

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Mon 9/25/2017 5:03:58 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Morgan Stanley: CONGRESSIONAL AIDES trading stocks that could present conflicts of interest -- ANTHONY WEINER sentenced to 21 months -- BANNON tried to influence Facebook hiring

[View online version](#) | Add politicoplaybook@politico.com to your address book.

Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Morgan Stanley

By ANNA PALMER (anna@politico.com; [@apalmerdc](https://twitter.com/apalmerdc)), JAKE SHERMAN (sherman@politico.com; [@JakeSherman](https://twitter.com/JakeSherman)), DANIEL LIPPMAN (daniel@politico.com; [@dlippman](https://twitter.com/dlippman)), ZACH MONTELLARO (zmontellaro@politico.com; [@ZachMontellaro](https://twitter.com/ZachMontellaro))

Good Monday afternoon. THERE ARE ROUGHLY 40 LEGISLATIVE DAYS left in 2017.

THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE is aiming to publish a preliminary analysis of the Graham-Cassidy draft this afternoon. But, the analysis will be of the older bill, not the new legislation with changes. So, it matters a bit less.

-- ... BUT, BUT BUT: "Republicans brace for failure on Obamacare repeal: Skeptical GOP senators have yet to endorse the Graham-Cassidy bill, even after a flurry of 11th hour changes," by Burgess Everett and Josh Dawsey: "Republicans in the Senate and White House are increasingly resigned to defeat in their final bid to repeal Obamacare this week, despite a flurry of last-second revisions meant to win over skeptical senators.

"President Donald Trump seemed far more pessimistic on Monday morning than he had been last week, telling the 'Rick & Bubba' radio show that he expected crippling opposition, calling it 'disgusting' that party leaders can't pass a bill to repeal and replace the 2010 health law. Trump wants to continue the health care fight even though he is said to be resigned it will fail this time, a White House official said.

"Meanwhile, the latest version of the bill by Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Bill Cassidy (R-La.) has not yet moved any of the 'no' or undecided votes into the 'yes' column. GOP leaders have yet to pull the plug on the effort, but a massive change in dynamics must occur in the sharply divided Senate for the Graham-Cassidy measure to pass. Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.) is still opposed to the bill, an aide said on Monday morning. Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.) has also not changed his position, which hardened on Friday into a 'no' vote against his close friend Graham's legislation.

"And though the latest changes to the bill are intended to woo Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Susan Collins (R-Maine), Collins has not budged from her 'lean no' stance and Murkowski has yet to get on board." <http://politi.co/2xvLztS>

-- @elysepg: Murkowski flying from Alaska this morning, spending flight 'thinking about her decision,' per staff."

A GAME OF CONGRESSIONAL CHICKEN -- "House Democrats to oppose FAA extension," by Heather Caygle and Brianna Gurciullo: "House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi is attempting to block Republican attempts to expedite an FAA extension before the agency's current authority expires at week's end. Pelosi said in a statement that the 'sprawling' bill goes far beyond just extending federal aviation programs and includes many provisions that don't have Democratic backing, including language dealing with the federal flood insurance program and tax credits for hurricane victims. The Democratic leader also cited Republican inaction on the Dream Act - the bipartisan bill that would provide a path to citizenship for some young, undocumented immigrants - as reason for her opposition." <http://politi.co/2wflbhR>

MUST READ -- POLITICO INVESTIGATION -- "Congressional aides risk conflicts with stock trades," by Maggie Severns: "A POLITICO review of federal disclosures for 2015 and 2016 found that some senior aides regularly buy and sell individual stocks that present potential conflicts of interest with their work. A smaller number of staffers trade in companies that lobby Congress and the committees that employ them. In all, approximately 450 aides have bought or sold a stock of more than \$1,001 in value since May 2015.

