

Federal Update

Squire Patton Boggs City of Commerce City



- FY 2019 Appropriations Legislation
 - Seven of the 12 appropriations bills have yet to be passed
 - Agriculture
 - Commerce, Justice and Science
 - Financial Services and General Government
 - Interior and Environment
 - Labor, HHS and Education
 - State and Foreign Operations
 - Transportation and HUD
 - Fight over border wall funding
 - Partial shut-down

- 2018 Farm Bill
 - SNAP funding
- Tax Break Extenders
- National Flood Insurance Program reauthorization
- Affordable Care Act health tax provisions
 - Cadillac tax, medical device tax, and the health insurance tax (HIT)

- U.S. House – Controlled by Democrats
 - Picked up 38 seats – 235-200
 - Speaker Nancy Pelosi
- U.S. Senate – Additional Republicans in the Chamber
 - 53-47 advantage
- Colorado's Delegation Changes
 - Blue wave victim: CD 6 – Republican Mike Coffman lost to Democrat Jason Crow
 - First African American member: CD 2 – New Democratic Congressman Joe Neguse
- Record number of women serving in the next Congress
 - Shift in priorities owing to new member's gender, generational status, racial composition, and ideological orientation
- Election shift
 - Women tilted Democratic by nearly 20 points
 - Suburban women defected from Republicans

Key Issues to start the 116th Congress

- Raising the debt ceiling before it expires on March 1, 2019
- Establishing another two-year discretionary spending cap agreement

Administration Attention

- President Trump in re-election mode
- Administration shake ups
- Mueller investigation
- NAFTA

Democratic House

- Combative with the President
 - Investigations – think back to the Clinton Administration with the Republican Congress
 - Tax returns and ethical issues
- Legislation:
 - Healthcare
 - Immigration
 - Infrastructure
 - Surface transportation and water
 - Campaign finance and ethics laws
 - Restricting gerrymandering of congressional districts
 - Voting rights

Republican Senate

- Administration confirmations
- Judicial appointments will continue to be controversial though not held up as much
- Infrastructure plan and paying for it (gas tax increase?)
- Energy legislation

Discuss Council Expectations and Desired Outcomes



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