



ABC's Weekly Federal Legislative Update March 1, 2021

Introduction

After passing the House early Saturday morning, the Senate will take up President Biden's \$1.9 Trillion COVID 19 Recovery package. Majority Leader Schumer has said he would like to pass the Senate's version of the package this week allowing enough time to work out differences and have it signed into law before benefits expire March 14. The Senate will also continue to working through confirmation hearings. Merrick Garland's nomination to lead the Justice Department will receive a Judiciary Committee vote this week. Below is news from Washington, D.C.

Administration

[Tom Vilsack Confirmed as Secretary of Agriculture](#)

Last week, the Senate confirmed Tom Vilsack as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Secretary Vilsack is reprising his eight year role under the Obama Administration. He was a great champion of biogas and the ABC is very hopeful to continue to see industry growth under his leadership.

Marc Heller of [E&E News PM](#) wrote on February 23, "The Senate swiftly confirmed Tom Vilsack today as the next secretary of Agriculture, returning the veteran Iowa politician to the job he held for eight years in the Obama administration. The vote was 92-7.

"Senators Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Rand Paul (R-KY), Rick Scott (R-FL), Josh Hawley (R-MO), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) voted no.

"Senate Agriculture Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) said in a floor speech that Vilsack's deep knowledge of the Department of Agriculture "is needed now more than ever" and that he's committed to tackling climate change, the needs of low-income families and the smooth operation of a department that saw upheaval during Sonny Perdue's tenure as secretary.

"I know he's very focused on solving the climate crisis," Stabenow said, calling that issue an "extremely grave threat."

“The committee's ranking member, Senator John Boozman (R-AR), supported the nomination and said he expects Vilsack to work closely with Congress and all types of farmers — a nod to the variety of large and small producers who make up the nation's food production.

"He has an excellent reputation of putting rural Americans at the top of his agenda," Boozman said.

“Vilsack's confirmation should allow for the selection and nomination of undersecretaries dealing with natural resources, conservation and other environmental programs of note.

“In addition to overseeing programs related to crop and livestock production, the department runs the national forest system and supports rural water and sewer systems as well as low-income housing.

“The White House has already announced the nomination of Jewel Bronaugh for deputy secretary, the No. 2 position at the department.

“The new secretary will run into long-brewing debates on wildfire and forest management, including whether to reimpose restrictions on timber development in Alaska's Tongass National Forest as part of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

“During the Obama years, Vilsack was outspoken in urging budget changes that would end the practice of moving money out of non-fire-related accounts at the Forest Service to cover growing wildfire costs. Congress ultimately fixed that problem by creating a wildfire disaster fund.

“He'll also face pressure to boost staffing at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture and the Economic Research Service — two major research agencies — which his predecessor relocated from Washington to Kansas City, Mo., prompting an exodus of employees.

“Vilsack, 70, is a former Democratic governor and state legislator in Iowa, and briefly ran for president in the 2008 election cycle.

“Vilsack's confirmation was never in doubt, given his popularity with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle and his record leading the biggest federal agency behind the Defense Department.

“But some progressives have complained he's too tied to corporate agriculture and too far removed from the social justice issues that have gained momentum since he led the agency from 2009 to 2017.

“Sanders, voting no, represents a state with primarily small-scale dairy farms and a significant organic agriculture movement — although Vilsack became a voice for the dairy industry after his term at USDA, leading the U.S. Dairy Export Council.

“Sanders, asked about his vote, told reporters he would have preferred someone less aligned with corporate agriculture.

"I like Tom, and I've known him for years. But I think we need somebody a little bit more vigorous in terms of protecting family farms and taking on corporate agriculture," Sanders said. "I think he'll be fine, but not as strong as I would like."

“Other votes in opposition came from some of the Biden administration's most vocal Republican critics, expected to be skeptical of the president's Cabinet choices.

“Rubio, who opposed the Obama administration's relaxed agricultural trade position toward Cuba, said in a statement on Twitter, "Supporting a nominee directly involved in the Obama Administration's policy of concessions to Havana's tyrants would be an unconscionable mistake."

“Major farm organizations supported the confirmation. The president of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, Chuck Conner, said in a statement, "Secretary Vilsack is a true champion of America's farmers and ranchers, and the rural communities where they live and work; his experience and understanding of the Department means that he can hit the ground running at this critical time."