"That's likely just the tip of the iceberg, since most congressional aides aren't required to report their trades. Only those in positions earning more than \$124,406 per year must reveal their investments. Of the 12,500 staffers working for lawmakers, committees and leadership offices, only about 1,700 make that much, according to data compiled by Legistorm and the Brookings Institution. Government watchdogs say that, at a minimum, staffers should be prevented from buying shares of companies with business before their committees. But they are not. And despite the disparity between the rigorous standards for the executive branch and the laxness of Congress, the House and Senate have taken a permissive approach even to enforcing existing rules." <http://politi.co/2yBYr1L>

SCOOP -- THE LATEST ON IMMIGRATION REFORM -- "GOP senators to unveil new 'Dreamers' bill," by Seung Min Kim: "A new Senate GOP proposal is being released Monday that creates a pathway to legalization for so-called Dreamers, but it won't allow them to sponsor family members to the United States - one of several provisions that make the bill far more conservative than other relief measures for young undocumented immigrants. The lead Republican writers of the bill - Sens. Thom Tillis of North Carolina and James Lankford of Oklahoma - have touted their plan as a more GOP-friendly vision for the fate of young undocumented immigrants in the United States, especially compared to the Dream Act led by Sens. Dick Durbin (D-III.) and Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.).

"Tillis and Lankford hope their legislation, called the Succeed Act, can win support

from conservatives as Congress scrambles for a fix following the White House's decision to begin revoking work permits and deportation protections early next year for hundreds of thousands of Dreamers." <http://politi.co/2yogCqW>

THE ONE AMERICA APPEAL, the hurricane relief fundraiser spearheaded by all the living former presidents, will be expanded to include hurricane relief for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands after they were devastated by Hurricane Maria. **Donation page** <http://bit.ly/2y3k26q>

***** **A message from Morgan Stanley** : A Morgan Stanley survey found that interest in sustainable investing is stronger than ever, with 75% of individual investors polled- and 86% of Millennials-expressing interest. The survey examined the attitudes, perceptions and behaviors of individual investors toward sustainable investing and considers the broader implications for investors, corporations and governments. [Read more.](#) *****

MEDIAWATCH -- WSJ's MIKE BENDER (@MichaelCBender): "GREAT NEWS: Two heavies coming to WSJ - the talented @bykowicz is covering money & politics, & grizzled vet Mike Gordon joins natsec team!"

WEINER SENTENCED -- "Weiner sentenced to 21 months in prison for latest sexting scandal," by POLITICO NY's Laura Nahmias: "Former congressman Anthony Weiner was sentenced to 21 months in prison and three years of supervised release in federal court in Manhattan Monday after pleading guilty in May to transmitting obscene material to a minor. 'The difference here is that this is a very strong compulsion,' said Judge Denise Cote in handing down the sentence, saying that compulsion was evidence by 'the destruction of his career on two occasions.' Weiner, who was unaccompanied by his wife Huma Abedin, buried his face in his hands on hearing the sentence." <http://politi.co/2yC2WJO>

UPPING THE ANTE -- "North Korea's foreign minister: Trump's words are 'clearly a declaration of war'" <http://politi.co/2y3Gs7g>

ON THE PRESIDENT'S MIND -- @realDonaldTrump at 7:25 a.m.: "So proud of NASCAR and its supporters and fans. They won't put up with disrespecting our Country or our Flag - they said it loud and clear!" ... **at 7:31 a.m.:** "Many people booed the players who kneeled yesterday (which was a small percentage of total). These are fans who demand respect for our Flag!" ... **at 7:39 a.m.:** "The issue of kneeling has nothing to do with race. It is about respect for our Country, Flag and National Anthem. NFL must respect this!" ... **at 7:44 a.m.:** "The White House never looked more beautiful than it did returning last night. Important meetings taking place today. Big tax cuts & reform." ... **at 9:02 a.m.:** "#StandForOurAnthem" ***The president also retweeted a photo of Pat Tillman, the former NFL player who joined the military and died in Afghanistan.***

-- **NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr. (@DaleJr)**: "All Americans R granted rights 2 peaceful protests Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent

revolution inevitable-JFK" ... **@bylindsayhones:** "NFL spokesman Lockhart: 'If the president wants to engage in something positive and constructive, he knows our number.'"

