

Memorandum

TO: Miami-Dade County

FROM: Greenberg Traurig

DATE: March 4, 2019

RE: February Monthly Report

Below please find a summary of Greenberg Traurig's efforts on behalf of Miami-Dade County and news stories in Washington from the month of February. Washington Updates are provided by CQ Roll Call. If you have any questions, or if we can be of any further assistance, please let us know.

Fire Gear Initiative

As explained in the attached Fire Gear letter to the CDC, The International Association of Fire Chiefs, an organization with more than 12,000 members, backed Commissioner Sally Heyman's proposal to adjust the lifespan of firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) in order to ensure that the fire gear remains protective throughout its lifetime.

GT worked closely with Commissioner Heyman on this issue at NACo last year and played an integral role in getting the Firefighter organizations to back this proposal. The letter recommends a CDC study into firefighter PPE that would; (1) Develop a scientific basis for setting an average lifespan for a set of firefighter PPE, (2) Examine different use cases and how they affect a set of PPE, (3) Develop and recommend nondestructive testing methods that fire departments can use to evaluate the lifespan on their PPE.

This proposal will help fire departments around the nation make important decisions about how long to keep firefighter personal protective equipment in service, when to replace them, and how best to spend local taxpayers' funds. GT will continue to support Commissioner Heyman in her efforts on this and related issues.

Budget & Appropriations

They came five months late, but the last of the fiscal 2019 spending bills finally won approval last month. The GOP-controlled Senate initially held off on a vote, as Republicans sought assurances that Trump was willing to sign the package. For a brief while, worried White House aides started warning that Trump's support for the measure was slipping.

The package was hardly what Trump wanted. Not only did it offer less than \$1.4 billion for border barriers, but it prohibited a concrete wall. It allows for only "operationally effective

designs” that were already being used on the border, “such as currently deployed steel bollard designs,” according to the bill text. The package also reverses many of the large spending cuts the president sought outside of the military and the Homeland Security Department. In fact, the measure adds \$54 billion to administration requests for all six bills in the package except Homeland Security — a 24 percent increase. When word finally came that Trump was on board, lawmakers made quick work of the seven spending measures that had been stalled for months. On a vote of 83-16, the Senate passed a 1,165-page measure funding about a quarter of all discretionary spending allowed for the year under a bipartisan budget deal (PL 115-123). “We’ll be voting to avoid a second partial shutdown and provide the certainty of a fully functioning federal government,” McConnell said before the vote.

The House approved the measure on a 300-128 vote. Some liberal Democrats voted against the package to protest funding increases for the Department of Homeland Security, while some conservative Republicans opposed the measure because it didn’t provide enough wall funds. With the exception of the 35-day shutdown in December and January, the longest in history, the nine federal departments funded by the package have been operating under continuing resolutions since October. The package encompasses the Agriculture, Commerce-Justice-Science, Interior-Environment, Financial Services, Homeland Security, State-Foreign Operations, and Transportation-HUD bills. Overall, discretionary spending covered by the seven bills would increase by \$7.4 billion, or 2.3 percent, from fiscal 2018 levels. And it doesn’t include several provisions lawmakers had scrambled to attach in the closing days of negotiations, such as an effort to secure back pay for federal contractors who lost work during the recent shutdown.

Health Care

State government officials and industry experts stressed the importance of sustaining enhanced levels of funding to address the opioid epidemic, as a Senate appropriations panel examined which local strategies to continue to support financially.

Appropriations Labor-HHS-Education Subcommittee Chairman Roy Blunt, R-Mo., emphasized the critical nature of this issue for his panel, noting that funding has increased about 300 percent since four years ago. While current funding is about \$3.7 billion, he said a lot of work remains to be done to address opioid use.

Advocates have long argued for increased funding, as the death toll from overdoses continues to climb. The witnesses at the hearing, however, said that a delay or reduction in current funding could be disastrous for their states or organizations.

GT continues to work with the County’s congressional delegation to advance legislation that tackles mental health reform and the nation’s opioid addiction crisis, and has kept Miami-Dade updated on the status and outlook for these pieces of legislation.

