Below is our COVID-19 Update for January 13, 2021:

*The Senate is in recess. The House was in session to vote on impeachment but has now recessed.*

Developments from the Attack on the Capitol

Impeachment

* The House passed a resolution to impeach President Trump in a 232-197 vote this afternoon. Ten House Republicans voted to impeach President Trump along with all House Democrats.
  + The ten Republicans who voted for impeachment along with 222 Democrats were House Republican Conference Chairwoman Liz Cheney (R-WY) and Reps. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA), Dan Newhouse (R-WA), John Katko (R-NY), Adam Kinzinger (R-IL), Fred Upton (R-MI), Tom Rice (R-SC), Anthony Gonzalez (R-OH), David Valadao (R-CA), and Peter Meijer (R-MI).
    - * Leading up to the vote, a resolution was circulated among House Republicans calling for a special meeting of the Republican Conference to remove Rep. Cheney from her leadership position as Chair of the Republican Conference.
* During debate multiple leaders from both parties including House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-CA), who is seen as a close ally of President Trump, pointed to President Trump’s role in last week’s attack on the Capitol.
  + Leader McCarthy called for a censure resolution for President Trump’s actions during the Capitol riots and a fact-finding commission to investigate the attack but opposed impeaching President Trump.
* House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) indicated in an interview that the House may send the article of impeachment to the Senate immediately, though House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) has not committed to specific timing of transmittal. Procedurally, the Senate can accept the article of impeachment during a pro forma session, though no additional action can be taken.
* The House designated its impeachment managers, which include: Reps. Jamie Raskin (D-MD), Diana DeGette (D-CO), David Cicilline (D-RI), Joaquin Castro (D-TX), Eric Swalwell (D-CA), Ted Lieu (D-CA), Stacey Plaskett (D-VI), Madeleine Dean (D-PA), and Joe Neguse (D-CO).
* It continues to be unclear how many, if any, Senate Republicans would vote to convict President Trump under the article of impeachment. However, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) indicated today that he will not agree to calling the Senate back before their next scheduled business meeting, January 19, to begin the impeachment trial.
  + It was reported that Leader McConnell sent a note to Senate Republicans today stating, “While the press has been full of speculation, I have not made a final decision on how I will vote, and I intend to listen to the legal arguments when they are presented to the Senate."
  + Leader McConnell issued a [statement](https://www.mcconnell.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/2021/1/mcconnell-statement-on-senate-schedule) today, stating “given the rules, procedures, and Senate precedents that govern presidential impeachment trials, there is simply no chance that a fair or serious trial could conclude before President-elect Biden is sworn in next week.”
  + Leader McConnell went on to say that the Senate will begin its impeachment process at its first meeting following receipt of the article from the House. The Senate will next convene for business at noon on January 19, according to Leader McConnell’s office.
* Prior to the impeachment action, the House last night passed the resolution calling on Vice President Pence to invoke the 25th Amendment in a 223-205 vote. Earlier Tuesday night, before the vote, Vice President Pence sent a [letter](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/letter-speaker-nancy-pelosi-25th-amendment-resolution/) to House Speaker Pelosi saying that he would not invoke the 25th Amendment, as he did not "believe that such a course of action is in the best interest of our Nation or consistent with our Constitution."
  + Once that course of action was eliminated, the House moved forward on the single article of impeachment today.

