

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
Sent: Thur 9/14/2017 5:37:38 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by CTIA: TRUMP says 'we have to have a wall' and GOP leaders are 'very on board' -- REPUBLICANS positioning DACA conversations as a starting point -- EDWARD FELSENTHAL named new editor of TIME

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

Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by CTIA

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)) and ZACH MONTELLARO (zmontellaro@politico.com; [@ZachMontellaro](https://twitter.com/ZachMontellaro))

Good Thursday afternoon from Capitol Hill, where the House just wrapped up a marathon voting session where the chatter was all about immigration and how the president practices politics.

HAPPENING THIS AFTERNOON - Join POLITICO Pro and **TREASURY SECRETARY STEVEN MNUCHIN** today at 4 p.m. at the Omni Shoreham Hotel for a conversation about Tax Reform and The Trump Administration. Admission is free and open to the public. **Details** <http://politi.co/2xBqLUH> ... **Highlights from the Pro Policy Summit so far** <http://politi.co/2y0NqpF>

SOMETHING TO ASK MNUCHIN ABOUT -- "Big Six remain divided over basic elements of tax reform," by Brian Faler: "The 'Big Six' are deeply divided over how to rewrite the tax code, including how to finance long-promised cuts in individual and corporate rates. Though House Republicans are promising to release a plan the week of Sept. 25, the top congressional and administration negotiators remain at loggerheads over a number of items, including plans to reduce a deduction for state and local taxes, as well as one for corporate interest expenses.

'Right now, the Senate and the House are pretty far apart,' said one Republican aide. 'There's serious frustration.'

"Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), himself a member of the Big Six, fired a warning shot Thursday, saying his panel will not be a 'rubber stamp' for whatever is proposed.

One major issue is whether to adopt a plan that would allow companies to immediately deduct the cost of their investments, sources say." <http://politi.co/2x2lm61>

HERE'S THE LATEST ON THE DACA DEAL...

-- **DON'T EXPECT A QUICK PROCESS.** Republicans are positioning **PRESIDENT**

DONALD TRUMP'S negotiation with Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer as a starting point. **SPEAKER PAUL RYAN** said there was "no agreement" and that "the president understands he's going to have to work with the congressional majorities to get any kind of legislative solution." **SENATE MAJORITY LEADER MITCH MCCONNELL** issued a statement saying "we look forward to receiving the Trump administration's legislative proposal as we continue to work on these issues."

-- **THE REALITY:** Republicans will not be on the sidelines for this negotiation. This won't come to the floor this month, and might not come to the floor in the early part of next month. Republicans -- who have the majority in both chambers -- are in control of what legislation makes it to the floor.

-- **DEMOCRATS** on Capitol Hill are feeling as optimistic as we've seen this year. One senior Democratic lawmaker came off the floor, predicting that DACA was just the first of many things Trump and Democrats are going to be able to work together on.

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP said "we have to have a wall. If the wall is going to be obstructed, when we need the funds at a little bit later date -- we'll be determining how much we need -- then we're not doing anything," when he landed at Fort Myers, Florida to survey the damage from Hurricane Irma. He said Republicans were on board and that "we'll only do it if we get extreme security ... Ultimately we have to have the wall. If we don't have the wall, we're doing nothing. ... If I don't get the wall, then we will become the obstructionists." *Video, where Trump also talks about taxes*
<http://bit.ly/2xAM0WL>

-- **He also encouraged** Florida Gov. Rick Scott to run for Senate.
<http://politi.co/2xBnYlt>

WHAT'S IN A WORD -- @kaitlancollins: "A White House spokesman says the Trump administration 'will not discuss amnesty.' 'What they will discuss is a responsible path forward.' ... That 'responsible path,' @LWalters45 says, could include 'legal citizenship over a period of time.' ... When asked for her definition of amnesty, she said: 'I'm not going to sit here and litigate what the definition of amnesty is.'"

FROM THE RANK AND FILE -- "Trump diehards divided over DACA deal," by Kyle Cheney and Ted Hesson: "President Donald Trump's apparent deal with Democrats to shield some undocumented immigrants from deportation -- without demanding funding for a border wall -- is dividing some of his most ardent conservative backers. ... But many conservatives on Capitol Hill made clear this week that there is, in fact, a window for the president to win buy-in from the right for a deal that would protect some undocumented immigrants -- those who arrived in the country as minors -- in exchange for stepped-up immigration enforcement measures. ...