SNAP

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue has stood his ground as several Senate Democrats questioned his department's proposed rule that would make it tougher for states to exempt some food stamp recipients from work requirements and time limits on aid. The pushback over the proposal came during a wide-ranging Agriculture Committee hearing on the department's implementation of the 2018 farm bill (PL 115-334), which includes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps. Ranking member Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, and Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., mixed in comments about USDA's proposed rule, which is open for public comment until April 2. The rule would apply to able-bodied adults without dependents. Stabenow said she considered the draft rule "an end run" around Congress. Stabenow said both chambers eventually rejected House provisions that would have expanded SNAP work requirements and tightened eligibility when they passed the 2018 farm bill late last year. "I encourage you to withdraw it," Stabenow said.

After the hearing, Chairman Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said Perdue has the authority to move ahead with the SNAP rule. Roberts said lawmakers left the secretary with the discretion to act on state waivers, adding that leaving the decision to Perdue kept the farm bill from sinking under strongly held divergent views on SNAP work requirements. "In the end, the secretary is going to have to do what he has to do," Roberts said. Members largely focused on farm bill programs designed to aid farmers dealing with multi-year low market prices and lower sales to foreign markets because of retaliatory tariffs on U.S. products levied by trading partners in response to U.S. tariffs. The department is working to overcome a late start because of the 35-day partial government shutdown that closed most of USDA. Perdue was able to give lawmakers timelines for some farm bill programs and guesstimates for the roll out of others.

GT will continue to send SNAP updates as more information becomes available.

Infrastructure

Last month, Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao told a conference of state transportation officials that she met with Ways and Means Chairman Richard E. Neal, D-Mass., and there is bipartisan "desire to make progress" on maintaining and expanding the nation's highways and other systems.

President Donald Trump called on Congress in his State of the Union speech last month to send him an infrastructure bill, and he raised the issue during a White House meeting with the nation's governors. "On infrastructure, I would like you to call your senators and call your congressmen and women and get it done, because I'm ready," Trump said. "I want to sign. I am totally ready." The administration has not outlined a specific policy. A proposal last year sought to attract \$1.3 trillion over 10 years in contributions from states, cities and the private sector by offering \$20 billion a year in federal funding was criticized by members of both parties. "We want to reach out to everyone who is involved in making our infrastructure better to craft a bipartisan approach," Chao told the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. Chao's only reference to last year's plan was to say, "We were not successful in passing all of it."

Her comments came after Neal's committee announced it will meet March 6 on "Our Nation's Crumbling Infrastructure and the Need for Immediate Action." A committee spokeswoman confirmed the breakfast, and said Ivanka Trump, who advises her father on domestic policy, also attended.

GT will continue to monitor and provide analysis on infrastructure hearings and proposals as more information becomes available.

Media Updates

GT continues to send daily media updates on legislative and political issues to the County in order to ensure that the Commission and staff remain up-to-date on developments within the Beltway. Our team has continued to send those interested individual's information regarding issues such as tax reform, health care, and appropriations, among others. We will continue to monitor the issues most relevant to the County and provide timely and accurate information in order to make certain that the County is aware of any developments which may provide an opportunity to accomplish established goals.

(Below is an example of one of GT's Washington Updates, which are sent to County officials each day.)

Good Morning,

Below is a look at today's news and events in DC. If you have any questions or need anything, please let us know.

Thanks,
Greg

Today at a Glance: February 11, 2019

Top Stories for the Day

- Possible Shutdown: Conferee negotiations stalled this weekend, threatening a final spending deal. Appropriators will attempt to revive talks Monday afternoon.
- Public Lands: The Senate continues work on a public lands bill that would reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- FAA: The Federal Aviation Administration would be able to tap the Airport and Airway Trust Fund during a government shutdown to pay air traffic controllers and other employees under a bill introduced Friday by Rep. Peter A. DeFazio.
- Drug Pricing: Democrats with 2020 hopes largely align on drug price bills.
- Corporate Crackdown: Rep. Waters seeks CFPB files on settlements with no consumer redress.

House: Convenes at 2 p.m. to consider five bills under suspension of the rules.

Senate: Convenes at 3 p.m. to resume consideration of a public lands bill (S 47), with a vote to limit debate expected at 5:30 p.m.

Committees hearings of interest today:

- No hearings of interest today.