Other Developments

* Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D-NY) and 26 other House Democrats introduced a resolution ([H.R. 276](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/276?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A117+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=11)) to establish a commission to investigate the attack on the Capitol. The commission would focus on the failures in security and intelligence to create recommendations for the Capitol Police.
* Rep. Rodney Davis (R-IL) and four other House Republicans introduced a bill ([H.R. 275](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/275?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A117+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=12)) to establish the National Commission on the Domestic Terrorist Attack Upon the United States Capitol.
* The Department of Defense approved members of the National Guard protecting the Capitol around the inauguration to carry lethal weapons beginning yesterday. As a reminder, thousands of National Guardsmen are currently in Washington, DC and are expected to remain in the District through Inauguration Day. Up to 15,000 National Guardsmen are expected to be in Washington, DC.
* There have been multiple developments related to technology companies and how they have responded to the attack.
  + YouTube announced yesterday that it will suspend President Trump’s channel for at least one week, citing policy violations. YouTube will also indefinitely disable comments on the channel’s videos. The channel will be permanently banned if it violates rules twice more.
  + European Commission Vice President Věra Jourová is the latest European official to express her concern over social media bans on President Trump and stress the need for stricter regulations and enforcement against social media platforms. Jourová argued that the best solution is the European Union’s Digital Services Act, which increases accountability and regulates content moderation.
  + The messaging app Telegram has been removing posts and groups related to last week’s violence at the Capitol. However, the app has not been able to keep up with the influx of new content as 25M new users have joined since the closure of Parler.
  + The Anti-Defamation League [asked](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.adl.org%2fnews%2fopen-letter-to-the-us-department-of-justice-adl-calls-for-a-criminal-investigation-of-gab&c=E,1,k8eJAapIimKJSx_aMO6l8V0oF5OUGJXDCdqiMNwXW-zKzbXE9qMOmEZv1STiB2i29Bv0Kwl5KhYSGHEs5xVQY62vNB97tIju57f8wBsSkZOgwrx0DtXR-A,,&typo=1) the Department of Justice to conduct an investigation into the social media platform Gab’s role in the attack on the Capitol, specifically if the app was used to plan and communicate during the attack. Gab is self- described as a platform that promotes “free speech, individual liberty and the free flow of information online" and has also seen a massive influx of new members since other platforms, including Parler, were shut down.
  + Google announced that it will pause all political ads on its platforms through at least January 21. The pause will apply to ads "referencing candidates, the election, its outcome, the upcoming presidential inauguration, the ongoing presidential impeachment process, violence at the U.S. Capitol, or future planned protests on these topics.”
  + Snapchat reportedly will permanently ban President Trump’s account on Inauguration Day, January 20 "in the interest of public safety and based on his attempts to spread misinformation, hate speech and incite violence,” according to a company spokesperson.

Election and Transition News

* President-elect Biden nominated Samantha Power to be Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Power served as Ambassador to the United Nations under President Obama.
* President-elect Biden’s nominee to be U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) Katherine Tai stated that she will pursue a “worker-centered” trade policy during a National Foreign Trade Council event. According to Tai, that means that “trade policy must benefit regular Americans, communities and workers” and view people as more than consumers.
  + The comments align more closely with comments on trade made by the Trump Administration and counter the theory that trade liberalization is beneficial across the board.

COVID-19

* President-elect Biden is expected to release his COVID-19 relief plan tomorrow, after briefing Congress on the plan yesterday. President-elect Biden has indicated that he wants bipartisan Congressional support to pass the plan, rather than relying on a partisan budget reconciliation process. The plan is expected to include:
  + $2,000 direct stimulus payments (increasing the current law by $1400).
  + Enhanced and extended unemployment benefits extension.
  + Funding for vaccine distribution.
  + State and local aid.
  + Funding for schools and childcare.
  + Funding for broadband.
* Despite President-elect Biden’s desire to pass his COVID-19 package with bipartisan support, Senate Democrats could turn to using the partisan budget reconciliation to move a relief package, if they fail to get bipartisan support. This process would allow the Democrats to pass a sweeping package without Republican support.
  + Incoming Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee Bernie Sanders (I-VT) said that he is working with Democratic leadership to create a reconciliation bill to address the health and economic crises. Though reconciliation is not President-elect Biden’s preferred method, as mentioned above, Senate Democrats have consulted his team regarding incoming Administration priorities.
* As rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine continues to occur slower than expected, Johnson & Johnson has reportedly experienced delays in its vaccine production putting the company up to two months behind schedule.
  + Johnson & Johnson had originally pledged 12M doses of its vaccine by the end of February and then 100M additional doses over the following four months.
  + This vaccine is seen as an important piece in the vaccination effort as it only requires one dose, instead of the two required by other leading vaccine candidates. The Johnson & Johnson vaccine also does not need to be stored at the same cold temperatures and does not use the mRNA approach used by the Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna vaccines.
* Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) and 43 other House Democrats introduced a resolution ([H.Res.42](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-resolution/42?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22congressId%3A117+AND+billStatus%3A%5C%22Introduced%5C%22%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=15)) to impose a $1,000 fine per day on any member of Congress who does not wear a mask while in the Capitol. A press release on the resolution can be found [here](https://debbiedingell.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=2814).
  + This proposal is in response to Reps. Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ), Pramila Jayapal (D-WA), and Brad Schneider (D-IL) testing positive for COVID-19 after being exposed during the attack on the Capitol and being confined with other Members who were not wearing masks.
* A study by Travel Again [found](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.travelagainproject.org%2fpost%2fnearly-one-in-four-travelers-won-t-take-covid-19-vaccine-once-available&c=E,1,BL0gQjp0RAqtvjDWz7p1ZvvIPyvUZ55B1Uye_8a6OX6uiW76gikYkWYzWjTn2LthFvzaqrlS-3QBntC4APxqKOLqV-LOQjOF6u2pS5ItLBaj&typo=1) that 36% of business air travelers and 30% of leisure travelers do not want to take a COVID-19 test or share their results, potentially complicating the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requirement for pre-flight testing for all international travelers which we reported on yesterday.
  + The same study indicated that 25% of business travelers and 20% of leisure travelers do not plan to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, which could also hinder a smooth return to air travel once the vaccine is more readily available.

