

Inter-Office Memo



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March 29, 2026

TO: International Executive Board
FROM: Legislative Department
SUBJECT: Weekly Legislative Update on the Trump Administration

1) TRADE & MANUFACTURING

Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Bernie Moreno (R-OH) sent a bipartisan [letter](#) to the Commerce Secretary urging the initiation of a new section 232 investigation into imports of heavy construction and agricultural equipment. The letter calls out John Deere, CNH, and Caterpillar for moving production abroad and cutting UAW jobs, while delivering massive returns to Wall Street. Additionally, the letter highlights the need to address offshoring in the AG-IMP sector in the USMCA.

In response to USTR's recent launch of new section 301 investigations into forced labor and excess capacity, China has opened [two reciprocal investigations](#) into practices that disrupt global supply chains and trade barriers to renewable energy products.

The Commerce Department has opened the [second window](#) for manufacturers to request additions to the parts covered by the auto tariffs. The window will be open from April 1st to April 14th and will be followed by a public comment opportunity. Commerce has yet to process requests from the first window back in December. Under the tariff proclamation, Commerce is required to open an auto parts inclusions window every quarter.

2) EDUCATION

The Department of Education's Office of Civil Rights announced that it is [opening](#) two additional investigations of Harvard related to allegations of antisemitism and the use of race-based preferences in admissions.

3) IMMIGRATION

The Senate [confirmed](#) Oklahoma Senator Markwayne Mullin as the new Secretary of Homeland Security this week, with support from Democratic Senators Fetterman (PA) and Heinrich (NM). Meanwhile, Minnesota [sued](#) the Trump administration, seeking access to evidence related to the shootings of Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and Julio Cesar Sosa-Celis and claiming the administration has failed to cooperate with the state's investigations into the shootings.

4) CONGRESS

Early Friday morning, the Senate [passed](#) by voice vote a bill that would fund all of the Department of Homeland Security except for ICE and part of Customs and Border Protection but that did not include any of the reforms to ICE that Democrats have been advocating. The Senate's late-night move came after Trump [sent](#) ICE agents to airports earlier in the week and [said](#) on Thursday that he would use existing funds to pay TSA agents, who have gone without pay since mid February. Still, [over 450](#) TSA officers have quit so far during this shutdown, training new TSA officers takes months, and Trump has yet to announce whether he plans to continue paying TSA agents if the shutdown continues, so it remains unclear when the long wait times at airports will return to normal.

On Friday, House Republicans [rejected](#) the Senate-passed deal after Speaker Mike Johnson called it a “joke” -- thereby ensuring the shutdown would continue indefinitely. Instead, the House [passed](#) a bill that would fund all of DHS, including ICE, through May 22nd. Three House Democrats joined Republicans in voting for the bill, but the House’s bill seems unlikely to have the votes to pass the Senate at this point. Both the Senate and the House have now left D.C. for a recess period set to last until mid-April, though either chamber could be called back to D.C. at any point.

The White House [indicated](#) that the President will send his FY2027 budget request to Congress on April 3rd, after two months of delay.

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