To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman
Sent: Mon 5/22/2017 5:35:39 PM
Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD): TRUMP visits the Western Wall -- N.C. districts ruled unconstitutional by SCOTUS -- ZUCKERBERG says he's not running for office -- BRIAN STELTER's first kid

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)
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Happy Monday afternoon.

A BUNCH OF IMPORTANT NEWS BITES FROM THIS MORNING -- BLOOMBERG'S MARGARET TALEV asked Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about President Donald Trump sharing Israeli intelligence with Russia. Trump said: "I never mentioned the word or the name Israel. Never mentioned during that conversation," he said. "They're all saying I did, so you have another story wrong. Never mentioned the word Israel." Netanyahu said cooperation between the U.S. and Israel on intelligence matters has never been better. (via pooler Carol Lee of the WSJ) ***Video*** http://bit.ly/2rKRGXi

-- FOR THE RECORD: No reports ever suggested the president directly mentioned that any intelligence was from Israel. In fact, H.R. McMaster pointedly said Trump did not know the source of the intelligence.

IN THE OLD CITY -- PRESIDENT TRUMP, First Lady Melania Trump, Jared Kushner, Ivanka Trump, Gary Cohn, David Friedman, Jason Greenblatt, Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, National Security Adviser Gary Cohn Sean Spicer, Hope Hicks and Dina Powell visited the Western Wall in Jerusalem, becoming the first sitting president to do so. From our colleague Annie Karni, today's pooler: "Trump touched the Wall with his right hand and stared straight ahead, swaying back and forth slightly. After a long, reflective pause in that position, he stuck his note into a crack in the wall (Spicer said he would get back to us about what the note said). Trump then took a deep sigh, turned toward the cameras and media, and seemed to mouth 'thank you' at the press riser."

NETANYAHU and his wife Sara later gave the president and first lady a tour of the prime minister's residence and presented the Trumps with a 150-year-old bible. In statements afterward, Netanyahu said that "for the first time in my lifetime, I see a real hope for change" in the Middle East and declared that "there's no city on earth where you are more welcome than right here with us in Jerusalem." Trump praised his host for "his commitment to pursuing the peace process." He said they're "working very hard at

it. It's not easy. I've heard it's one of the toughest deals of all. But I have a feeling we're going to get there eventually. I hope."

SARA NETANYAHU talks with Melania Trump about how Israelis love her even if the media doesn't. http://bit.ly/2q2LMo1

-- BULLETIN: "WASHINGTON (AP) - AP Source: Michael Flynn to decline Senate Intel committee subpoena, invoke 5th Amendment later today." **REMEMBER** : Top officials in the Trump White House -- like Sean Spicer and Reince Priebus -- had previously equated pleading the fifth to guilt when Hillary Clinton's aides were involved.

-- MORE NEWS: "ANKARA, Turkey (AP) - Turkey summons U.S. ambassador to protest 'aggressive' action against Turkish bodyguards in Washington." **AP'S JOSH LEDERMAN** notes that U.N. Ambassador Nikki Haley has just landed in Ankara.

NIKKI HALEY ON NORTH KOREA to Craig Melvin on TODAY: "All options are on the table ... We have made it very clear we don't want to start a fight, so don't give us a reason to have one." She also talked about Syria, saying "you are going to hear me talk about how awful Assad is every chance I get." ***Video*** http://on.today.com/2rL83Ts

BACK TO THE DRAWING BOARD -- "Supreme Court rules North Carolina congressional districts unconstitutional," by Scott Bland and Elena Schneider: "The Supreme Court ruled today that two North Carolina congressional districts were drawn unconstitutionally, affirming a previous district court decision against the state's redistricting and leaving in place a remedial congressional map drawn for the 2016 elections, pending an additional gerrymandering case. The ruling centered on two Democratic-held districts and found that Republican state legislators, in drawing the congressional map earlier this decade, 'packed' African-American voters into those districts to dilute the power of their votes in other congressional seats. ...

"While this Supreme Court ruling will not result in additional changes to the North Carolina congressional map, there is another case pending before the Supreme Court, suing North Carolina legislators over the remedial map that was draw in 2015. This suit accuses the Republican legislators of gerrymandering based on partisanship, a new legal tack that Democrats are pushing in several court cases around the country. ... Justices Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Sonia Sotomayor joined Kagan in the majority alongside Clarence Thomas - an unusual majority combination." http://politi.co/2rL1ujZ

-- @charlescwcooke: "Unusual, but makes sense as Thomas's view is that all racial-based gerrymandering-inc. in VRA- is unconstitutional."

