposed to a remote computing service. Requires the government to obtain a warrant from a court before requiring providers to disclose the content of such communications regardless of how long the communica-

tion has been held in electronic storage by an electronic communication service or whether the information is sought from an electronic communication service or a remote computing service.

[S. 2944](#) - The Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvement Act of 2016

Status: To be considered by the Judiciary Committee on 6/9

Summary: To require adequate reporting on the Public Safety Officers' Benefit program, and for other purposes.

Legislation on the Floor This Week

House:

[H.R. 5338](#) - Checkpoint Optimization and Efficiency Act of 2016

Status: To be considered in the House under the suspension of the rules on 6/7.

Summary: This legislation: grants TSA the flexibility to utilize all personnel present to compensate for long wait lines, including reallocating Behavior Detection Officers to speed up passenger screening efforts and granting greater authority to Federal Security Directors, who know the individual airport best, to make staffing resource decisions; ensures that private stakeholders, airports, and government regulators are coordinating response through a staffing advisory committee; requires TSA to assess its current staffing allocation model and share this model with both air carriers and airports; reallocates canine team assets to high volume airports and checkpoints; and requires TSA to establish a service level agreement and minimum staffing numbers with air carriers and airports.

Senate:

[S. 2943](#) - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017

Status: Continued consideration in the Senate this week.

Summary: To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

Recap of Previous Week's Hearings & Markups

Note: For more details on any of the following hearings, we can provide access to hearing transcripts upon request.

House Judiciary Committee - Crime Subcommittee Hearing - May 17

[Synthetic Drugs, Real Danger](#)

Summary: This hearing examined the dangers and increasing popularity of synthetic drugs, which have not been approved by the FDA, and due to the ease of changing its chemical composition, and the lengthy process of scheduling these drugs either administratively or legislatively, it has become ever increasingly difficult to combat its use and distribution. Members of the committee were interested in examining ways to streamline the process of identifying and scheduling synthetic drugs, as well as ways to combat the manufacture and importation of synthetic drugs.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 17

[America's Insatiable Demand for Drugs: Assessing the Federal Response](#)

Summary: This hearing looked at the increasing demand of opioids and heroin, and examined the response by the federal government to combat this growing epidemic. Senators discussed issues involving what is being done to address the trafficking of drugs into this country, the growing demand and increased purity, and the easy access to and

affordability of heroin that is helping to drive this epidemic. Additionally, Senator's discussed the current strategy by the federal government to combat drug use, and whether current programs are enough and working.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 18

[Assessing the Security of Critical Infrastructure: Threat, Vulnerabilities, and Solutions](#)

Summary: This hearing examined threats to critical infrastructure, available mitigation plans, and opportunities for the federal government to better assist stakeholders to protect our nation's infrastructure. This hearing looked at physical threats to our infrastructure, as well as growing concerns with cyber threats to our electrical grid and other critical infrastructure. Discussions surrounded the actions currently occurring to protect critical infrastructure, and what actions need to be done to secure these facilities. Additionally, witnesses discussed resources available and ways to leverage these resources to prepare, train, and respond to an incident.

House Appropriations Committee - [CJS Subcommittee Markup](#) - May 18

[H.R. XXXX - FY 2017 CJS Appropriations Act](#)

Status: Approved by the House CJS Subcommittee on 5/18

Summary: Fiscal year 2017 appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies.

House Ways & Means Committee - Human Resources Subcommittee Hearing - May 18

[The Heroin Epidemic and Parental Substance Abuse: Using Evidence and Data to Protect Kids from Harm](#)

Summary: This hearing examined the growing heroin and opioid epidemic, but focused on the impact parental substance abuse has on families. This hearing looked at reforms being developed within various states that seek to serve families at home or in other settings so children can remain with their parents, or more quickly return home if they must enter foster care. Members discussed the effectiveness of local programs focused on identifying and serving children most at risk to enter foster care due to parental substance abuse.

