

From: [Sara Nekou](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, November 5, 2024
Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024 11:24:10 AM

Senate is in recess.

The House meets in a pro forma session.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Reuters reports that a U.S. appeals court panel seemed likely to uphold the National Labor Relations Board's decision to revisit a Trump-era ruling that favored ExxonMobil because of a board member's alleged financial conflict of interest. [US court seems to back NLRB's finding on Trump-era member's conflict in Exxon case](#)

NBC News reports that Elon Musk stands to gain millions from government contracts if former President Donald Trump returns to the White House. [Elon Musk could be the biggest winner of a second Trump term](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that federal agencies across government have met the statutory deadline to prepare their materials for whoever wins this week's election, though former President Trump may be delayed in accessing them. [Agencies have completed their pre-election transition briefings. Trump may still not get them on time.](#)

Government Executive reports that several House members proposed legislation that would direct all federal agencies using artificial intelligence technologies to establish civil rights offices focused on mitigating bias posed by the emerging capabilities. [House Dems join push to create AI-focused civil rights offices across government](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

House: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

From: [Elizabeth D. Horton](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Wednesday, October 23, 2024
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2024 12:21:51 PM

The Senate and the House are in recess.

Legislative and Related News

Politico reports that House Republicans are gearing up for an intra-party war early next year over the ability to defenestrate a speaker. The article notes that while most Republicans despise the tool, which has single-handedly caused repeated chaos this Congress, several conservatives are prepared to fight to keep it. [House GOP braces for bitter fight over the power to oust a speaker](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Jacobin reports on the potential financial benefits to Elon Musk if Donald Trump wins the election and appoints Musk to a top government post, referring to OGE's conflict of interest guides and the tax provision related to certificates of divestiture. [Elon Musk Could Secure a Huge Tax Cut If Trump Wins](#)

The Hill reports that Elon Musk's dual role as a tech leader and vocal surrogate for former President Trump has sparked questions about potential conflicts of interest. [What a Trump win could mean for Elon Musk's businesses](#)

The Wall Street Journal reports that Eric Trump's business expansion efforts could cement his own place in the business world while also reviving concerns over potential conflicts of interest in a second Trump administration. [What Happens to Trump's Business if He Wins? Eric Trump Has Thoughts](#)

Politico reports that Howard Lutnick, the Wall Street CEO heading up Donald Trump's transition operation, is facing accusations from some Trump insiders that he is improperly mixing his business interests with his duties standing up a potential administration. [Trump's transition chief under fire for 'totally sketchy' conflicts of interest](#)

NPR publishes an interview with the former Inspector General of the Department of Justice and former Acting Inspector General of the Department of Defense that includes a discussion of the Navy's Fat Leonard scandal and the former IG's recommendation that there be an inspector general for the Supreme Court and the federal judiciary. [A former inspector general shares stories of government waste, fraud and abuse](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that Rep. Dan Newhouse has joined a nascent effort to issue upwards of 30% pay cuts to federal employees who engage in regular telework by depriving them of their locality pay. The article notes that the congressman introduced the Federal Employee Return to Work Act (H.R. 10014), a measure that would bar federal employees who spend at least one day per week on telework from receiving the locality pay determined by the location of their official work station, instead considering them part of the "Rest of U.S." locality pay area, regardless of where they live or work. [A Senate bill targeting teleworkers' locality pay now has its companion in the House](#)

Government Executive reports that federal workers' views of their employer in general slightly

improved or held steady compared to last year, according to data released by the Office of Personnel Management from the 2024 Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey. [Feds' employee experience and engagement continued to climb in 2024, FEVS data finds](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

House: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

From: [Sara Nekou](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Tuesday, October 22, 2024
Date: Tuesday, October 22, 2024 11:16:12 AM

The Senate and House meet in pro forma sessions.

Legislative and Related News

MSN News reports that some Congress members introduced legislation that would prohibit U.S. officials from accepting money, payments or gifts from foreign governments without congressional consent. [Democrats propose ban on officials receiving payments from foreign governments after Trump probe](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The New York Times reports that former President Donald Trump has vowed to make Mr. Musk head of a new “government efficiency commission” with the power to recommend wide-ranging cuts at federal agencies and changes to federal rules. That would essentially give Mr. Musk the power to regulate the regulators who hold sway over his companies, amounting to a potentially enormous conflict of interest. [U.S. Agencies Fund, and Fight With, Elon Musk. A Trump Presidency Could Give Him Power Over Them.](#)

Fox News reports that Vice President Harris has raised some eyebrows over potential conflicts of interest related to the substantial support her presidential run has received from individuals and entities engaged in active business dealings before the federal government. [Legal experts question Harris' backing from donors with government ties](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

Government Executive reports that the Biden administration announced on Oct. 17, the cancellation of \$4.5 billion in student debt for more than 60,000 local, state, federal, and tribal government workers and others in public service. [Biden administration forgives \\$4.5B in student debt for public service workers](#)

Government Executive reports that EEOC found that in fiscal 2018 people with disabilities were 27% more likely to leave federal employment than people without disabilities. [The federal government is striving to be a model for employing people with disabilities, but retention is a problem](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

House: Sept. 30 - Nov. 11

From: [Christopher J. Swartz](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Monday, September 9, 2024
Date: Monday, September 9, 2024 9:49:38 AM
Attachments: [IF12736.pdf](#)
[Killebrew v Department of Transportation.pdf](#)

The Senate convenes at 3 p.m.

Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Adam B. Abelson to be a U.S. district judge for the district of Maryland. At 5:30 p.m., the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the Abelson nomination.

The House reconvenes at 2 p.m.

The chamber will meet for legislative business and is expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules. Roll call votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.

Legislative and Related News

Politico reports that Congress is back in session and has three weeks to avoid a potential partial government shutdown. [Congress returns to Washington for a three-week preelection sprint - Live Updates - POLITICO](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

The Wall Street Journal reports that Presidential Candidate Donald Trump has noted potential interest in appointing Elon Musk to a government efficiency board. The WSJ notes that many of Musk's companies are heavily regulated by agencies that might be subject to the authority of such a board. [Musk Role in a Trump Presidency Raises Conflict-of-Interest Questions \(msn.com\)](#)

The Congressional Research Service produced an updated issue brief on the nominee financial disclosure process during a presidential transition. (Attached).

Federal Employee News

Gov Exec reports that the MSPB is establishing regulations that would allow the board to carry out additional duties if there is a lack of quorum. The MSPB recently lacked quorum for over 5 years, between January 2017 and March 2022. [MSPB to update rules to make operations smoother without a quorum - Government Executive \(govexec.com\)](#)

Case of Interest

Killebrew v. Department of Transportation (MSPB; Nonprecedential). The MSPB upheld the removal of an employee for, among other things, failing to disclose his outside position as proprietor of a private company and violating 18 USC 203. Of interest, the MSPB upheld the charge that there was a violation of 18 USC 203, even though there was no interaction with the government. The MSPB determined that there was a violation when the employee sought payment for compliance matters before the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, even if those representational acts never occurred. (Attached).

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Sep. 30 – Nov. 11

House: Sep. 13 – Sep. 16

Hearing of Interest

[Legislative Hearing on Conflict of Interest Waiver for VA Researchers \(Draft\) and multiple other bills](#)

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health

Thursday, September 11, 2024 at 10 a.m.

From: [Grant Anderson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Friday, September 6, 2024
Date: Friday, September 6, 2024 2:56:24 PM

The Senate is not in session.

The House meets in a pro forma session.

Legislative and Related News

Multiple outlets report on congressional financial disclosure issues. [Congressional Stock Trading Continues to Raise Conflicts of Interest Concerns \(CLC\)](#); [Maggie Goodlander amends financial disclosure after ‘bizarre’ filing scrutinized in testy N.H. congressional race \(Boston Globe\)](#); [Watchdog files ethics complaint against Rep. Byron Donalds over alleged undisclosed stock trades \(Capitolist\)](#)

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

Multiple outlets report on conflict of interest concerns related to Elon Musk heading a government efficiency commission. [Musk Role in a Trump Presidency Raises Conflict-of-Interest Questions \(WSJ\)](#); [How Elon Musk Is Influencing Donald Trump \(NYT\)](#); [Trump vows to establish an ‘efficiency commission’ with Elon Musk at the helm \(Gov Exec\)](#)

Gov Exec reports on Hatch Act enforcement decisions. [Navy secretary violated the Hatch Act, OSC finds](#)

NYT reports former President Trump’s sentencing in NY has been [delayed](#) to Nov. 26. [Judge Delays Trump’s Sentencing Until Nov. 26, After Election Day](#)

Judiciary and Related News

NYT reports on Supreme Court justices publishing books, noting that “one of the thorniest questions about the book deals — and any financial ties for the justices — is about potential conflicts of interest.” [Books Deals Can Add Up to Millions of Dollars for Supreme Court Justices](#)

Bloomberg reports on Justice Alito’s financial [disclosure](#). [Justice Alito Reports \\$900 Concert Tickets, No Trips in Latest Filing](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Aug. 5 – Sept. 6

House: July 26 – Sept. 6

Hearing of Interest

[Legislative Hearing on Conflict of Interest Waiver for VA Researchers \(Draft\) and multiple other bills](#)

House Veterans’ Affairs Subcommittee on Health
Thursday, September 11, 2024 at 10 a.m.

From: [Grant Anderson](#)
To: [Agency Wide](#)
Subject: Legislative Update for Thursday, September 5, 2024
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 10:24:16 AM

The Senate meets in a pro forma session.

The House is not in session.

Executive Branch Ethics and Related News

AP reports on conflict concerns related to former President Trump's new cryptocurrency venture, World Liberty Financial. [Trump's new crypto business could create more conflicts if he's elected president](#)

Federal Agency and Related News

WP and *WSJ* report on a potential "government efficiency commission" aimed at eliminating wasteful regulations and spending. [Trump eyes plan that may give Elon Musk role in auditing U.S. agencies \(WP\); Trump to Adopt Elon Musk's Proposal for Government Efficiency Commission \(WSJ\)](#)

Next Scheduled Recess:

Senate: Aug. 5 – Sept. 6

House: July 26 – Sept. 6

Hearing of Interest

[Legislative Hearing on Conflict of Interest Waiver for VA Researchers \(Draft\) and multiple other bills](#)

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health

Thursday, September 11, 2024 at 10 a.m.