****** **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)** As list prices for brand drugs continue to rise, employers are partnering with PBMs to keep drug costs under control. In fact, every dollar an employer invests in a PBM service returns six dollars in savings. Learn more at www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org. ******

TRACKING THE PRESIDENT -- POLITICO has set up a new Twitter account for our unofficial White House visitor logs. Our colleagues are tracking who visits the White House from our sources, media reports and more and this Twitter account will now tweet out a daily digest of who stopped by the White House. http://bit.ly/2rKWU5j

DRAIN THE SWAMP? -- "White House Moves to Block Ethics Inquiry Into Ex-Lobbyists on Payroll," by NYT's Eric Lipton: "The Trump administration, in a significant escalation of its clash with the government's top ethics watchdog, has moved to block an effort to disclose any ethics waivers granted to former lobbyists who now work in the White House or federal agencies.

"The latest conflict came in recent days when the White House, in a highly unusual move, sent a letter to Walter M. Shaub Jr., the head of the Office of Government Ethics, asking him to withdraw a request he had sent to every federal agency for copies of the waivers. In the letter, the administration challenged his legal authority to demand the information. Dozens of former lobbyists and industry lawyers are working in the Trump administration, which has hired them at a much higher rate than the previous administration. Keeping the waivers confidential would make it impossible to know whether any such officials are violating federal ethics rules or have been given a pass to ignore them." http://nyti.ms/2rLhF0G

MEANWHILE... -- CNBC'S KAYLA TAUSCHE: "The House of Representatives and Department of Justice plan to ask the District of Columbia federal appeals court Monday to keep on hold for another 90 days a lawsuit that questions the legality of cost-sharing subsidies in the Affordable Care Act, according to four people familiar with the matter.

"The White House, during that time, will continue to make payments to insurers, according to a senior administration official. The payments, called 'cost-sharing reductions,' represent billions of dollars annually to the insurance industry to offset plans for low-income participants on the ACA exchanges.

"Insurers intending to offer plans on Obamacare exchange in 2018 must submit their proposed pricing in the coming days and weeks. If the executive branch had decided Monday to drop its defense of the case - which would then let stand a federal judge's decision that the payments to insurers were illegal - insurers were expected to request even higher premium rates for Obamacare health plans next year than they otherwise would have. However, the delay in resolving the case will continue uncertainty over the fate of the cost-sharing subsidies, which also could cause insurers to price plans higher to reflect the chance the money might go away by next year." http://cnb.cx/2q3cxII

NOT RIGHT NOW, AT LEAST -- "Mark Zuckerberg: I'm not running for office," by CNN's Kaya Yurieff: "Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said his New Year's resolution to visit and meet people from every U.S. state this year doesn't mean he's currently running for public office. ... For now, at least, Zuckerberg insisted in his post that the

point is 'to get a broader perspective to make sure we're best serving our community of almost 2 billion people at Facebook and doing the best work to promote equal opportunity at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative.'" http://cnnmon.ie/2rKuRCT ... ***Zuck's post*** http://bit.ly/2rKHDBx

PLAYBOOK INBOX -- WHAT THE WHITE HOUSE WANTS YOU TO SEE -- The White House's comms shop is sending around positive coverage from Middle Eastern regional newspapers following President Trump's visit to Saudi Arabia. http://politi.co/2rKITo0

-- A group of 225 business leaders, including executives from Walmart, Loews, Land O'Lakes, Pfizer and Coca-Cola, sent a letter to Secretary Tillerson urging him to protect USAID funding. http://politi.co/2rL2kxl

USED NEWS -- POLITICO, May 1: "How Uber lost its way in the Steel City," by Ashley Gold: "This city was supposed to be a bright spot for Uber ... Instead, the ride-hailing company's sharp-elbowed tactics have alienated political leaders in Pittsburgh too" http://politi.co/2rLt9kY ... **NYT, today: "Pittsburgh Welcomed Uber's Driverless Car Experiment. Not Anymore,"** by Cecilia Kang: "When Uber picked this former Rust Belt town as the inaugural city for its driverless car experiment, Pittsburgh played the consummate host. ... Nine months later, Pittsburgh residents and officials say Uber has not lived up to its end of the bargain." http://nyti.ms/2qcC11F