Senate Judiciary Committee - Crime Subcommittee Hearing - May 18

[Ransomware: Understanding the Threat and Exploring Solution](#)

Summary: This hearing discussed the growing threat of ransomware, and the physical threat it poses it poses, for instance recent cases where hospital records were held for ransom. Concerns were raised amongst Senators and witnesses over the payment of ransoms to regain access to a companies information, and by doing so, this will only encourage and exasperate the situation.

Senate Judiciary Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 19

[Declining Deportations and Increasing Criminal Alien Releases - The Lawless Immigration Policies of the Obama Administration](#)

Summary: This hearing examined the declining deportations and increasing criminal alien releases under the Obama administration. Concerns have been raised with the administrations immigration enforcement priorities. While there is disagreement amongst Senators on the committee with the administration's immigration policies, there was agreement that more needs to be done to ensure that criminal aliens are not released into the public, and ensure they are ultimately deported.

House Homeland Security Committee - Emergency Preparedness & Cybersecurity Joint Subcommittee Hearing - May 24

[Enhancing Preparedness and Response Capabilities to Address Cyber Threats](#)

Summary: This hearing examined cyber threats, and how state and local entities are engaging to respond to these threats. Fusion centers were discussed as being a crucial source of disseminating information and helping to coordinate during a cyber threat. Additionally, Members discussed the role and work of the MS-ISACs, and how to get more local entities to leverage their funds to better prepare for a cyber attack. Panelists agreed that greater federal resources, including funding and training is crucial to ensure that local governments are prepared.

House Appropriations Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 24

[H.R. XXXX - Fiscal 2017 Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations](#)

Status: Approved by the House Appropriations Committee on 5/24.

Summary: Making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

H.R. XXXX - Fiscal 2017 Transportation-HUD Appropriations

Status: Approved by the House Appropriations Committee on 5/24.

Summary: Making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Senate Appropriations Committee - [Homeland Security Subcommittee Markup](#) - May 24

S. 3001 - Fiscal 2017 Homeland Security Appropriations Act

Status: Approved by the Senate Appropriations Homeland Security subcommittee on 5/24.

Summary: Fiscal year 2017 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security.

House Homeland Security Committee - Border Subcommittee Hearing - May 24

Border Security Gadgets, Gizmos, and Information: Using Technology to Increase Situational Awareness and Operational Control

Summary: This hearing examined the technological tools that are being used to help secure our nation's borders, as well as past troubles with the procurement process and what CBP is doing differently. Witnesses testified that improvements have been made to decrease cost overruns, and program failures, however, challenges still remain. Chairwoman McSally inquired as to how the information collected is getting into the hands of the agents being sent to confront a situation, and whether more needs to be done to build up the infrastructure to ensure that agents on the ground have more capability to view real-time situational awareness.

House Oversight Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 25

Federal Agencies' Reliance On Outdated and Unsupported Information Technology: A Ticking Time Bomb

Summary: This hearing examined reports of various federal agencies use of outdated information technology, and the costs to maintain such systems. Witness testimony from GAO detailed a recent GAO report that annual IT spending in government has risen to an all-time high of nearly \$90 billion, with 75 percent of that is spent on operations and maintenance, meaning that most of the funding is used for upkeep of old systems. Members of the committee heard about one such instance where the Department of Defense still uses a 1970's IBM Series/I computing system, including 8-inch floppy disk drives, to coordinate operations of the U.S. nuclear forces. Federal CIO Tony Scott advocated for a \$3.1 billion IT modernization fund, which would provide agencies seed funding to upgrade their most outdated systems.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 25

S. 2976 - DHS Accountability Act of 2016

Status: Approved by the Senate Homeland Security Committee on 5/25

Summary: To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reform, streamline, and make improvements to the Department of Homeland Security and support the Department's efforts to implement better policy, planning, management, and performance, and for other purposes.

S. 2967 - Biodefense Strategy Act of 2016

Status: Approved by the Senate Homeland Security Committee on 5/25

Summary: To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Office of Management and Budget to execute a national biodefense strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 2971 - National Urban Search and Rescue Response System Act of 2016

Status: Approved by the Senate Homeland Security Committee on 5/25

Summary: To authorize the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.

