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WASHINGTON WATCH



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Biden Unveils Expansive \$2 Trillion Infrastructure Plan

President Biden recently unveiled his proposal to revamp the nation's infrastructure, which would be funded by raising corporate taxes.

Read more [here](#).



U.S. Consumer Confidence Hits One-Year High; House Prices Soar

U.S. consumer confidence raced in March to its highest level since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and the house price index also jumped at the fastest rate in 15 years.

Read more [here](#).



Supply Chain Impact from Suez Canal Blockage May Last for Months

The massive container ship Ever Given was recently freed after blocking the Suez Canal for six days, but experts say the disruptions to global trade will continue to reverberate.

Read more [here](#).



Amazon Vote May Spark More Union Pushes

Several thousand Amazon workers in Bessemer, Alabama, have voted on whether to form the retailer's first-ever union. The results could have

major implications for the country.

Read more [here](#).



Senators Urge Energy Chief to Prioritize Cybersecurity

Bipartisan Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee leaders have urged Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm to prioritize cybersecurity in the face of threats to the power grid.

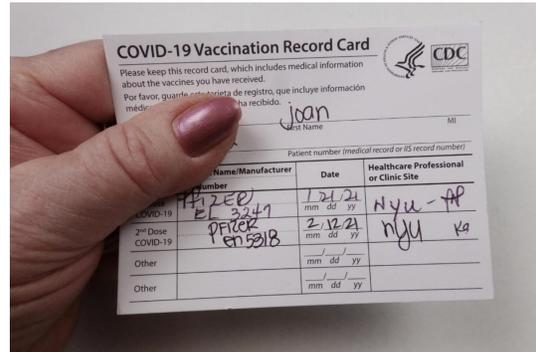
Read more [here](#).



Battle Rages Over Vaccine Passports

Republicans are up in arms over the possibility that businesses and local governments may require vaccine passports for people to get access to certain activities, buildings or events.

Read more [here](#).



SolarWinds Hack Got Emails of Top DHS Officials

Suspected Russian hackers gained access to email accounts for the Trump administration's head of the Department of Homeland Security and department cybersecurity staff.

Read more [here](#).



Oil and Gas Industry Group Backs Federal Price on Carbon

The American Petroleum Institute has endorsed a federal price on carbon dioxide emissions that contribute to global warming, a reversal of a longstanding policy.

Read more [here](#).



Ransomware Tops U.S. Cyber Priorities, Homeland Secretary Says

Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said that dealing with ransomware will be a top priority, highlighting the threat of the data-scrambling software.

Read more [here](#).



Biden Boosts Offshore Wind Energy, Wants to Power 10 Million Homes

The Biden administration is moving to increase offshore wind energy along the East Coast, as part of an effort to generate electricity for more than 10 million homes nationwide by 2030.

Read more [here](#).



Government Returns All Oil Stored for Companies When Prices Crashed in 2020

The U.S. government returned 18.3 million barrels of oil to companies that had stored crude in the Strategic Petroleum Reserve when demand suddenly dried up a year ago.

Read more [here](#).



Climate Study: EPA Far Underestimates Methane Emissions

Emissions of climate-warming methane from U.S. oil and natural gas production are significantly higher than EPA estimates, according to new research.

Read more [here](#).



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