BANNON VS. THE VALLEY -- "Steve Bannon Sought To Infiltrate Facebook Hiring," by BuzzFeed News' Joseph Bernstein: "Steve Bannon plotted to plant a mole inside Facebook, according to emails sent days before the Breitbart boss took over Donald Trump's campaign and obtained by BuzzFeed News. The email exchange with a conservative Washington operative reveals the importance that the giant tech platform -- now reeling from its role in the 2016 election -- held for one of the campaign's central figures.

"And it also shows the lengths to which the brawling new American right is willing to go to keep tabs on and gain leverage over the Silicon Valley giants they used to help elect Trump -- but whose executives they also see as part of the globalist enemy. The idea to infiltrate Facebook came to Bannon from Chris Gacek, a former congressional staffer who is now an official at the Family Research Council, which lobbies against abortion and many LGBT rights." <http://bzfd.it/2yB4Wln>

-- **"No one is tracking the illegal political ads in your Facebook feed,"** by Vice News' Alex Thompson and Noah Kulwin: "On Facebook and other digital platforms, no one -- not Facebook or the [FEC] -- vets political content that's backed by advertising dollars. This, experts warn, has turned Facebook into a vast, opaque, and unmonitored world where political advocacy has become hard to distinguish from political advertising." <http://bit.ly/2yBnm5D>

THE LATEST ON RUSSIA -- "White House stonewalls Capitol Hill over records in Russia probe," by CNN's Manu Raju and Jeremy Herb: "Tension is rising between congressional investigators probing Russia meddling and the Trump administration, as the White House and Justice Department withhold a number of records sought by Capitol Hill at a critical time in the investigations. Operating on parallel tracks from special counsel Robert Mueller, the three congressional committees probing Russia's election meddling have asked for scores of documents related to everything from Jared Kushner's security clearance to records surrounding President Donald Trump's discussions with James Comey before he was fired as FBI director.

"At the same time, the GOP leader of the House intelligence committee is threatening to hold a public hearing this week over documents the Justice Department has so far failed to turn over to Capitol Hill regarding the FBI's ties to a British operative who compiled a dossier of allegations on Trump's connections with Russia. And the GOP-led Senate judiciary committee is in a growing standoff with the Justice Department's deputy attorney general, Rod Rosenstein, over several issues, including the department's decision to prevent two senior FBI officials from sitting down for transcribed interviews on Capitol Hill to provide eyewitness accounts of the Comey firing.

"While the Trump campaign has provided lawmakers with thousands of pages of documents thus far, there are numerous requests where the White House, FBI and Justice Department have missed the committees' deadlines, prompting some committee members to threaten to issue subpoenas to the West Wing and Justice Department." <http://cnn.it/2y36LL1>

HISTORY LESSON -- "Segregation lingers in US schools 60 years after Little Rock," by the AP's Errin Haines Whack and Andrew DeMillo: "Six decades later, the sacrifice of those black students stands as a symbol of the turbulence of the era, but also as a testament to an intractable problem: Though legal segregation has long ended, few white and minority students share a classroom today. The lack of progress is clear and remains frustrating in the school district that includes Central High. The Little Rock School District, which is about two-thirds black, has been under state control since 2015 over the academic performance of some of its schools. The district has seen a proliferation of charter schools in recent years that opponents say contributes to self-segregation." <http://bit.ly/2yBBRGA>

TRUMP IS ALL IN ON STRANGE -- "Trump calls 'Rick & Bubba,' calls Roy Moore 'Ray' as he stumps for Strange," by AL.com's Leader Gore: "A primary win by 'Ray' Moore would open Alabama's U.S. Senate seat to Democrats, President Donald Trump told radio-hosts 'Rick and Bubba' this morning. Trump called the popular syndicated radio show on Monday morning, just days after appearing at a Huntsville, Alabama rally for Republican Senate nominee Luther Strange.