S. 2972 - Grant Reform and New Transparency Act of 2016

Status: Approved by the Senate Homeland Security Committee on 5/25

Summary: To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide transparency and require certain standards in the award of Federal grants, and for other purposes.

[S. 2970](#) - to amend title 5, United States Code, to expand law enforcement availability pay to employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations**Status:** Approved by the Senate Homeland Security Committee on 5/25**Summary:** Expands law enforcement availability pay to employees of U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Air and Marine Operations.

House Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 25

[Long Lines, Short Patience: The TSA Airport Screening Experience](#)**Summary:** This hearing examined the ever-increasing wait times experienced by air passengers to be screened at TSA checkpoints. Members have expressed frustration with TSA over the increased wait times, however, they have also stated that whatever changes are made, safety is still the number one priority. TSA has claimed that they are operating with fewer officers, while passenger traffic has increased. The Appropriations Committee has already approved the ability of TSA to reprogram \$34 million to hire 768 new agents, however TSA Administrator Neffenger stated that an additional reprogramming of funds may be necessary. Some Members also discussed the need for the agency to better account for its funding and do more to reduce waste, as well as a possibly shift some of the work force to private contracting.House Judiciary Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 25**[H.R. 5203](#) - Visa Integrity and Security Act of 2016****Status:** Approved by the House Judiciary Committee on 5/25**Summary:** To amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for new procedures pertaining to the processing of petitions and applications for immigrant or nonimmigrant visas or for immigration benefits, and for other purposes.**[H.R. 5283](#) - DUE PROCESS Act****Status:** Approved by the Judiciary Committee on 5/25**Summary:** To amend title 18, United States Code, to reform certain forfeiture procedures, and for other purposes.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee - Western Hemisphere Subcommittee Hearing - May 26

[Cartels and the U.S. Heroin Epidemic: Combating Drug Violence and Public Health Crisis](#)**Summary:** This hearing looked at the heroin epidemic, and what is being done to combat the cartel trafficking of illegal narcotics into the U.S. This hearing examined the partnerships that exist between the U.S. and foreign governments, in particular Mexico, and what more needs to be done to help combat the drug trade. Continued work on strengthening the border, working to improve professionalism and weed out corruption within Mexican law enforcement, and training programs, are few of the initiatives that the U.S. is undertaking to combat the cartels.

House Homeland Security Committee - Transportation Security Subcommittee Hearing - May 26

[Long Lines, Short Patience: Local Perspectives](#)**Summary:** This subcommittee hearing followed-up on an earlier hearing before the full committee, by hearing local perspectives on the growing problem of long lines at TSA checkpoints. Members heard from various airport officials, and airline representatives. Witnesses agreed that more needs to be done to hire more TSA officers in a timely fashion, increase enrollment in Pre-Check, and stop the diversion of the use of airport security fees for other programs. Additionally, it was discussed that airports need to modernize their infrastructure to reflect the current security needs. All of these issues are part of what is driving longer lines and slower processing at our major airports.Senate Judiciary Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 26**[S. 247](#) - Expatriate Terrorist Act****Status:** Held over by the Senate Judiciary Committee on 5/26**Summary:** Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to include as grounds for losing U.S. nationality by a native-born or naturalized citizen taking an oath or making a declaration of allegiance to a foreign terrorist organization after becoming 18 years old. The bill would bar the secretary of state from issuing a passport to anyone attempting to become a member of a terrorist group.

[S. 356](#) - Electronic Communications Privacy Act Amendments Act of 2015

Status: Held over by the Judiciary Committee on 5/26

Summary: Amends the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 to prohibit a provider of remote computing service or electronic communication service to the public from knowingly divulging to a governmental entity the contents of any communication that is in electronic storage or otherwise maintained by the provider, subject to exceptions. Revises provisions under which the government may require a provider to disclose the contents of such communications. Eliminates the different requirements applicable under current law depending on whether such communications were: (1) stored for fewer than, or more than, 180 days by an electronic communication service; or (2) held by an electronic communication service as opposed to a remote computing service. Requires the government to obtain a warrant from a court before requiring providers to disclose the content of such communications regardless of how long the communication has been held in electronic storage by an electronic communication service or whether the information is sought from an electronic communication service or a remote computing service.