“Separately, today the Senate confirmed Linda Thomas-Greenfield to be U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. The chamber also took a procedural vote on Thomas-Greenfield to represent the U.S. in the General Assembly sessions.”

Reporter George Cahlink contributed.

[Jennifer Granholm Confirmed as Secretary of Energy](#)

The Senate also confirmed last week former Michigan Governor, Jennifer Granholm, to be serve as President Biden's Secretary of Energy. Granholm has pledged combatting climate change as one of her top priorities.

On February 26, Lesley Clark of [Energywire](#) reported, “Jennifer Granholm was sworn in as the nation's 16th secretary of Energy last night, giving her a pivotal role in President Biden's aggressive plans to decarbonize the power sector, even as she is likely to be constrained by the limited powers of the massive agency.

“Granholm, a former two-term Michigan governor who embraced clean energy as a way of reviving her Rust Belt state during a staggering recession, took office after being confirmed 64-35 in the Senate yesterday afternoon.

“Granholm will be only the second woman to head the Energy Department, and in a video and blog post after the swearing-in, she pledged that DOE will be a central player in Biden's bid to tackle climate change by putting into "hyperdrive" its efforts to boost alternative energy.

"President Biden has tasked the department, his in-house solutions powerhouse, with delivering a cornerstone of his bold plan: the goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050," she wrote. "For DOE, that means developing and deploying the technologies that will deliver a clean energy revolution."

“She marked her first hours in office with an interview with MSNBC, telling the network that it's not politics that is driving clean energy, but the market.

"These companies and countries across the globe are deciding it's too much to see a planet that has so many horrible climate events," she said. DOE is the "solutions place," where the national laboratories work on solutions to decarbonize fossil fuels, she said.

"She's a trailblazer," said Nidhi Thakar, strategy director at Portland General Electric, Oregon's largest utility. "She's made it clear that her vision for the department, in addition to securing national security and supporting science at our national labs, is to advance American manufacturing and innovation to help battle against climate change and to support good-paying American jobs."

“Yet it is the scope of the department that poses the biggest test.

“In addition to overseeing the department's 17 national labs, a nuclear arsenal and Cold War-era cleanup sites, the secretary oversees a multibillion-dollar loan guarantee program that proved a lightning rod under the last Democratic president, along with various offices focused on fossil fuels, renewables, energy efficiency, research into battery storage, and efforts to both modernize and protect the electricity grid.

"Her biggest challenges will be the same two challenges that everyone who runs DOE encounters: trying to manage the labs and trying not to let the actual function of the department — making and cleaning up from the making of nuclear weapons — absorb all of her time and attention," said Michael McKenna, a former Trump energy adviser who briefly led the president's transition team at DOE.

“Spencer Abraham, a former Republican senator from Michigan who led DOE under former President George W. Bush, said he expects Granholm, who was Michigan attorney general when he was in the Senate, to be a "strong leader and strong advocate" for Biden's energy plans.

“Abraham said he and Granholm have already discussed the rigors of the job. "We've talked about the fact DOE was cobbled together from lots of different places or agencies

and brought under one roof, and almost every day, you've got a new area that you've got to focus on," said Abraham. "That's a challenge for anyone who takes the job."

"Abraham added that the week he took office in 2001, there were rolling blackouts in California. "We were in a crisis from day one, and in some ways, she will face that challenge with Texas," he said of the winter weather outages that left millions without power. "You may go in with your focus on a particular issue, but something like that happens, and it shifts attention."

"Though most of Texas is not on the national electricity grid, the secretary is likely to work with DOE's Office of Electricity and other energy offices on steps the federal government can take to increase the resilience of the grid, said Jeff Navin, who served both as DOE's deputy chief of staff and as chief of staff during the Obama administration.

"DOE doesn't make decisions about individual state resiliency plans ... but it can help develop strategies and technologies to better prepare grids as we go forward," Navin said.

"Before the Senate vote, Granholm emphasized grid improvements in response to last week's blackout crisis in Texas.

"One thing is certain: America's electricity grid is simply not able to handle extreme weather events," she said in a tweet. "Whether it's wildfires in California or snowstorms in Texas, we need to upgrade our grid infrastructure ASAP."