(Toplines from: Feb. 11, 2019 – 5:02 a.m. By Erin Bacon, CQ)

Appropriators Will Attempt to Revive Talks Monday Afternoon

Feb. 11, 2019 – 9:57 a.m. By Doug Sword, CQ

Republican and Democratic appropriators from both chambers plan to meet Monday afternoon in an effort to revive spending talks as the government heads toward its second shutdown in three months.

The so-called “four corners” — Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard C. Shelby, R-Ala., and ranking member Patrick J. Leahy, D-Vt., and House Appropriations Chairwoman Nita M. Lowey, D-N.Y. and ranking member Kay Granger, R-Texas, — will attend the meeting, according to a Shelby spokeswoman.

A Democratic aide said the meeting would take place at 3:30 p.m.

Negotiators disclosed Sunday that their talks had hit a snag, with Shelby blaming the problem on Democratic insistence to limit the number of beds available for Immigration and Customs Enforcement arrests inside U.S. borders.

“The talks are stalled right now,” the Alabama Republican said on “Fox News Sunday.” Also on Sunday, acting White House Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney said on “Meet the Press” “you absolutely cannot rule out” a shutdown.”

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump is headed to El Paso for a Monday rally where he will laud the benefits of constructing a wall to protect the southern border. Trump previewed what could be his message in a Monday morning tweet: “The Democrats do not want us to detain, or send back, criminal aliens! This is a brand new demand. Crazy!”

Current funding (PL 116-5) for a portion of the government runs out at midnight Feb. 15 unless House and Senate conferees can resolve the impasse over Trump’s demand for border wall funding and Democratic demands regarding ICE beds.

Trump has sought enough bed space to house an average daily population of 52,000 migrant detainees; House Democrats want to cut that to 35,520 for the rest of the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, while phasing out family detention completely by then. A bipartisan Senate version of the Homeland Security bill, approved last June on a 26-5 vote, would have provided funding for 40,520 detention beds.

The latest dispute centers on a Democratic demand to cap the number of detention beds available for undocumented immigrants arrested when they are already inside the U.S., as opposed to those arrested when trying to cross the border.

Democrats are seeking a cap of 16,500 beds for those arrested inside the country. Republicans have refused to make a counteroffer to the Democrats' most recent border security proposal until that demand is dropped, according to a Democratic aide.

The Democratic aide said 16,500 is the level of such arrests from the last three months of President Barack Obama's administration. By contrast, the comparable level for the Trump administration as of Feb. 4 was 20,700, according to the aide, about 25 percent more than in late 2016.

Law enforcement groups have been lobbying against the Democrats' interior enforcement cap, which was first outlined in a proposal from House Democrats released Jan. 31. "In order to meet the cap being tentatively proposed by Congress, ICE would be compelled to release thousands of aliens from custody," representatives of the National Sheriffs' Association and Major County Sheriffs of America wrote to top appropriators in a letter dated Feb. 8.

Shelby tweeted his support for the sheriffs' position Monday morning. "Our law enforcement professionals warn against restricting ICE's ability to detain dangerous criminals. We should listen to them," he wrote.

Republicans have said they would agree to such a cap only if it excludes criminals from the count, a senior GOP aide said. But that condition would make the cap "totally useless," the Democratic aide said.

"A cap on ICE detention beds will force the Trump administration to prioritize deportation for criminals and people who pose real security threats, not law-abiding immigrants who are contributing to our country," House Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee Chairwoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, D-Calif., said in a statement Sunday.

Senate Resumes Work on Lands Package With LWCF Reauthorization

Feb. 11, 2019 –By CQ Staff

The Senate continues to consider a public lands bill (S 47) that includes a permanent reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, with a vote on cloture expected this evening.

The fund uses money from fees on oil and gas extraction on federal lands to support national parks and public acquisition of forest land, wildlife refuges and park lands.

The LWCF's authorization expired Sept. 30, as bipartisan legislation to reauthorize it didn't pass the Senate last session, and it's been a major priority for Energy and Natural Resources Chairwoman Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, to finish early in this Congress.

There had been concerns that disagreements between the House and Senate could threaten the legislation, but it appears now that the House will take up the measure so long as it is not further changed.