Congress

Senate

* After originally being scheduled for January 19, outgoing Senate Armed Service Committee Chairman Jim Inhofe (R-OK) said that the confirmation hearing for retired General Lloyd Austin to be Secretary of Defense may be delayed to January 21.
  + Even with the hearing scheduled on January 19, it was unlikely that Gen. Austin would receive his waiver and be confirmed in time to assume his role at the Department of Defense by the time President-elect Biden was inaugurated.
* The Senate Finance Committee will hold its [hearing](https://www.finance.senate.gov/hearings/hearing-to-consider-the-anticipated-nomination-of-to-be-the-honorable-janet-l-yellen-to-secretary-of-the-treasury) to consider Janet Yellen to be President-elect Biden’s Secretary of Treasury on January 19.
* Incoming Senate Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-OR) outlined his priorities for tax legislation for the next year in a speech on the Senate floor.
  + Among his priorities are capital gains tax reform, closing the carried interest loophole and addressing energy-related tax provisions through the Clean Energy for America Act, legislation Sen. Wyden introduced last Congress.
    - * Sen. Wyden is seeking to, among other things, reorganize energy tax provisions into clean energy, energy efficiency and clean transportation.

House

* During a National Foreign Trade Council panel at the same event mentioned above, Rep. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL) said that President-elect Biden should consider restarting negotiations on a trade deal with Asia similar to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Rep. Murphy emphasized the importance of the TPP for competition with China and claimed that the Trump Administration leaving the TPP was an “economic and geostrategic mistake.”

Administration

* The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced that it will delay the increase in civil penalties on automakers that do not meet fuel economy requirements. The 150% higher penalties will now take effect in model year 2022, instead of model year 2021, which is expected to save automakers hundreds of millions of dollars.
* Political staff at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) made changes to weaken the health assessment completed by career scientists on perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS), a type of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS). PFBS is used as a replacement for another PFAS, perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), and could allow regulators to set less stringent cleanup standards but the new assessment would likely be reversed by the incoming Biden Administration.
  + PFBS is used in firefighting foam, carpeting, and food packaging and is estimated to be in the drinking water of 860,000 people.
* The Trump Administration is still expected to send a recission package to Congress this week to cut $800M in funding from the EPA, citing President Trump’s objections to the end-of-year funding package.
  + This recission package will not receive any support in Congress, but the Office and Management and Budget (OMB) can freeze the funds for 45 days.
* The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today held its final meeting of the Trump Administration and last meeting before Chairman Ajit Pai’s resignation. Commissioners adopted proposals on designating 12 GHz satellite airwaves for 5G wireless, auctioning 2.5 GHz airwaves, and announcing the winners of a $100M telehealth effort.
* The U.S. Air Force selected Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama as the new headquarters for U.S. Space Command. Huntsville is close to space industry centers including factories for the United Launch Alliance and Blue Origin.
  + As a reminder, U.S. Space Command is currently temporarily headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs.
* During a hearing today on a case involving payday lender AMG Capital Management, owned by former NASCAR driver Scott Tucker, the Federal Trade Commission’s (FTC) enforcement capabilities were called into question by the four conservative Supreme Court Justices. The conservative Justices indicated support for AMG Capital Management’s argument that Section 13(b) of the FTC Act only allows the FTC to ask for restitution if the case goes through the FTC’s in-house court.
  + As a reminder, AMG Capital Management is appealing a $1.3B restitution award ordered by the FTC who claimed that the lender deceived customers regarding their loan terms.