Congressional mandates

"Granholm will have no shortage of tasks to undertake upon her arrival, but Congress has already provided a road map for mandates it wants to see done on clean energy technology research and development.

"Lawmakers in a pandemic relief package last December included the first major update to the nation's energy policies in over a decade. The package directed the agency to produce a host of reports and clean energy demonstration projects across DOE research areas.

"The energy bill requires demonstration projects across more than a dozen technologies, including two advanced nuclear reactors and four energy storage projects that demonstrate grid-scale storage over longer durations, among others.

"Granholm has already committed to following through on congressionally mandated reports on critical mineral supplies during her confirmation hearing. She said she was "enthusiastically supportive" of DOE's role in critical minerals "for both jobs and energy security and supply chain security in the United States."

“The energy legislation also called for enhanced work on grid infrastructure research and development. The grid improvement is likely to include an increased focus on the grid's resilience to extreme weather that causes prolonged blackouts like those in Texas and California in recent months.

“And the Biden administration has its own goals: hiring its first-ever deputy director for energy justice to help underserved communities secure clean energy. It has also put the department on a federal task force examining how to help communities whose economies are dependent on coal, oil and gas, and power plants.

DOE loans and Michigan record

“Environmentalists welcomed Granholm's arrival, saying that her recent comments and record in Michigan indicate she would be an effective champion for Biden's clean energy priorities.

"There is so much anxiety expressed by members of Congress that somehow this administration doesn't care about the jobs in the energy sector, and one of the things she's done particularly well is to articulate the fact that with the right investments and the right policy, America could be taking the lead in the clean energy revolution and creating millions of new jobs," said Elgie Holstein, a senior director with the Environmental Defense Fund and former chief of staff at DOE.

"Having a former governor who has been on front lines of labor issues related to transportation is great timing. It's not academic for her; it's not theoretical for her," Holstein added.

“Thakar, the Oregon utility company official, served as a former senior adviser in DOE's loan program and noted that the agency has more than \$40 billion in existing loan authority that Granholm is likely to tap.

"It's a real opportunity for DOE, and it's an area where she has experience," Thakar said.

“Granholm tweeted yesterday that she was "impatient for results" and "obsessed with creating good-paying clean energy jobs in all corners of America in service of addressing our climate crisis."

“As governor, she championed tax incentives and state grants as a way of creating jobs and boosting sustainable energy innovation. She became such an evangelist for the program that she delivered a speech resembling a TED Talk at DOE headquarters in 2013, pitching a program to encourage states to compete for clean energy grants. DOE's loan program has drawn Republican critics, partly because of support during the Obama administration for Solyndra, a solar company that later went bankrupt. Supporters of the program maintain that it has had a successful track record.

“The Michigan-based Mackinac Center for Public Policy, a free-market think tank, contends that most of the projects Granholm pursued in Michigan failed to deliver on the promises of creating jobs.

"She hiked a variety of taxes ... and then gave a whole bunch of select incentives and credits to just a few companies, and those tended to be in areas that she liked, including green energy," said Jarrett Skorup, the center's marketing and communications director.

“Granholm defended her record at her confirmation hearing after Wyoming Senator John Barrasso, the top Republican on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, asked her to explain why taxpayers should trust that she would "invest U.S. taxpayer dollars wisely."

"I hope that we don't look at some failures along the way as a reason not to invest in technologies that banks are not going to invest in because they haven't been deployed yet," Granholm said.

“Susan Demas, a longtime Michigan political observer and editor-in-chief of the news site *Michigan Advance*, noted that Michigan still has a robust green energy sector, "and worldwide, people have come to the conclusion that we need alternate forms of energy as soon as possible. She was pretty forward-looking."

“Demas added that Granholm — the first woman to serve as governor in Michigan — for much of her tenure worked with a Republican Senate, undergoing two government shutdowns.

"The decade that she was governor was such a negative time for Michigan; I think she is perhaps remembered more fondly outside of Michigan," Demas said. "Nobody has forgotten how bad the recession was, but in terms of her policies, her approach with green manufacturing has been proven to be a smart bet."

Reporter Jeremy Dillon contributed.

