



December 5, 2022

Congress' lame duck to-do list

With less than a month left in the 117th Congress, the House and Senate have several items to try to address during the lame-duck period.

Deadlines

■ House and Senate in session ■ Only Senate in session ● Key deadlines

Dec. 16 GOVERNMENT FUNDING EXPIRES

Current appropriations will expire after Dec. 16. Congress can either pass an additional temporary funding bill or work to compromise on a spending bill that would appropriate money through the end of the fiscal year.

Also expiring are authorizations for:

- National Flood Insurance Program
- Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program

Dec. 31 TAX PROVISIONS AND MEDICARE CUTS

The House and Senate could try to extend a variety of tax provisions that would expire absent congressional legislation.

Medicare providers are staring down a number of different reimbursement cuts set to kick in unless Congress acts. A decrease in payments to doctors and an across-the-board 4 percent sequester for all Medicare providers are getting the most attention so far on Capitol Hill.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec. 4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 GOV'T FUNDING EXPIRES	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	CHRISTMAS (obs.) FEDERAL HOLIDAY	27	28	29	30	31 TAX/MEDICARE CHANGES
Jan. 1	NEW YEAR'S (obs.) FEDERAL HOLIDAY	3 118TH CONGRESS BEGINS	4	5	6	7

Priorities before the end of the new Congress

Democrats still control both chambers **until the new Congress is seated on Jan. 3.** They could use the lame-duck window to push through the following priorities:

DEBT LIMIT

Congress hasn't raised the debt limit since last December and will likely need to do so before mid-2023.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

House and Senate Armed Services committees, after months of negotiations, are expected to present a \$45 billion increase to the White House's proposed \$802 billion defense budget for 2023. Congress is aiming to have the NDAA ready for a House vote the week of Dec. 5, then it would move to the Senate.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

The Senate voted on Nov. 29 to pass legislation that would federally protect same-sex marriage, including an agreement to add language relating to religious liberty in order to attract Republican votes. The legislation is expected to pass the House.

ELECTORAL COUNT ACT

Senators are hoping to pass a bill that would amend the Electoral Count Act of 1887 to avoid further controversies during presidential vote counting, following the riots of Jan. 6, 2021. Concerned with time, senators say the bill could be attached to government funding legislation.

Sources: Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget, POLITICO reporting, Offices of House Majority Leader and Senate Majority Whip