[S. 2944](#) - The Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvement Act of 2016

Status: Held over by the Judiciary Committee on 5/26.

Summary: To require adequate reporting on the Public Safety Officers' Benefit program, and for other purposes.

Senate Homeland Security Committee - Full Committee Hearing - May 26

[Protecting America from the Threat of ISIS](#)

Summary: This hearing examined the threat posed by ISIS to U.S. interests at home and abroad, and the actions taken by the United States government to address this threat. Senator Johnson asked questions regarding the long wait times at TSA checkpoints, and what is being done to alleviate those wait times, while ensuring that safety is the top priority. Deputy Secretary Mayorkas stated that the TSA Administrator is actively reforming practices at the agency to address prior deficiencies, while also seeking to hire more screeners and increasing enrollment in Pre-Check. Additionally, Senators asked about the ability to vet those coming into the U.S. under the visa waiver program, and what is being done to combat the propaganda being disseminated by terrorist organizations like ISIL.

Senate Appropriations Committee - [Full Committee Markup](#) - May 26

[S. 3001](#) - FY17 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill

Status: Approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on 5/26

Summary: Fiscal year 2017 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security.

Legislation Considered Previous Week's

House:**[H.R. 4743](#) - National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium Act of 2016**

Status: Approved by the House on 5/16

Summary: This bill authorizes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to establish a National Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium to engage academic, nonprofit, private industry, and federal, state, and local government partners to address cybersecurity risks and incidents, including threats or acts of terrorism. The consortium may: provide training to state and local first responders and officials, develop curriculums, and provide technical assistance; conduct cross-sector cybersecurity training and simulation exercises, including for state and local governments, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and private industry; coordinate with DHS's national cybersecurity and communications integration center to help states and communities develop cybersecurity information sharing programs; and assist in the incorporation of cybersecurity risk and incident prevention and response into existing state and local emergency plans.

[H.R. 4780](#) - Department of Homeland Security Strategy for International Programs Act

Status: Approved by the House on 5/16

Summary: This bill directs the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to submit a comprehensive three-year strategy for international programs in which DHS personnel and resources are deployed abroad for vetting and screening persons seeking to enter the United States. The strategy shall include: specific risk-based goals for such programs; a risk-based method for determining whether to establish new international programs in new locations, given resource constraints, or expand existing international programs; alignment with the highest DHS-wide and government-wide strategic priorities of resource allocations on such programs; and a common reporting framework for the submission of reliable, comparable cost data by DHS components on overseas expenditures attributable to such programs.

H.R. 4407 - Counterterrorism Advisory Board Act of 2016

Status: Approved by the House on 5/16

Summary: This bill amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) a board to coordinate and integrate DHS's intelligence, activities, and policy related to its counterterrorism mission and functions. The board shall: (1) advise the Secretary of DHS on the issuance of terrorism alerts, and (2) meet on a regular basis to discuss intelligence and coordinate ongoing threat mitigation efforts and departmental activities. The board's charter shall direct it to focus on the current threat environment and the importance of aligning departmental counterterrorism activities under the Secretary's guidance.

H.R. 4974 - FY 2017 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Status: Approved by the House on 5/19

Summary: Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Medical Marijuana Amendment: Prohibits the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce any Veterans Health Administration Directive relating to the prohibition on VA providers from completing forms seeking recommendations on opinions regarding a veteran's participation in a state marijuana program. (Approved 233-189)

H.R. 4889 - Kelsey Smith Act

Status: Failed in the House under the suspension of the rules on 5/23 (229-158)

Summary: To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require providers of a covered service to provide call location information concerning the telecommunications device of a user of such service to an investigative or law enforcement officer in an emergency situation involving risk of death or serious physical injury or in order to respond to the user's call for emergency services.