Congress

The House Agriculture Committee held a climate hearing last week during which soil health and the ability to sequester carbon were highlighted.

[Farmers Say They Can Do More on Climate – If Congress Helps](#)

E&E Daily reporter Marc Heller published on February 26, “Farmers are standing on one solution to climate change — the soil under their feet — but need more incentives from Washington to put it to work as a carbon sink, witnesses told the House Agriculture Committee yesterday.

“In the panel's first hearing on the issue in the new Congress, lawmakers heard from a Weather Channel celebrity and a North Dakota farmer who's boosted production while protecting the environment through conservation measures — and they took cautionary notes about how best to craft any programs to reduce agriculture's contribution to the warming climate.

"Simply put, the planet has a fever, and it's getting worse," said Jim Cantore, a Weather Channel meteorologist known for braving wind-swept tropical rains on the air.

“Committee Chairman David Scott (D-GA) said agriculture is "at the tip of the spear" in crafting solutions to the climate crisis. In his new job leading the committee, Scott will be one of Congress' key figures trying to bridge differences between Democratic and Republican approaches to the issue.

“The North Dakota farmer, Gabe Brown, said he's already found the answer. "That solution is biology, and it is regenerative agriculture," said Brown, who has cut back on plowing, plants more cover crops to maintain the soil, and has reduced the use of synthetic fertilizer and pesticides, all with a goal toward boosting production with a smaller carbon footprint.

“The rewards are obvious, Brown told the committee: His yields have grown by as much as 30 times for some crops, and his profit margins have increased enough that he no longer enrolls in federal crop programs.

“He said he believes his crops have a greater "nutrient density," too, suggesting farmers can grow higher-quality food on less acres by adopting climate-friendly practices.

“Brown said he's seen an environmental benefit, too, with his soil capable of absorbing many times more water per hour than his next-door neighbors.

“Yet the measures Brown has taken aren't as widely adopted across U.S. farms as supporters of regenerative agriculture say they'd like.

“And the hearing spotlighted the challenges Congress faces in encouraging more participation, including helping farmers cover upfront costs and shaping the public conversation toward a different type of farming.

"The amount of bare soil we see is absolutely appalling," Brown said.

“Agriculture accounts for about 10% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions — less than the transportation and energy industries — but has great potential to contribute to carbon sequestration, scientists say, especially if forestry is considered a part of agriculture.

“Brown said around half of U.S. carbon emissions could be sequestered through farming practices, especially soil conservation.

“Farmers have been moving in the right direction by producing more food on less acres and adopting conservation practices much more advanced than in earlier generations, but they need new technology — and a regulatory environment that encourages it — to capture more carbon, said Zippy Duvall, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

“Duvall warned against government mandates, praising voluntary programs and the possibility of nongovernmental carbon markets to reward farmers for practices that sequester carbon.

“His group, the biggest farm lobbying organization in the country, has gradually moved toward positions more accepting of climate change as a problem — and an opportunity — for agriculture.

“With Democrats running the congressional agenda at the outset of the Biden administration, climate change policy is poised for momentum, and lawmakers such as Representative Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) yesterday pointed to legislation such as the "Growing Climate Solutions Act" to encourage a carbon market.

“That bill, with Republican support as well, calls for a certification system that would help measure carbon reductions for farmers who want to participate.

“By and large, yesterday's hearing showed consensus among Republicans and Democrats about the value of conservation toward reducing carbon emissions — and the benefit of doing so.

“The committee's ranking member, Representative Glenn Thompson (R-PA), said he accepts that industrial production is contributing to climate change, although he warned against "apocalyptic" rhetoric that scares the public and isn't grounded in science. "It divides lawmakers when what we need is collaboration," Thompson said.

“Still, some committee members on Thompson's side appeared to question the need for yesterday's examination, with Representative Jim Hagedorn (R-Minn.) referring to "so-called man-made climate change" and asking Duvall instead about the Obama administration's energy policies from 2009 to 2018 and the Biden administration's stepping away from the Keystone XL pipeline.

"I find it really difficult to have a hearing about the effects of so-called man-made climate change and what we need to do about it with agriculture," Hagedorn said, "and not address the proposals out there that would change the energy sector of this country and what that would do to the sustainability of our farmers from generation to generation and the profitability of our farmers and keeping the price of food affordable for the American people."

