

# POLITICO

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## Trump doesn't know what's next after taxes

Still smarting from the failure of Obamacare repeal and focused on taxes, the White House hasn't worked out its next big-ticket item as 2018 looms.

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## 'Pocahontas' taunt

Trump mocks Warren at an event honoring Native American vets.

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## Confusion and chaos engulf consumer agency

As White House budget director Mick Mulvaney settled in, CFPB Deputy Director Leandra English was sending emails to staff.

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## Matt Wuerker

The cartoonist's daily take on the world of politics.

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BRYNN ANDERSON/AP

Roy Moore's opponent, Doug Jones, has flooded the airwaves with over \$5.6 million in TV ads during the general election campaign. Moore (above) has answered with only about \$800,000 in ad spending.

## Roy Moore buried under TV ad barrage

The Alabama airwaves are flooded with spots — and the embattled Republican can't keep pace

BY DANIEL STRAUSS AND SCOTT BLAND

Doug Jones and Roy Moore both released new television ads on Monday. But many Alabama voters will see only one of them.

That's because of the massive disparity in TV ad spending between the two candidates in

the Alabama special election to a Senate seat. Jones, the Democratic candidate, is outspending Moore roughly 7-to-1.

The imbalance is stunning, with just two weeks to go in the campaign: Jones has aired more than 10,000 spots on broadcast TV in Alabama since the prima-

ries, while Moore, the embattled GOP candidate, has run just over 1,000 of his own, according to figures compiled by Advertising Analytics.

"I saw probably 40 to 50 Doug Jones ads, and I saw one Roy Moore ad" over the Thanksgiving

MOORE on page 11

## Bernie taking aggressive steps pointing to possible 2020 run

BY GABRIEL DEBENEDETTI

Bernie Sanders is taking steps to address long-standing political shortcomings that were exposed in 2016, ahead of another possible presidential bid in 2020.

From forging closer ties to the labor movement to shoring up his once-flimsy foreign policy credentials, the moves have provided the

senator inroads into party power structures that largely shunned him in favor of Hillary Clinton last year. They've also empowered the progressive icon to harness his newfound political power and help Democrats fight President Donald Trump's administration.

Sanders has been working closely

BERNIE on page 14



CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

One year after running an outsider campaign, Sen. Bernie Sanders is aiming to improve his standing inside the Democratic Party.

## GOP making late changes to Senate tax plan

McConnell is still working to win over key holdouts before a vote on the floor this week

BY SEUNG MIN KIM, COLIN WILHELM AND BERNIE BECKER

Senate Republicans are rushing to change their tax overhaul just days before a planned floor vote, with GOP leaders trying to appease at least a half-dozen holdouts.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell can lose only two votes and still pass the bill by week's end. The last-minute modifications underscore the speed with which leadership is moving and the narrow margin for error on the party's top legislative priority.

Two critical Republican swing votes, Ron Johnson of Wisconsin and Bob Corker of Tennessee, on Monday left open the possibility that they could vote against the tax plan in a key committee vote scheduled for Tuesday if changes weren't made to their liking. That would tank the bill before it could reach the floor, putting more pres-

sure on leadership to quickly make revisions.

Johnson and a fellow former businessman, GOP Sen. Steve Daines of Montana, are demanding more generous tax treatment for so-called pass-through businesses. Yet the changes they want are expensive, and tax-writers would have to find savings elsewhere to ensure the bill ultimately costs no more than \$1.5 trillion over a decade as required under a budget framework.

"We're gonna make them happy," Senate Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch of Utah said of Johnson and Daines. "But we're not sure we can do exactly what they want to have done."

And a handful of deficit hawks — including Corker and Sens. Jeff Flake of Arizona and James Lankford of Oklahoma — are discuss-

TAXES on page 13

## Congress on edge over harassment allegations

BY KYLE CHENEY AND HEATHER CAYGLE

The specter of new sexual harassment allegations becoming public has Capitol Hill on edge, creating an atmosphere of uncertainty even as lawmakers attempt to overhaul the system of harassment reporting in Congress.

The House will take its first step to confront sexual harassment on the Hill this week. But that's unlikely to ease pressure on Speaker Paul Ryan and House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, who face a furious public and are struggling with how to grapple with the metastasizing scandal.

Further spooking lawmakers and aides across the Capitol: fear of the unknown.

In recent days, two Democratic lawmakers have faced public accusations of sexual harassment — Rep. John Conyers of Michigan, the longest-serving member of the House, and Sen. Al Franken of Minnesota — that have called into question their future in Congress. Rep. Joe Barton, a veteran Texas Republican, was forced to admit that a nude picture of him circulating online was authentic, though he emphasized it was made while he was in a relationship with a consenting adult.

A vote scheduled for Wednesday would change House rules to require training for all lawmakers and staff to prevent sexual harassment. But that would do little to

HARASSMENT on page 10

# 301 SCIENTISTS

## OPPOSE TRUMP'S CEQ NOMINEE

November  
28, 2017

### DEAR SENATORS,

We, the undersigned, oppose the nomination of Kathleen Hartnett White to run the White House Council on Environmental Quality, because one thing more dangerous than climate change is lying.

As scientists and scholars, we are alarmed by Ms. Hartnett White's actions and statements, particularly, her recent assertion that carbon dioxide is not a harmful pollutant. There is unanimous agreement across peer-reviewed climate science that carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released by human activities

are contributing to the harmful effects of climate change.

To state otherwise in the face of overwhelming evidence is simply unsupported. This is not a partisan issue; it is a matter of defending scientific integrity. Climate change threatens us all, regardless of political affiliation. Confirming Kathleen Hartnett White at the helm of the Council on Environmental Quality would have serious consequences for people and the ecosystems of the only planet that can support us.

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