House Natural Resources Chairman Raul M. Grijalva, D-Ariz., confirmed to CQ that if the package remains unchanged prior to Senate passage, he'll take it up. "If the bulk of it as is, and there are no things that offend not only members of my committee that worked on this but also does not offend other colleagues in the majority, yeah," he said.

DeFazio: Pay FAA Controllers From Trust Fund During Shutdowns

Feb. 8, 2019 – 4:42 p.m. By Herb Jackson, CQ

The Federal Aviation Administration would be able to tap the Airport and Airway Trust Fund during a government shutdown to pay air traffic controllers and other employees under a bill introduced Friday by Rep. Peter A. DeFazio.

DeFazio, D-Ore., said at an aviation industry lunch that the bill has been assigned to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee that he chairs so, "It's going to get a markup."

After a 35-day partial shutdown ended last month, lawmakers proposed measures that would automatically enact continuing resolutions, thus preventing a lapse in appropriations. Chances of those measures advancing were effectively killed, however, when two key leaders, House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer, D-Md., and Appropriations Chairwoman Nita M. Lowey, D-N.Y., said they let Congress off the hook of reaching decisions on annual spending matters.

DeFazio said at the Washington Aero Club luncheon that the shutdown "never should have happened" and he praised workers, including air traffic controllers and security screeners with the Transportation Security Administration, for doing their jobs without pay.

He urged the audience, which included controllers, flight attendants, pilots, and representatives of airport operators and plane manufacturers, to lobby others in Congress and the leadership to get it enacted.

"It's a simply-written bill," DeFazio said. "We have a substantial trust fund for the FAA and it just says that in times of government shutdown that the FAA will continue full operations, all functions, by drawing on the trust fund."

He said the bill, which is co-sponsored by Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Rick Larsen, D-Wash., does not tread on appropriators' turf because the trust fund would be replenished after appropriators approve a spending bill.

The trust fund fuels the Airport Improvement Program, which covers projects to enhance safety, capacity, security and noise mitigation. It is primarily funded through taxes on domestic airline tickets, cargo waybills and aviation fuel sales, and spending has been kept level at \$3.35 billion annually for the past seven years.

The president of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association told the same group on Jan. 29 that the air safety system was "on the verge of unraveling" during the shutdown. He called on Congress to put the FAA on a dedicated funding source such as the trust fund to prevent future disruptions.

The association issued a statement endorsing DeFazio's bill.

“During the 35-day shutdown, our members experienced financial stress due to a lack of income, which led to distractions and significant fatigue for people who need to be 100 percent focused on safety,” NATCA President Paul Rinaldi said. “We absolutely cannot endure even one more day living and working under a government shutdown.”

Democrats with 2020 Hopes Largely Align on Drug Price Bills

Feb. 11, 2019 – 5:00 a.m. By Andrew Siddons, CQ

A bold stance on drug pricing will be a prerequisite for any candidate who wants to win the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, but one challenge will be differentiating the contenders from each other.

The main distinction among candidates could be between those pushing bipartisan policies and those promoting more liberal ideas that currently stand little chance of enactment. But in most cases, the bills have a list of co-sponsors that could resemble a future primary debate stage.

“Any Democrat who doesn’t run on it is missing the mood of the electorate, and I think that they would be making a huge mistake,” said David Mitchell, a cancer patient and founder of the group Patients for Affordable Drugs and its political action committee.

If they’re not making it an issue, he said, “They ought not get anywhere near the nomination.”

The positioning on drug pricing plans reflect the party’s broader attempt to reject corporate influence, said Peter Maybarduk, who runs consumer watchdog Public Citizen’s Global Access to Medicines Campaign.

“It’s going to play a role in people’s understanding of candidates’ philosophies and how serious they are about challenging concentrated economic power in order to make people’s lives better,” he said.

Candidates' Positioning

So far, the potential 2020 field is comfortable rallying around drug pricing plans from Bernie Sanders, the Vermont Independent who is still mulling a candidacy.

Sanders introduced bills intended to lower drug prices in almost every session that he’s served, starting as a House member in 1991. For many years, his proposals attracted only the most liberal Democrats — or in many cases had no other co-sponsors.

