



MEMORANDUM

TO: House Republicans
FROM: Kevin McCarthy
DATE: August 31, 2016
SUBJECT: September Agenda

“If you make ten thousand regulations you destroy all respect for the law.” – Winston Churchill

I hope everyone has enjoyed time at home with family and constituents.

This summer was a great time for us to talk with the American people and highlight our hard work in the House. As I mentioned earlier this month, we’ve passed 601 bills on the floor—a double-digit percentage increase over the 25-year average—and seen 219 bills enacted into law. That’s 22 percent more than the 113th Congress. We’ve passed legislation to grow our economy, protect our communities, strengthen national security, and serve our veterans. And in the coming months, we can continue to look forward to making more progress on the Better Way agenda that offers a new and more confident path for America.

So that you can start preparing for the month ahead, below are some of the items the House is expected to consider in September. Note that additional items are likely, so stay tuned to future Leader Schedule announcements for the official schedule.

A Better Way

We know the American people aren’t happy with the direction our country is heading, and they are desperate for an alternative vision. They want an America free to grow and succeed, but supported with strong communities, stable jobs, and lower costs for basic necessities like health care. They want an America that looks out for its own without holding anyone back. They want a Better Way.

While House Republicans developed this bold agenda as a blueprint for 2017 and beyond, I believe we can and should make a down payment immediately—particularly in the areas of restoring Constitutional authority and regulatory reform. This builds on the work we did in July by passing the Separation of Powers Restoration Act, which ends decades of excessive judicial deference to executive branch agencies when interpreting statutes and that was a cornerstone of the Constitution blueprint, as well as by passing a set of bills expanding the availability of HSAs and HRAs for families and small businesses contained in the Health Care blueprint.

The Committees are hard at work identifying pieces of *A Better Way* that are ready for House consideration in September, including:

- H.R. 5063, the Stop Settlement Slush Fund Act (Goodlatte), which ends the Department of Justice practice of systematically subverting Congress's spending power when it requires settling parties to donate money to activist groups.
- H.R. 5226, the Regulatory Integrity Act (Walberg), which requires agencies to publish information about proposed regulations on their websites.
- A bill to allow Congress to disapprove *en bloc* unacceptable "Midnight Regulations" issued in an Administration's lame duck term.
- H.R. 3438, the Require Evaluation before Implementing Executive Wishlists (REVIEW) Act (Marino), which prohibits major rulemaking that costs more than a billion dollars from going into effect until pending litigation against the rule is finalized.
- H.R. 5620, the VA Accountability First and Appeals Modernization Act of 2016 (Jeff Miller), which ensures employees at the Department of Veterans Affairs can be [fired](#) or demoted for misconduct or poor performance and also modernizes the disability appeals process to reduce the unacceptable backlog of claims.

Innovation

America is undergoing a fourth industrial revolution. Innovation and positive disruption is happening all around us—in business, energy, education, healthcare, finance, and beyond. But as usual, government has been slow to adapt.

Since launching the Innovation Initiative in March, 24 bills have passed the House Floor addressing everything from crowdfunding and ensuring our entrepreneurs have access to capital, to leveraging data and technology to create a government that is more transparent, representative, and limited. A full list of bills can be found at innovation.majorityleader.gov.

In September, the House will continue our mission of accelerating private sector innovation and bringing greater innovation into government with consideration of, among others:

- H.R. 5577, the Innovation in Offshore Leasing Act (Garrett Graves), which modernizes the Bureau of Ocean Management's offshore leasing process through the use of Internet-based oil and natural gas lease sales.
- H.R. 5424, the Investment Advisers Modernization Act of 2016 (Hurt), which will reduce the cost of capital from the small private equity firms that are funding many of our startups.
- H.R. 2357, the Accelerating Access to Capital Act (Wagner), which amends a SEC registration form to eliminate unnecessary costs for small private companies. The cost of securities regulation continues to fall heaviest on smaller companies, many of which still having difficulty accessing capital.
- H.R. 4850, the Micro Offering Safe Harbor Act (Emmer), which would give very small businesses and startups more flexibility to raise funds from existing relationships without the added costs of having to register the securities with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- H.R. 4852, the Private Placement Improvement Act (Garrett), which ensures that small businesses do not face complicated and unnecessary regulatory burdens when attempting to raise capital.

Iran

The House is also expected to consider a number of measures related to anti-terrorism and Iran including, but not limited to, a legislative response to the Administration's \$400 million cash ransom (or 'leverage') payment to Iran and H.R. 5461, the Iranian Leadership Asset Transparency Act (Poliquin), which requires reporting on the financial assets acquired by Iranian leaders.

Appropriations

Once we return, Conference discussions will continue on overall government funding, including a Continuing Resolution and a path forward for the \$1.1 billion supplemental funding package to address the Zika crisis that the House passed on June 23, 2016.

Lastly, we have other matters for consideration that include, but are not limited to, NDAA, reauthorization of career and technical education programs, and protecting seniors from a harmful Obamacare tax.

As you can see, we have a very busy month ahead. I look forward to seeing you all next week! In the meantime, having just watched our Olympic athletes win a record-breaking number of medals, let's see who can be the first to correctly answer this trivia question: **What was the first American city to host the Olympics and when?**