H.R. 4167 - Kari's Law Act of 2016

Status: Approved in the House under the suspension of the rules on 5/23

Summary: This bill amends the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that allows users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 (without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, including any trunk-access code such as the digit "9") from any station equipped with dialing facilities. Businesses installing such systems must configure the systems to provide a notification to a central location at the facility where the system is installed when a person at the facility initiates a call to 9-1-1 using the system, provided that the system is able to be so configured without an improvement to the hardware.

H.R. 3998 - Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act

Status: Approved in the House under the suspension of the rules on 5/23

Summary: To direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical telecommunications networks during times of emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 184 - Native American Children's Safety Act

Status: Awaits signature of the President; Approved in the House under the suspension of the rules on 5/23

Summary: Amends the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act to prohibit the final approval of any foster care placement or a foster care license from being issued until the tribal social services agency: (1) completes a criminal records check of each covered individual who resides in the household or is employed at the insti-

tution in which the foster care placement will be made, and (2) concludes that each of those individuals meets the tribe's standards established pursuant to this Act. Defines a "covered individual" as an adult and any other individual the tribe determines is subject to a criminal records check. Requires the Tribe's standards to include requirements that each tribal social services agency: (1) perform criminal records checks, including fingerprint-based checks of national crime information databases; (2) check any abuse registries maintained by the Indian tribe; (3) check any child abuse and neglect registry maintained by the state, and any tribal abuse registries maintained in the state, in which the individual resides; (4) request any other state in which the individual resided during the preceding five years to enable the agency to check its registry; and (5) any other additional requirements that the Indian tribe determines is necessary and permissible within its existing authority, such as the creation of voluntary agreements with state entities in order to facilitate the sharing of information related to the performance of criminal records checks.

[H.R. 5077](#) - The Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017

Status: Approved in the House under the suspension of the rules on 5/23

Summary: To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

Senate:

[S. 2840](#) – Protecting Our Lives by Initiating COPS Expansion Act

Status: Approved by the Senate on 5/18

Summary: This bill amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to expand the allowable use of grant funds under the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program to include participation in active shooter training programs.

[H.R. 2577](#) - FY 2017 THUD/MilCon-VA Appropriations Act

Status: Approved by the Senate on 5/19

Summary: Makes appropriations for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies and for the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies for fiscal year 2017

Medical Marijuana Provision: Prohibits the interference with the ability of a veteran to participate in a medicinal marijuana program approved by a State.

[S. 2943](#) - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017

Status: To be considered in the Senate when they return on June 6.

Summary: To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

Legislation Introduced Previous Week's

| Date Introduced | Bill Number | Sponsor | Description |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5368 | Eleanor Holmes Norton | To direct the Department of Transportation to issue regulations to require enhanced security measures for shipments of security sensitive material, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5346 | David Young | To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5345 | David Young | To require the Attorney General to establish procedures for expedited review of the case of any person who unlawfully solicits personal information for purposes of committing identity theft, while purporting to be acting on behalf of the IRS, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5340 | Peter DeFazio | To amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that revenues collected from passengers as aviation security fees are used to help finance the costs of aviation security screening by repealing a requirement that a portion of such fees be credited as offsetting receipts and deposited in the general fund of the Treasury. |
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5339 | David Price | To amend title 18, United States Code, to clarify and expand Federal criminal jurisdiction over Federal contractors and employees outside the United States, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | HR 5338 | John Katko | To reduce passenger wait times at airports, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | S 3015 | Bob Casey | A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide for informational materials to educate and prevent addiction in teenagers and adolescents who are injured playing youth sports and subsequently prescribed an opioid. |
| 5/26/2016 | S 2997 | Maria Cantwell | A bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical telecommunications networks during times of emergency, and for other purposes. |
| 5/26/2016 | S 2994 | Bob Casey | A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prevent the abuse of dextromethorphan, and for other purposes. |