Today, Sens. Cory Booker of New Jersey, Kirsten Gillibrand of New York, Kamala Harris of California and Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts are all original co-sponsors of a three-bill drug pricing proposal that Sanders introduced in January.

The package included a bill (S 97) that would allow imports of lower-priced drugs from Canada and other industrialized countries. Another bill (S 99) would require the government to negotiate directly with drug companies in Medicare’s prescription drug benefit, a central part of Democrats’ strategy and a key contrast with Republicans’ positions. Other legislation (S 102) would strip away monopolies if drug companies sell products here for more than they are sold abroad.

Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota, who officially announced her bid Sunday, is backing multiple approaches to some of these issues. She backs the Sanders importation bill and the negotiation bill, but also has measures of her own. She introduced a bill (S 62) that would allow Medicare to negotiate in the Part D drug program — but not require it, as the Sanders bill would. But a third negotiation bill she introduced with another potential contender — Sen. Sherrod Brown of Ohio — is even tougher on drug companies than the Sanders bill, since it would revoke patent protections when prices are too high.

She's also leading efforts on an importation bill (S 61) with Finance Chairman Charles E. Grassley of Iowa. The pair also have a bill (S 64) that would prevent branded drug companies from settlements over patent lawsuits that delay generic competition.

James Love, director of the nonprofit Knowledge Ecology International, sees two schools of thought reflected in the bipartisan side of Klobuchar's approach versus the Sanders bills.

In her bills with Grassley, Klobuchar is mostly focusing on things with "a bipartisan shot of getting through the Senate this year," he said.

"Other people are kind of laying down markers in terms of policies and things they know are probably not going to pass this year, but they want to start a debate," he said.

Brown, whose 26-year tenure in Congress began in the House, has a track record on drug pricing almost as long as Sanders has. Highlights include a 2016 bill that would shorten the monopoly period on expensive biologic drugs from 12 years to seven years. That approach, along with the negotiation bill he and Klobuchar introduced last week, represent the kind of changes that people like Love say is most needed.

"If you're not willing to say that you can rein in the legal monopoly, it's hard to do other things that will protect patients," he said.

Track Records

One distinguishing factor could be the consistency of the candidate's record over time.

Rep. Ro Khanna, D-Calif., a lead co-sponsor on the House versions of the Sanders bill, asked: "Have they been advocating and standing up for this for the past two years, or has this been something they've been fighting for for the past 10 years? I think those are the things that voters will look at when the policy differences aren't that much."

Among the current crop of hopefuls, all have accepted campaign contributions from pharmaceutical and health products industry political action committees or their employees.

Brown collected the most overall, around \$599,000 since his first election in 1992, according to the Center for Responsive Politics. But that's less than one percent of the \$69 million he's raised in total. Booker's percentage share is highest, 1.7 percent of the \$25 million he's raised since 2013.

Booker has also taken heat for a single vote he cast in early 2017 against an amendment to a budget resolution that would have called for a system to import drugs from Canada. The amendment was rejected, 46-52, and Booker was one of 12 Democrats who voted against it.

He says he voted against it because it was a “late-night messaging amendment,” not a substantive policy. He notes that around six weeks later, he was an original co-sponsor of a more fleshed-out drug importation bill led by Sanders. A year later, in February 2018, Booker announced he would no longer accept corporate PAC money.

In early January, he continued to shed this potential baggage, appearing next to Sanders at a press conference announcing the three-bill package. And he took aim at pharmaceutical companies, which employ tens of thousands of people in his state, criticizing how they spent the money they saved in the 2017 Republican tax cut.

“Did it go into predominantly research? No. Did it go into raising wages with employees, predominantly? No. It went to stock buybacks, to push stock prices up, to game the market,” he said.

The biggest challenge might be turning their positions into a usable political tactic. Since President Donald Trump and his administration are some of the biggest cheerleaders for Congress to act on the issue, political opportunity might only exist if nothing happens this year.

“If I was going to make it a central issue in my campaign, I just would want to make sure that they don’t pass a bill after I gave five speeches on it,” said Robert Blendon, a professor at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health who runs the university’s polling on health issues. “But if it’s clear they’re not going to do something, absolutely, it’s something that relates just directly to voters of every age and everything else.”

