



November 9, 2023

by Steve Linton-Smith

HEADLINES

Sen. Manchin Not Running for Re-election

- **Sen. Joe Manchin (D-WV)** released a video today announcing his intention to forgo re-election to his seat in 2024.
- **His retirement increases** the likelihood that his seat will be won by Republican candidate and current West Virginia Governor Jim Justice.
- **Despite Manchin's independent streak**, re-election in his conservative-leaning home state would still have presented an uphill battle for the two term Senator. His retirement also increases the chances of a Republican takeover of the Senate in 2024 with Democrats defending 22 incumbent seats compared to the Republicans' 8 seats.

Nomination Blockade Update

- **Senate Republicans met on Tuesday** afternoon to discuss Sen. Tommy Tuberville's hold on all senior military promotions.
- **After the meeting, Sen. Tuberville told** reporters that "we've got several things that we can do... I understand the urgency."
- **Sen. Kyrsten Sinema (I-AZ) has been working** behind the scenes to craft a unique parliamentary motion that could allow the chamber to approve larger groups of military promotions. However, this option has yet to gain significant traction.
- **Those looking for an off-ramp** have suggested that the Alabama Senator either shift his hold to only civilian positions or move the underlying abortion travel funding matter to the court system.

Appropriations Update

- **Current temporary government funding expires** on November 17. As such, the House is considering several continuing resolution votes next week. Various options include continuing funding to mid-December, mid-January, or mid-April.
- **Meanwhile, the Senate** is looking to wrap up their FY24 spending activity by combining their remaining nine appropriations bills into a single package.

House 2024 Calendar Released

- **This week, House Majority Leader Scalise** [released](#) the House's 2024 schedule.
- **The schedule includes** notable breaks in July for party political conventions and six weeks off in the fall for the 2024 elections.



CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM CONGRESS THIS WEEK

November 9, 2023

RELATED NEWS

Allied Integration Essential to Deter Russian CBRN Use

10/23/2023, [The Atlantic Council](#)

- **In late October, the Atlantic Council** released their findings concerning “Conceptualizing Integrated Deterrence to Address Russian Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Escalation.”
- **The project was initiated to** develop an approach for incorporating European allies and partners into the U.S. model of integrated deterrence against Russian CBRN use.
- **Key findings** include:
 - Allies and partners are already making significant contributions to U.S. approaches to counter Russian CBRN threats in Europe.
 - Integrated deterrence is a useful frame for examining cooperation with European nations to counter Russia’s CBRN threats, but the U.S. government should use this framing to identify new opportunities.
 - To fully realize integrated deterrence, greater coordination among civilian and military communities is essential to enhancing resilience.
 - U.S. and European allies should remain vigilant about emerging threats, while leveraging new technological developments in detection and attribution systems and emergency response mechanisms.
 - U.S. and European allies must prepare to combat malign influence efforts, such as information influence activities, targeted assassinations, energy sabotage, and economic coercion.

China's Spy Agency Warns About Weaponized Gene Technology

10/31/2023, [Newsweek](#)

- **The top spy agency in China** recently warned about the threat of a genetic weapon targeting a particular race.
- **China’s Ministry of State Security (MSS) alleged** that foreign nation-states have been trying to collect human genetic data from China, without naming any specific country.
- **The MSS claimed** that an overseas NGO recruited Chinese nationals to collect “data and information on the distribution of biological species in various places” and made them “upload the collected data through an app.”