



Business matters.

WASHINGTON WATCH



October 2019

Fed Chairman Says U.S. Expansion Is 'Sustainable'

Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell remains open to further rate cuts to fend off global economic risks, saying the economy is likely to continue to expand.

Read more [here](#).



McMaster Calls Trump's Decision to Pull Back from Northeast Syria 'Unfortunate'

Retired Lt. Gen. H.A. McMaster, who previously served as President Trump's national security advisor, said the president's decision to pull back U.S. troops from northeast Syria was "unfortunate."

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Blacklists 28 Chinese Organizations/Companies over Xinjiang Camps

Washington is adding 28 Chinese companies, governments offices and security bureaus to a United States blacklist over their alleged role in facilitating human rights abuses in China's Xinjiang region.

Read more [here](#).



Trump Orders Agencies Require Public Input in Key 'Guidance Documents'

President Trump signed two executive orders recently requiring federal agencies to go through a process of public input and explanation when they issue key “guidance documents.”

Read more [here](#).



U.S. To Impose Tariffs on European Goods

The World Trade Organization said the U.S. can impose tariffs on European goods after previously ruling that Europe illegally subsidized Airbus.

Read more [here](#).



Business Groups Say Warren's Labor Plan Would Be Disaster

Sen. Elizabeth Warren's labor plan to raise wages and strengthen the rights of workers is making waves with groups representing business.

Read more [here](#).



PhRMA CEO Says Bill to Lower Drug Prices Would Be 'Devastating' for Industry

The head of the main pharmaceutical industry lobbying group warned that a bill to lower drug prices would have a “devastating” effect on the industry.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Consumer Prices Unchanged in September

Overall consumer prices were unchanged in September as a big decline in energy costs offset small gains in other areas.

Read more [here](#).



EPA Says Expect New WOTUS Rule This Winter

The new Waters of the United States rule is expected to be finalized by this winter, according to EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler.

Read more [here](#).



Group Urges Senate Passage of Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation

The Infrastructure Working Group (IWG), a coalition of trade and labor organizations, recently sent a letter to Senate leaders urging bipartisan action to solve long-standing infrastructure deficits.



Read more [here](#).

U.S. Manufacturing Survey Shows Worst Reading in a Decade

A gauge of U.S. manufacturing showed the lowest reading in more than 10 years for September as exports dived amid the escalated trade war.

Read more [here](#).



EPA May Use Partial Refinery Waivers Under Biofuel Deal

The U.S. EPA may use partial small refinery exemptions under the Trump administration's biofuels deal to help farmers and boost ethanol consumption.

Read more [here](#).



Appeals Court Largely Upholds FCC on Ending Net Neutrality

The D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals largely upheld the Federal Communication Commission's move to end net neutrality protections but allowed states to set their own rules.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Trade Deficit Rises in August

The U.S. trade deficit increased in August as imports of consumer goods surged to a record high.

Read more [here](#).



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