[COVID 19 Relief Package](#)

The following story contains updates on the latest COVID 19 relief package.

Geof Koss of [E&E Daily](#) wrote on February 25, "The House is expected to vote tomorrow on the Democrats' \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief package, which will contain roughly \$1 billion for tribes and the Fish and Wildlife Service in new provisions offered by the Natural Resources Committee.

"The additions, contained in an amendment submitted by Budget Chairman John Yarmuth (D-KY), include three new titles from three committees. The Democrats are pushing the pandemic relief package through the process of budget reconciliation to avoid a Senate filibuster. And a budget resolution tasked different committees with crafting different parts of the legislation. But those three committees didn't hold markups.

"The Rules Committee, which sets parameters for debate, will formally incorporate the additions from the Natural Resources; Science, Space and Technology; and Foreign Affairs panels tomorrow morning.

"The bulk of the spending in the Natural Resources title would go to Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs, which would receive \$900 million in Yarmuth's amendment.

"Of that amount, \$100 million is for tribal housing, \$772 million is for tribal government services and \$20 million for potable water.

"The Natural Resources title would also provide \$95 million to FWS, including \$20 million for inspections, interdictions and activities related to wildlife trafficking.

"It would additionally provide \$30 million to care for captive species listed under the Endangered Species Act, the care of rescued and confiscated wildlife, as well as the care of federal trust species in facilities experiencing lost revenues because of the pandemic.

"The Natural Resources provisions would also provide \$45 million for research to strengthen early detection and rapid response to wildlife disease outbreaks before they become pandemics.

"An additional \$10 million would go to the identification and designation of wildlife species as "injurious" under the Lacey Act if they're capable of transmitting pathogens that could pose risks to humans.

"Provisions from the Science, Space, and Technology Committee include \$150 million for the National Institute of Standards and Technology and \$600 million for the National Science Foundation for research into preventing, preparing for and responding to the coronavirus.

"The title submitted by the Foreign Affairs Committee would hand the State Department \$8.7 billion for the global response to the pandemic.

“Other notable provisions in the relief package include \$4.5 billion for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, \$500 million in low-income water assistance and \$100 million in environmental justice grants.

“It also includes \$50 billion for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster relief fund and \$30 billion for transit agencies.

“Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) derided the House package yesterday for including “all kinds of liberal wish-list items that would do nothing to help American families put COVID behind them,” specifically questioning the inclusion of “money for climate justice.”

Waiting on the parliamentarian

“House leaders may tweak the legislation further before tomorrow's votes to comply with budget reconciliation rules.

“One uncertain issue is whether a \$15 minimum wage hike will pass muster with the Senate parliamentarian, who must decide whether the provision complies with strict parameters for reconciliation bills known as the "Byrd rule."

“The parliamentarian heard arguments on the minimum wage provision in the House bill, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) noted yesterday in floor remarks.

"According to the Congressional Budget Office, raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour has a significant budgetary impact, which should make it permissible under the Senate's reconciliation rules," Schumer said.

“However, even if the wage increase remains in the bill, Senators Joe Manchin (D-WV) and Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) have raised concerns over its inclusion.

“House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) signaled yesterday that Democrats are planning to “move ahead” with the minimum wage increase in the reconciliation bill but added that “if for whatever reasons the Senate won’t take it in reconciliation, then we will certainly move” separate legislation on the issue later.

Next package

“A second, broader economic recovery package focused on infrastructure, including clean energy and electric grid upgrades, is expected in the coming months.

“Hoyer declined to comment on how large that package would be, but noted that Democrats last summer passed a \$1.5 trillion green-tinged infrastructure package.

"We expect a big bill, the president wants a big bill," Hoyer told reporters. "And we want to move that relatively quickly."

House Lawmakers Introduce Biofuel and Energy Bills

Last week, Representative Angie Craig and Dusty Johnson introduced legislation that would require Small Refinery Waiver applications to be submitted by June 1 which will hopefully allow the EPA to adjust Renewable Volume Obligations before releasing the annual draft rule.