Other News

* The U.S. Chamber of Commerce released a list of international economic policy recommendations for Congress and President-elect Biden. The recommendations, which are attached, include legislation to decrease the ability of the president to impose tariffs, stating that tariffs should be “contingent on an affirming vote by both chambers of Congress.”
  + The Chamber also recommended repealing steel and aluminum tariffs, combatting Chinese economic policies, eliminating trade barriers on medical goods, renewing the Trade Promotion Authority, and reforming the World Trade Organization.
* Google [announced](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fblog.google%2foutreach-initiatives%2fpublic-policy%2four-continuing-support-dreamers%2f&c=E,1,WlBtxhvzvVmD0ZJeovkpVnrJjrNwK5GIxS8w6HIpRrtf-BRL8AkS5Ei6eHvd5Qcky2ztRUz--PzcROL1u1MAFi2TAqbE74u816S84B1meYc-VoR-3tIWZiG1PA,,&typo=1) a $250,000 grant to United We Dream in order to fund over 500 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) applications. Google called on the Biden Administration to pursue immigration policy that “improves employment-based visa programs" and "promotes better and more humane immigration processing and border security practices.”
  + As a reminder, the DACA program was implemented by the Obama-Biden Administration and has been a target for repeal under President Trump.
* AirBnB [announced](https://news.airbnb.com/airbnb-to-block-and-cancel-d-c-reservations-during-inauguration/) it would cancel all reservations for Washington, DC during the week of the inauguration in an effort to discourage guests from travelling to the nation’s capital. The company is also blocking new reservations from being made, refunding guests for their existing reservations, and compensating hosts for funds they will lose due to the canceled reservations.
  + The move comes as local officials, including Mayor Muriel Bowser, have discouraged travel to Washington, DC after last week’s attack.
* James Boasberg, District Judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, will oversee the antitrust suit filed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and state attorneys general against Facebook.
  + Boasberg previously oversaw a class action suit against Whole Foods’ merger with Wild Oats in 2008.
* A coalition of 18 states filed a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for not increasing national air quality standards for particulate matter. As a reminder, the EPA decided that changing soot standards would not significantly benefit public health last month.
  + The suit argues that the EPA’s review was “flawed and unlawfully biased,” as the current standards harm people in areas with high air pollution.
  + The lawsuit was filed by California, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.
* Airports Council International-North America (ACI-NA), and American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) sent a [letter](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fairportscouncil.org%2fwp-content%2fuploads%2f2021%2f01%2fACI-NA-and-AAAE-COVID-Relief-Letter-Jan-2021.pdf&c=E,1,fvw2l7datzfRcPyZmTna11qd498oPbOegz48ViKeFN73ukb9eKgykKdzlfEGtwOgVkeBQ1l5ELO4O9VDDcoqsOolw0ph-HSUwXKA_L4r2vTzAWCTLwWv&typo=1) to Congress today asking for an additional $17B in relief for airports to be included in the next COVID-19 package. ACI-NA also released an updated economic impact [analysis](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fairportscouncil.org%2fwp-content%2fuploads%2f2021%2f01%2fACI-NA-Economic-Impact-of-Coronavirus-on-US-Airports-2020-2021.pdf&c=E,1,G29jwm75Nq1My2peb82lsJUD8YpY3oqo7l-q_Ie_Tqr6DQ2RLYbMCuRNCnvJRO1YZ73e1HLifGqNzsduXNe6ekibS5kKRBlixpApjwwwnpnmm3VviRVNEQVe&typo=1), which found that airports will face $11.4B in lost operating revenue through March 2022.