Waters Seeks CFPB Files on Settlements With No Consumer Redress

Feb. 8, 2019 – 4:54 p.m. By Steven Harras, CQ

House Financial Services Chairwoman Maxine Waters asked the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to turn over documents related to enforcement actions that some Democrats have said are too soft on corporate wrongdoers.

The request for documents, including internal communications, came in a letter Waters, D-Calif., sent to CFPB Director Kathleen L. Kraninger. The Feb. 7 letter, also signed by Rep. Al Green, D-Texas, the leader of the panel’s investigations subcommittee, said the lawmakers have “serious concerns” about the CFPB’s efforts in exercising its enforcement authority, especially in ordering companies to pay redress to consumers.

The letter focuses on three recent CFPB investigations in which an online lender, a jewelry retailer and an offshore payday lender were determined to have engaged in “unfair” practices against consumers. Two of the companies — Enova International Inc. and Sterling Jewelers Inc. — had to pay CFPB total civil money penalties of about \$13 million as part of settlement agreements, and the third, Canada- and Malta-based NDG Financial Corp., was banned from operating in the U.S.

The agreements didn’t require the companies to pay redress to consumers.

On Jan. 16, the CFPB and New York state regulators announced a settlement to resolve allegations Sterling Jewelers improperly opened store credit-card accounts without customer consent and

unlawfully enrolled customers in payment-protection insurance plans without permission. The CFPB levied a \$10 million civil money penalty against Sterling, while New York fined it \$1 million.

“The Consumer Bureau has previously required payments to consumers in similar cases where it found that consumers were enrolled in payment protection products without their consent,” Waters and Green wrote. “The Committee is deeply troubled that the Consumer Bureau would allow a company to keep the profits they made from their illegal sales practices.”

On Jan. 25, the CFPB announced a consent order with Enova in which the company was fined \$3.2 million for “unfair acts and practices” that involved illegally debiting bank accounts without consumer authorization. The order said the Chicago-based online lender “extracted millions of dollars in unauthorized debits from consumer accounts” beginning in 2010.

On Feb. 1, the CFPB filed a proposed legal settlement in federal court with NDG and related offshore companies to resolve allegations the payday lender engaged in unfair, deceptive, and abusive acts, including making false threats of imprisonment and wage garnishment to collect legally improper and “void” loans to U.S. consumers. The CFPB’s action against NDG was started during the tenure of the bureau’s former director, Richard Cordray, a Democrat appointed by President Barack Obama.

Although the CFPB at one point has asked the court to award consumers redress, restitution, and refunds of monies paid, the final settlement announced under Kraninger provided no monetary award.

Waters and Green said they are troubled about the lack of monetary consumer awards in all three cases, but especially the action against Enova and NDG.

“The fact that two of the three settlements involve online lending raises serious questions about the Consumer Bureau’s commitment to protecting America’s consumers from predatory online lending practices,” the lawmakers wrote.

Waters and Green said the CFPB’s recent actions stand “in stark contrast” to the bureau’s practice under Cordray’s leadership.

“During Director Cordray’s tenure, the Consumer Bureau recovered nearly \$12 billion in relief for harmed consumers over its first six years,” they said.

The Democrats asked Kraninger to provide the committee with “all documents and communications,” including draft settlement agreements, within the bureau and with the companies that address the issue of consumer restitution in all three cases. They ask for delivery of the document by no later than March 5.

“The Bureau has received the letter and it is under review,” a CFPB spokesperson said.

Democrats have seethed about the leadership and management of the CFPB since the Obama-appointed Cordray stepped down in November 2017 and Trump temporarily replaced him with Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney, a long-time and vocal critic of the bureau. They accused Mulvaney of rolling back consumer protections and taking a lax approach on enforcement.

Speaking last month at an event sponsored by the Center for American Progress, Waters said Mulvaney, now serving as acting White House chief of staff, will be a target of committee hearings.

"I have written to Mr. Mulvaney to inform him, while his time running the consumer bureau may be over, the time for accountability for his actions is about to begin," Waters said. "This Congress, I'm going to be working diligently to undo the damage that Mulvaney has wrought during his time at the consumer bureau."

(Daily news clips provided by Politico, www.politico.com, CQ Roll Call, www.cq.com)