"I think [a deal] is entirely possible if we try to get the political rhetoric out of it and actually look for real solutions,' Rep. Mark Meadows (R-N.C.), chairman of the House Freedom Caucus, told reporters Wednesday. 'We're going to have to deal with it. So we

might as well put forth a conservative effort to deal with the immigration issue broadly."
<http://politi.co/2y8U7Xz>

***** **A message from CTIA and America's wireless industry:** The global race to deploy 5G wireless is on-and America needs to win. Government action on spectrum and infrastructure policy will allow U.S. wireless companies to invest \$275 billion, create more than 3 million jobs, and add \$500 billion to the economy, according to Accenture. Learn more at CTIA.org. *****

BREAKING -- CBS'S MOSHEH OINOUNOU (@mosheh): "Former CIA Deputy Director @MichaelJMorell resigns as Senior Fellow at Harvard Kennedy school over their hiring of Chelsea Manning" <http://bit.ly/2wbYkwp>

REMEMBER THE IRAN DEAL FIGHT? -- "U.S. Expected to Keep Iran Nuclear Deal in Place for Now," by WSJ's Felicia Schwartz and Laurence Norman: "President Donald Trump on Thursday is expected to extend sanctions relief to Iran, U.S. officials said, retaining for now the U.S. commitment to the landmark 2015 nuclear agreement, whose fate nonetheless remains uncertain. As part of the international deal, the U.S. agreed to waive a wide range of sanctions on Iran and must renew the waiver every 120 days. Thursday is the deadline for renewing that waiver. While Mr. Trump is expected to renew the waiver and extend U.S. sanctions relief, he also is nearing another deadline in October to certify to Congress that Iran is in compliance with the terms of the nuclear deal." <http://on.wsj.com/2xBEbA5>

WAR REPORT -- "U.S. Military: American ISIS Fighter Reportedly 'Surrenders'," by The Daily Beast's Betsy Woodruff and Spencer Ackerman: "Multiple spokespersons for the U.S. military have told The Daily Beast that they are aware of reports that an American fighting in Syria for the so-called Islamic State has been taken into custody. A source familiar with the situation told The Daily Beast that the American was captured by Kurdish forces. Both of the spokespeople indicated that the fighter 'surrendered.' In either case, the detention of an American fighting for ISIS on an active battlefield would set up a major decision for Donald Trump about the future of wartime captures.

"According to The Daily Beast's source, the U.S. citizen was initially taken into custody by the Syrian Democratic Forces, the mostly Kurdish local proxy that the American military is using to fight ISIS on the ground in Syria. That source said the Kurds then turned the captive over to American forces. It is not clear where the American is currently being held. Neither the U.S. military command overseeing the war against ISIS nor the Justice Department, which plays a substantial role in deciding what to do with U.S. citizen detainees, are disputing this reporting." <http://thebea.st/2xBJKOS>

FORMER REP. DAVID DREIER (R-CALIF.) has won Mexico's highest honor to foreign nationals, the Aztec Eagle, for his support and work on the U.S.-Mexican relationship.

BEYOND THE BELTWAY - "New York's buildings emit most of its greenhouse gases. The mayor has a plan to change that," by WaPo's Brady Dennis and Kayla

Epstein: "New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio (D) [announced] plans Thursday to force thousands of aging buildings there to become more energy efficient, a first-of-its-kind initiative intended to make the Big Apple a national leader in reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. The initiative would mandate that owners of existing buildings larger than 25,000 square feet invest in more efficient heating and cooling systems, insulation and hot-water heaters in the years ahead. If approved by the City Council, the requirements would apply to about 14,500 private and municipal buildings, which the mayor's office says collectively account for nearly a quarter of New York City's emissions. Most buildings would need to comply with new efficiency targets by 2030, or their owners would face penalties." <http://wapo.st/2y7y1od>

TRACKING TRUMP'S DONATIONS -- "Houston Humane Society gets letter, donation from Donald Trump," by the Houston Chronicle's Fernando Alfonso III: "The president and Melania Trump sent a letter and \$25,000 to the Houston Humane Society to help with ongoing rescue and housing efforts following Hurricane Harvey. 'Animals are truly non-partisan members of society, can use help from both sides of the aisle,' said Sherry Ferguson, executive director for the Houston Humane Society, according to a Facebook post Thursday morning. 'Our shelter is so grateful for the first family's decision to make animals a top priority as Houstonians work to rebuild our city from the devastation left behind by Harvey.'" <http://bit.ly/2xACQcP>

MORE ON THE SONIC ATTACK ON DIPLOMATS -- "Attacked in bed, safe a few feet away: Cuba mystery deepens," by the AP's Josh Lederman, Michael Weissenstein and Matt Lee: "The blaring, grinding noise jolted the American diplomat from his bed in a Havana hotel. He moved just a few feet, and there was silence. He climbed back into bed. Inexplicably, the agonizing sound hit him again. It was as if he'd walked through some invisible wall cutting straight through his room.