Federal Register Notices

* The Department of Energy terminated the Biomass Research and Development Technical Advisory Committee (BR&D TAC), Methane Hydrate Advisory Committee (MHAC), and Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee (HTAC). The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00508%2fbiomass-research-and-development-technical-advisory-committee-methane-hydrate-advisory-committee&c=E,1,D6Zy66f7-Y3FW5aVcluy__Wxo5t_WajfXjOLSRIIwAzvZggEVya_8Jh3yvSy5sI8aLIcpYoT_TvykI_JDmEa3WgEOu7ezQFiqdrcfv9V8Q,,&typo=1).
* The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requested comments on the renewal of an information collection on Commercial Space Transportation Licensing Regulations, specifically regarding proposals for commercial space launches. Comments are due by March 15. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00480%2fagency-information-collection-activities-requests-for-comments-clearance-of-a-renewed-approval-of&c=E,1,ud9U-gSakt-zVESw-fhuAvtxg8OLkEm9v8luVckyDZVI3rnc1T61U3kP00BTkUQVRyJel4OzMSyw-xMFA05kckqYO3lsS0oD_lyHU6Ip7w9gP6Pj&typo=1).
* The FAA also requested comments on the renewal of an information collection on Commercial Space Transportation Reusable Launch Vehicle and Reentry Licensing Regulation, specifically regarding launch licenses and reentry operations. Comments are due by March 15. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00481%2fagency-information-collection-activities-requests-for-comments-clearance-of-a-renewed-approval-of&c=E,1,0iiqPFmsh3X8Z2gpj3zzE9ZuTaEJQVw1rIAB_d8z80fn_QzW90g5RDnKDTdvfvvU2IPWfCb8FHw6UpdRhCQ4hurvPO6eGrOZ0p8L7YDx3iwMjed3WZLxXA,,&typo=1).
* The FAA also requested comments on the renewal of an information collection on License Requirements for Operation of a Launch Site, specifically regarding launch site location analysis. Comments are due by March 15. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00482%2fagency-information-collection-activities-requests-for-comments-clearance-of-a-renewed-approval-of&c=E,1,TuYBbVMA_Chmoxm3EP7aFgxoB36kpZfhSnx0vZTdPJFtI33giHqQGVyS0jSBAHClN8PXNkhMLQgVyzpZqfbLS2jmzf3GOI6aJVE7ykpDE6uLXoCK-NPhrGB_FVA,&typo=1).
* The FAA released a summary of civil aircraft noise research programs and requested comments on how this research can be used to inform future aircraft noise policy. Comments must be submitted by March 15. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00564%2foverview-of-faa-aircraft-noise-policy-and-research-efforts-request-for-input-on-research-activities&c=E,1,42f6K5tC8YUN044lLoWBDcQQ2PxEKLzM5PpKizurI46W8qSdCYIkn32nO1CqAHJRqiRvLHjaFxTEXlA5QX0LIH_7HNeib_NrfZ03N7qTSnt1rZ99PJuCsH5M-g,,&typo=1).
* The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a final rule to publish a list of covered communications equipment and services determined to be a risk to national security. The equipment and services must be removed by eligible telecommunications carriers that receive universal service funding. The rule is effective March 15. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00052%2fprotecting-against-national-security-threats-to-the-communications-supply-chain-through-fcc-programs&c=E,1,bytW7YSDdYp8qaABlhvxZHceLeDM-kYX1PgzJ84wv5PiOqj9NNo3JWZA-emdEVBS0u5DVECYtAESGYS1SkfJPTjAeDJgAiux-VrmHnswsbqPbFUCFMOBPA,,&typo=1).
* The FCC implemented the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence (TRACED) Act to allow voice service providers to block one-ring scam calls, effective February 12. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2020-27652%2fprotecting-consumers-from-one-ring-scams&c=E,1,vFJMtkGqByUsNSmVPo3mDJ17rNBAnCXnJGoO10jHumBlWNMTsYa3Ml7oJGJOC5xQGSTZ0tWHo51kCoM292vEvXDAUUctz-FwqMR5RTd6JA,,&typo=1).