MEDIAWATCH -- "Facebook is testing products to connect its users to local news," by Poynter's Kristen Hare: "The tests are on three products: One points users in community-linked Facebook groups to additional local news. Another, launching Tuesday, offers users who make their cities of residence public a badge identifying them as a local when they comment on a local publisher's stories. A third helps people find local groups." http://bit.ly/2rKQao0

NEW GROUP -- RISE TO RUN, a new organization that is aiming to push young, progressive women to run for office has officially launched. The group is training high school and college-aged women and was founded by Shannon Watts and Helen Brosnan. The national advisory board includes Brynne Craig, Donna Edwards, Ilyse Hogue, Sarah McBride, Natalie Montelongo, Gavin Newsom, Brittany Packnett, Symone Sanders, Megan Smith, Kara Swisher, Jamia Wilson and Nanxi Liu. http://politi.co/2rKMiDs

SAVE YOUR METAPHOR ALERTS -- The town of Palm Beach announced that a 4' by 4' sinkhole formed "directly in front of Mar-a-Lago." http://bit.ly/2rKZ0Cf

TRANSITIONS -- Sara Decker has been named director of federal government affairs at Walmart; she previously was legislative director for Sen. Marco Rubio (R-Fla.).

ENGAGED -- Dennis Frederick Craig II, external affairs manager at No Labels, got engaged to **Rykia Genae Dorsey,** press secretary for Rep. Maxine Waters (D-Calif.).

He proposed in front of her whole family in Atlanta, Ga. over the weekend. They met at Howard University in undergrad. ***Pic*** http://bit.ly/2qM0E9t

WEEKEND WEDDING - Paige Lavender, senior politics editor at HuffPost, on Saturday married **Nicholas Ward,** J.D. candidate at AU's Washington College of Law - the couple has been together for almost 9 years. The ceremony was in Charleston, W.Va., right across the river from the state capitol. *Pics* http://bit.ly/2q9enDW ... http://bit.ly/2rsQFqs **SPOTTED:** Ashley Alman, Mollie Reilly, Sam Levine, Marina Fang, Max Rosenthal and Amber Ferguson.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD -- BRIAN STELTER, host of CNN's "Reliable Sources" and senior media correspondent, and **JAMIE STELTER,** NY1 traffic reporter, email friends and family: "It's a GIRL ... Sunny Ray Stelter was born Sunday, May 21 at 1:24 p.m. (Almost in time for Reliable Sources!) She weighs 6 pounds 13 ounces and is all sunshine. Jamie and I are over the moon and can't wait for everyone to meet our sweet SUNNY." ***Pics*** http://bit.ly/2q2PH4f ... http://bit.ly/2q2VMxr

-- Caitlin Andrews Sickles, director of Bracewell LLP and **Ryan Sickles**, CSIS alum now senior director of Bowergroupasia, which works on foreign direct investment in the Asia-Pacific, on Tuesday welcomed Declan Smith Sickles. ***Pics*** http://bit.ly/2qH7NY4 ... http://bit.ly/2rlqppk

OUT AND ABOUT -- The Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund had their national champagne brunch yesterday at the Omni Shoreham hotel. **SPOTTED:** Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Rep. Mark Takano (D-Calif.), South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg (D), Connecticut state Comptroller Kevin Lembo (who has an exploratory committee for a gubernatorial run), Atlanta mayoral candidate Cathy Woolard and Victory Fund President and CEO Aisha C. Moodie-Mills.

-- D.C. techies celebrated innovation in Silicon Valley Sunday. Dhanurjay "DJ" Pati, former Chief Data Scientist of the United States Office of Science and Technology Policy; Devika Patil, IFE digital ambassador; Coach Kathy Kemper, IFE CEO and founder; Ryan Panchadsaram, deputy chief technology officer; Todd Park, former U.S. chief technology officer; all gathered at the home of DJ and Devika Patil in Atherton, Calif. **SPOTTED:** Raj Shah, Christopher Kirchhoff, Kristen Honey and Karl Mehta.

****** **A message from the Coalition for Affordable Prescription Drugs (CAPD)** One in two Americans rely on their employers to provide health care benefits. So, employers partner with PBMs to provide access to effective medications at the most affordable price. PBMs drive savings in part by using clinical expertise to identify generic alternatives that achieve the same health outcomes for a lower price. With generics accounting for 89 percent of prescriptions filled in 2015, but only 27 percent of drug costs, that represents a savings of $227 billion across the U.S. health care system in just one year. Learn more at www.affordableprescriptiondrugs.org. ******

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