"Soon came the hearing loss, and the speech problems, symptoms both similar and altogether different from others among at least 21 U.S. victims in an astonishing international mystery still unfolding in Cuba. The top U.S. diplomat has called them 'health attacks.' New details learned by The Associated Press indicate at least some of the incidents were confined to specific rooms or even parts of rooms with laser-like specificity, baffling U.S. officials who say the facts and the physics don't add up. ... Suspicion initially focused on a sonic weapon, and on the Cubans. Yet the diagnosis of mild brain injury, considered unlikely to result from sound, has confounded the FBI, the State Department and U.S. intelligence agencies involved in the investigation." <http://bit.ly/2xAFaAr>

JOHN JUDIS in THE NEW REPUBLIC -- "Redoing the Electoral Math: I argued that demographics favored the Democrats. I was wrong": "On one level, there's no arguing with the math. If you take the percentage of Americans that the U.S. census defines as 'minorities' and project their past voting habits into the next decade and beyond, you'll come up with a very sunny version of the Democrats' prospects. There are only two problems with this line of thinking, but they're pretty big ones. For starters, the census prediction of a 'majority-minority' America -- slated to arrive in 2044 -- is deeply flawed.

And so is the notion that ethnic minorities will always and forever continue to back Democrats in Obama-like numbers." <http://bit.ly/2xBpr4h>

MEDIAWATCH -- EDWARD FELSENTHAL will be the new editor in chief of TIME, the magazine announced today. He was previously the digital director of Time Inc.'s News and Lifestyle groups and the digital editor at TIME. **Release** <http://ti.me/2xBr2a3>

-- **CHRIS WALLACE** resigned with Fox News until "well past the 2020 election," he said in a news release distributed by Fox News.

--"**The David Carr Generation: More than a dozen mentees of the late journalist remember the lessons he imparted,**" by Mikaela Lefrak in The Atlantic: "Carr had an unusual gift for recognizing young talent, and an equally unusual willingness to pull that talent up the ladder with him. He hired us for internships and jobs, edited our stories, sent out emails on our behalf, invited us to meetings we were really too junior to be a part of, and introduced us to his most successful and famous friends. But most important of all was this: He told us again and again that we had something special. We were smart, he told us. We were worthy. And we believed him, because he was the best guy we knew." **Featuring Amy Chozick, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Jake Tapper, Brian Stelter, and many more** <http://theatl.in.tc/2xBe3W8>

-- **GLAMOUR'S** editor in chief Cindi Leive is quitting, the fourth major magazine editor in a week to do so. **NYT's Katherine Rosman with an interview** <http://nyti.ms/2xBXRE8>

BUSINESS BURST -- JPMORGAN CHASE & CO. announced a \$40 million investment over three years in Chicago's South and West Sides. They will partner with employers and training institutions to train residents, invest in neighborhood projects, help grow small businesses and help create financially healthy families, according to a press release. *More details* <http://bit.ly/2y8muoR>

TRANSITIONS -- Carol Danko has been hired by the Overseas Private Investment Corporation to be their managing director of communications, a job she starts Monday. She most recently was VP of public affairs at SIFMA and is a Michael Grimm and Peter King alum. ... **Chris Chafin** has been hired as senior publicity manager for BBC Global News Limited, where he'll oversee media relations in the Americas for the BBC World Service, BBC World News, and BBC.com. He was previously senior communications manager at the Financial Times. ... **Jake Wilkins** has joined Secretary Perdue's communications office at the Department of Agriculture. Wilkins worked in the RNC's press shop and is an alum of multiple Senate offices (h/t Kevin Cirilli)

WELCOME TO THE WORLD - James Kotecki, principal at the Kotecki Group and a Politico alum, and **Emily Kotecki**, manager of interpretation at the North Carolina Museum of Art, recently welcomed Maya Ruth Kotecki. **Pic with her big brother Max - James'** caption: "This is the kind of picture that really makes fatherhood worth it." <http://politi.co/2wrDkNb>

BONUS BIRTHDAY: Errol Cockfield, SVP of MSNBC media relations. (h/t Tyree Rush)

***** **A message from CTIA and America's wireless industry:** Tomorrow's 5G networks will create 3 million jobs, add \$500 billion to the economy, and fuel innovation and entrepreneurialism across every sector. If policymakers move quickly to release more spectrum and modernize infrastructure rules, the wireless industry stands ready to invest \$275 billion to build these next-gen networks, according to Accenture. This will drive breakthrough advancements in remote health care, connected vehicles, energy, education and beyond-making our lives better and safer. But the race to deploy 5G wireless networks is underway-and we're at a critical moment. The EU, China, Japan, South Korea and others are doing everything they can to win. If policymakers act now, the U.S. can continue our global leadership in wireless. Learn how at CTIA.org. *****

SUBSCRIBE to the Playbook family: **POLITICO Playbook** <http://politi.co/2lQswbh> ... **Playbook Power Briefing** <http://politi.co/2tkzpBJ> ... **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.