* The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced a meeting to implement the Voluntary Agreement for the Manufacture and Distribution of Critical Healthcare Resources Necessary to Respond to a Pandemic that will be held on January 15 from 2:00-4:00pm ET. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00505%2fmeeting-to-implement-pandemic-response-voluntary-agreement-under-section-708-of-the-defense&c=E,1,2zSnfFKc2SbepBVKTfG9aQCM3kKZ-KEMvv9Ab_ELIXSgAq9sgB9XzErkYlIemaww0MmIaKOFeNI-mtFgB9n585xcj4cZeoUOeDdmUxOzXUryPToa00pe---RxWg,&typo=1).
* The General Services Administration (GSA) announced a meeting of the Green Building Advisory Committee that will take place on January 28 from 11:00am-4:30pm ET. The meeting will discuss embodied energy, sustainable COVID-19 response, and energy storage. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00515%2foffice-of-federal-high-performance-buildings-green-building-advisory-committee-notification-of&c=E,1,1KZo6bpQP77JY71yqFwfjIDFgKvZL30FIFcSx5fMVpNlZtSVWwDKJ1eQTHBoedlQln0u2B8jvMQOiUQ6jpsvCRx71lwcXxEcCYTCZDtm3rSmEg,,&typo=1).
* The International Trade Administration announced a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Supply Chain Competitiveness that will be held on January 28 from 10:00am-12:00pm and 1:00-4:00pm ET. The meeting will discuss trade and competitiveness, freight movement and policy, trade innovation, regulatory issues, finance and infrastructure, and workforce development. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00496%2fadvisory-committee-on-supply-chain-competitiveness-notice-of-public-meetings&c=E,1,sCuQSH6VsfaNwTVNM7-wxK2S_g9fSxlwSb1eeQykh_4dHuLzLAbCNB5ABdQ2fsYqhV3Zq-SZOaE3FHYGSa_6t0CRp-XRKZsUqriCJQRJb6oO&typo=1).
* The Small Business Administration (SBA) amended 8(a) Business Development (BD) program regulations to extend program terms by one year, as authorized in the 2021 Appropriations Act and National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00602%2fextension-of-participation-in-8a-business-development-program&c=E,1,Gc74bWsUbO3LVmsWyTDygNFl72GjukavZkqhXuR06QSLMqnifvTSbT3HOOmbdTBhAqDqSppyb-mNtruifLmwc_U4n8PD2XMRVQ3OwyeLeXE,&typo=1).
* The Department of Transportation issued a final rule amending the maximum limit of Denied Boarding Compensation (DBC) that a carrier may provide to a passenger denied boarding involuntarily, effective April 13. The rule also prohibits airlines from involuntarily denying boarding to a passenger that has already boarded, except for safety and security purposes. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2020-28001%2fimplementing-certain-provisions-of-the-tickets-act-and-revisions-to-denied-boarding-compensation-and&c=E,1,RwMtZPityqHzK_aqfNd9lNcRrDCAFRURELBoz1WgLv8RKoA1tGz3LQuybd777OanYivK8-vVfeihvHovosFppcDfRrMV1gXuXuvM231srRCzgF9Fh0Hh&typo=1).
* The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission announced a public hearing on “U.S.-China Relations at the Chinese Communist Party's Centennial” that will be held on January 28 at 10:30am ET. The notice can be found [here](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.federalregister.gov%2fdocuments%2f2021%2f01%2f13%2f2021-00519%2fnotice-of-open-public-hearing&c=E,1,fosTawTG6gw0E5t0b7iH1b4fQqXr4mshLjnFbhYAgOsyZu4vqbUG_Ihtq4pw5frXSmxiSZVJrihMNef3oEO8vuq838wHQoXnU_8sCKEKwVtq&typo=1).