On February 22, Jeremy Dillion, Marc Heller and James Marshall of E&E Daily reported, "Lawmakers introduced dozens of bills last week, including on issues related to energy policy, biofuels and cleaning up abandoned coal mines.

"Representative Jeff Duncan (R-SC) introduced H.R. 1119 to codify a Trump executive order on cyber protections for the bulk power system.

"Signed in May 2020, President Biden suspended the order for 90 days as the new White House team reviews how to proceed on various Trump initiatives.

"The order earned praise from Republicans as lawmakers look to shore up electric grid protections as cyberthreats grow more frequent and dangerous.

"This 90-day suspension could potentially yield additional threats to our power grid, which would in turn put our national security at risk," Duncan said in a statement. "Unfortunately, this is not the first time President Biden has proven his inability to stand firm against our adversaries, especially the Chinese Communist Party."

The order called on the Department of Energy to block the use of components in the bulk power system that were imported from countries deemed dangerous for cybersecurity. DOE was also supposed to establish a registry for preapproved parts that met proper security standards.

Biofuels

"The "RFS Integrity Act," H.R. 1113, proposed by Representatives Angie Craig (D-Minn.) and Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.), would require small refineries that apply for certain waivers from biofuel-blending requirements to do so by June 1 each year, something the lawmakers said would allow EPA to account for them in setting annual minimum biofuel volumes.

"In addition, they said, the bill would require EPA to disclose more information about the waivers, which the agency grants in cases of economic hardship.

"The agency reports how many exemptions it grants, as well as the number of applications, but it doesn't reveal which refineries received them, for instance, and only limited information about how it reaches those decisions or how many gallons of biofuel are represented.

"In a news release, Craig said the bill would "ensure that transparency, predictability and accountability are prioritized in the EPA's waiver process moving forward." She and Johnson introduced the bill with leaders of the Congressional Biofuels Caucus.

"Ethanol industry groups, critical of the exemptions, praised the bill.

"The intent of the RFS is to blend more biofuels into our nation's transportation fuel supply every year, not have oil companies use questionable tactics to delay and avoid their blending obligations, creating a tremendous amount of uncertainty for farmers, biofuels producers, and the entire fuel supply chain," said Emily Skor, CEO of the industry group Growth Energy, in a news release.

Mining

"Coal country conservationists hope 2021 is the year Congress passes a package of bills meant to fund abandoned mine land reclamation.

"With coal production decreasing, so too are fees mine operators pay to cover the costs of remediating abandoned mines. That work may cost \$11 billion, but some advocates say that estimate is on the low end. The Interior Department's AML fund has just over \$2 billion unappropriated cash.

"Representative Darin LaHood (R-IL) introduced the "Community Reclamation Partnerships Act" last week to remove obstacles for nongovernmental groups to help clean up mine pollution. Under H.R. 1146, good Samaritans could participate in reclamation work without taking on Clean Water Act liabilities.

"Greg Conrad, former executive director of the Interstate Mining Compact Commission, said the legislation is needed because acid mine drainage can be low on the priority list of projects to receive funding.

"We have such an extensive inventory of abandoned mine lands in the coal sector that we're looking for every opportunity we can to provide avenues for addressing these AML sites, particularly those associated with bad water or acid mine drainage," said Conrad, now a consultant for IMCC, a group that represents state coal mine regulators.

"The bill has passed the House twice in previous sessions, but there could be more urgency in the Senate this time around because the AML fee levied on each ton of coal produced is expiring on Sept. 30.

"Citizens' groups have also lobbied to pass the "RECLAIM Act," a bill sponsored by Representative Matt Cartwright (D-Pa.) in the last Congress that would link reclamation work to economic development.

"Steve Moyer, vice president for government affairs at Trout Unlimited, said AML reauthorization, the good Samaritan bill and the RECLAIM Act could pass together.

"They'd go well together in our view. It's been through the House twice now so we feel like it's on a good path to be included," Moyer said.

Other bills

Other bills introduced last week include:

- H.R. 1144, from Representative Derek Kilmer (D-Wash.), to boost programs meant to protect the water quality of Puget Sound.
- H.R. 1164, by Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.), to remove the Emancipation Memorial from Lincoln Park.
- H.R. 1165, also from Norton, to remove the statue of Confederate officer Albert Pike in Washington.

Other