"Luther Strange is going to be a great Senator," Trump said. 'He loves Alabama, he loves the states and he loves the country. He will absolutely win against the Democrat. Ray will have a hard time. If Luther wins, the Democrats will hardly fight. If Ray wins (Democrats) will pour in \$30 million.' When host Rick Burgess clarified that Moore's first name was Roy and not Ray, Trump came back with why it's 'not a good sign' when the president doesn't know your name." <http://bit.ly/2y3o3Ya>

THE DEMOCRATIC GRASSROOTS -- "This is the party boss driving Democrats to the left," by McClatchy's Alex Roarty: "'In some ways, we're the biggest obstacle in our own pathway to success,' [Ilyse] Hogue told her coffee-house crowd, summing up an argument she's made in countless op-eds and interviews. 'By buying into abortion stigma, by not talking about it, by not grounding it in common values, by not having the conversation that needs to be had, we're letting them off the hook.' For the 48-year-old, this point of view comes naturally. She has spent a lifetime in liberal activism, taking on radical projects that might seem far-fetched to some but are at the heart of her mission to change how the nation functions." <http://bit.ly/2yBdGrD>

WEEKEND WEDDINGS -- Joseph Henchman, EVP at the Tax Foundation, on Saturday married **Ethan Bishop,** an operations associate at the R Street Institute, in a ceremony at the Washington National Cathedral. **Pic** <http://bit.ly/2wO1zdl>

SPOTTED: Scott Hodge, Scott Drenkard, Michael Vogler, Kyle Pomerleau, Nicole

Kaeding, Eli Lehrer, Arthur Rizer, Zach Graves, Devin Hartman, Kevin Kosar, Garrett Watson, Trevor Burrus and Heather Kartsch, Dan Rothschild, Nigel Ashford, Max Behlke, Art Rosen, Stephen Kranz, Tori Bell, Stacey Chamberlin, Mike Godwin, Dave Weigel, Kevin Lees, Heidi Heilig, Hunter Koski and Andrew Moylan.

-- Kay Hagan alumni **Travis Cooke** and **Dorothy Allen** were married Saturday night at an outdoor ceremony in Charleston, S.C. The couple was introduced in the summer of 2012 in DC. Cooke is a senior policy fellow at the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, and Allen is a support services advocate at DC SAFE. *Pic*
<http://bit.ly/2xEParH>

***** **A message from Morgan Stanley** : Interest in sustainable investing has held steady, and on some fronts grown, according to a new survey published by the Morgan Stanley Institute for Sustainable Investing. The second edition of the survey, Sustainable Signals, examines the attitudes, perceptions and behaviors of individual investors towards sustainable investing and considers the broader implications for investors, corporations and governments. Individual investors, led by Millennials, increasingly see this as a normal and desirable element of any portfolio. 75% of investors-and 86% of Millennials-are interested in sustainable investing, a rise from the previous survey. Investors report an uptick in sustainability-minded investment decisions since 2015 (38%, up from 32%). "As widespread attention to sustainability continues to increase, consumers and investors alike are now more than ever factoring sustainability issues into their investment decisions," said Audrey Choi, Chief Sustainability Officer and Chief Marketing Officer at Morgan Stanley. [Read more of the results.](#) *****

SUBSCRIBE to the Playbook family: **POLITICO Playbook** <http://politi.co/2lQswbh> ... **Playbook Power Briefing** <http://politi.co/2xuOiqh> ... **New York Playbook** <http://politi.co/1ON8bqW> ... **Florida Playbook** <http://politi.co/1OypFe9> ... **New Jersey Playbook** <http://politi.co/1HLKItF> ... **Massachusetts Playbook** <http://politi.co/1Nhtq5v> ... **Illinois Playbook** <http://politi.co/1N7u5sb> ... **California Playbook** <http://politi.co/2bLvcPI> ... **London Playbook** <http://politi.co/2xfDPuK> ... **Brussels Playbook** <http://politi.co/1FZeLcw> ... **All our political and policy tipsheets** <http://politi.co/1M75UbX>
[View online](#)

To change your alert settings, please go to <https://secure.politico.com/settings>

This email was sent to jackson.ryan@epa.gov by: POLITICO, LLC 1000 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA, 22209, USA

Please click [here](#) and follow the steps to unsubscribe.
