

WHAT WILL INFLUENCE THE END OF YEAR AGENDA?

It's been a busy few months in DC, with lawmakers working on a number of key initiatives in the policy agenda – infrastructure, reconciliation, appropriations, the debt limit, and more. With several looming deadlines at play, policymakers will be navigating an increasingly complex landscape to advance their initiatives. Signal's advocacy team offers their insights on what will influence the next two months in DC.

CHARLES COOPER

Managing Director & Chair of Advocacy Practice



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The end of the year will be a confluence of “must pass” bills with significant consequence in addition to the ongoing discussions around infrastructure. Party unity and message discipline will be keys to policy and political success for both sides of the aisle when Congress is wrapping up the 2021 agenda and heading into an election year. Increasingly, the campaign trail will be an influencer as we near the end of the year.



PATRICE WILLOUGHBY

Managing Director & Head of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

The end of the year will accelerate consideration of competing priorities that must be finalized within sight of the 2022 election year. For Congress and the Administration, this is a critical juncture to address economic needs of the American people that have been elevated by the prolonged pandemic. While some seek to politicize these issues, the frayed social safety net, low wages, and absence of childcare have contributed to prolonged unemployment. Additionally, voting rights will take center stage as a fundamental function of our democracy.

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TED ANDERSON

Managing Director, National Security



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National security priorities will continue to remain top of mind for the remainder of the year, especially as this year looks to end in a capricious construct fueled by the CR. The National Security apparatus does not effectively execute their mission operating under habitual Continuing Resolutions. Unlike all other agencies funded in the President's Budget, the Interagency must have certain predictabilities built in that provide strong deterrence against our adversaries. We have watched Congress do their best work when faced with deadlines, and this legislative cycle looks to be no different. A large omnibus, right before the Christmas recess will be exactly what the National Security Agencies wished for.



BLAKE ANDROFF

Executive Vice President & Co-Chair, Signal Outdoors

The next few months will be critical for Congressional Democrats on the legislative front – the stakes are simply too high not to pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal and the Build Back Better Agenda. There will be a concerted effort to focus less on the topline number and more emphasis on how both packages will bring real relief to Americans across the country. We can expect the White House to turn up the heat on Congress to get both packages across the finish line and signed into law.



MAE STEVENS

Executive Vice President & Chair, Signal Water

The rest of the year represents a critical juncture for Democrats to prove to the country that they can make the compromises necessary to pass legislation in line with President Biden's agenda, including much-needed investments in water infrastructure. Key provisions Signal Water is looking out for include increased funding to the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, as well as the creation of the first-ever permanent low-income water customer assistance program.



MADELINE WADE

Vice President & Co-Chair, Signal Outdoors

The longer reconciliation remains in question, the harder it will be for Democrats to reach a deal on climate that meets their net zero ambitions. If this is the case, watch for these negotiations to seep into appropriations, any additional disaster spending bill, and other moving legislation.



CONTACT US

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