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| 5/25/2016 | HR 5327 | Ann Kuster | To reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders. |
| 5/25/2016 | HR 5321 | Ted Poe | To prevent the proposed amendments to rule 41 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure from taking effect. |
| 5/25/2016 | S 2987 | Cory Gardner | A bill to require the Transportation Security Administration to establish pilot programs to develop and test airport security systems, and for other purposes. |
| 5/25/2016 | S 2986 | Orrin Hatch | A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to safeguard data stored abroad, and for other purposes. |
| 5/24/2016 | S 2977 | Joe Manchin | Budgeting for Opioid Addiction Treatment Act - To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish an excise tax on the production and importation of opioid pain relievers, and for other purposes. |
| 5/23/2016 | HR 5308 | Dan Donovan | Terrorist Asset Seizure Reform Act of 2016 - To require the Secretary of the Treasury to confiscate interest paid on certain frozen bank accounts, to require the Secretary to confiscate certain frozen assets, and for other purposes. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2976 | Ron Johnson | DHS Accountability Act of 2016 - To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to reform, streamline, and make improvements to the Department of Homeland Security and support the Department's efforts to implement better policy, planning, management, and performance, and for other purposes. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2975 | Joni Ernst | Federal Information Systems Safeguards Act of 2016 - To provide agencies with discretion in securing information technology and information systems. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2974 | Amy Klobuchar | A bill to ensure funding for the National Human Trafficking Hotline, and for other purposes. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2972 | James Lankford | To amend title 31, United States Code, to provide transparency and require certain standards in the award of Federal grants, and for other purposes. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2971 | Rob Portman | National Urban Search and Rescue Response System Act of 2016 - To authorize the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2970 | Ron Johnson | To amend title 5, United States Code, to expand law enforcement availability pay to employees of the Air and Marine Operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection. |
| 5/23/2016 | S 2969 | Ron Johnson | Disaster Management Act of 2016 - To require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to conduct a comprehensive study relating to disaster costs and losses, and for other purposes. |

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| 5/23/2016 | S 2967 | Ron Johnson | National Biodefense Strategy Act of 2016 - To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require the Office of Management and Budget to execute a national biodefense strategy, and for other purposes. |
| 5/19/2016 | HR 5287 | Bill Foster | To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with an option to provide medical assistance to individuals between the ages of 22 and 64 for inpatient services to treat substance use disorders at certain facilities, and for other purposes. |
| 5/19/2016 | HR 5283 | Jim Sensenbrenner | To amend title 18, United States Code, to reform certain forfeiture procedures, and for other purposes. |
| 5/18/2016 | S 2946 | Patrick Leahy | A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to include certain Federal positions within the definition of law enforcement officer for retirement purposes, and for other purposes. |
| 5/18/2016 | S 2944 | Chuck Grassley | Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvement Act of 2016 - To require adequate reporting on the Public Safety Officers' Benefit program, and for other purposes. |
| 5/17/2016 | HR 5258 | Steve Cohen | DUI Reporting Act of 2016 - o require State and local law enforcement agencies to report arrests for offenses that involve driving under the influence to the National Crime Information Center as a condition of receiving the full amount that the State would otherwise receive under the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes. |
| 5/16/2016 | HR 5256 | Bennie Thompson | Expanding DHS Overseas Passenger Security Screening and Vetting Operations Act - To enhance the overseas operations of the Department of Homeland Security aimed at preventing terrorist threats from reaching the United States, and for other purposes. |
| 5/16/2016 | HR 5253 | Will Hurd | Strong Visa Integrity Secures America Act - To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 and the Immigration and Nationality Act to improve visa security, visa applicant vetting, and for other purposes. |
| 5/16/2016 | Hres 731 | Doug LaMalfa | Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that mandates imposed on manufacturers requiring inclusion of unproven and unreliable technology in firearms is costly and punitive, and the prohibition of firearms without such features is an infringement on the rights of citizens under the Second Amendment. |

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| 5/16/2016 | S 2934 | Chuck Schumer | Fix Gun Checks Act of 2016 - To ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the national instant criminal background check system and require a background check for every firearm sale. |
| 5/16/2016 | S 2931 | Lindsey Graham | Botnet Prevention Act of 2016 - To amend title 18, United States Code, to protect Americans from cybercrime. |