



NEWS BRIEFS

TRANSITION

Trump's SEC pick Clayton points to capital formation, not enforcement With his selection of deal-making attorney Walter "Jay" Clayton to head the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, President-elect Donald Trump is signaling that the agency will try to reduce regulations that critics see as burdensome or hindering corporate growth. [Reuters, [1/5/17](#)]

Trump's Cabinet picks: A rundown of upcoming hearings January is poised to be a volatile month that's jam-packed with Senate committee hearings to approve President-elect Donald Trump's Cabinet picks. Here is a look at the nominees and their upcoming hearing schedules. [Politico, [1/5/17](#)]

Trump team seeks info on DACA A Department of Homeland Security memo seen by Reuters reveals that the president-elect's team is poking around the agency for information about recipients of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, also known as DACA. [Vice News, [1/4/17](#)]

GENERAL NEWS

Russia Looms Large as Senate Committee Opens Hearing on Hacking The Senate Armed Services Committee convened on Thursday morning for a hearing on "foreign cyberthreats to the United States." Of course, one foreign entity is destined to loom largest: Russia. [NYT, [1/5/17](#)]

Republicans Are Courting Disaster on Health Care After six years of posturing and futile votes to repeal the Affordable Care Act, Republicans in the Senate have started a process to erase the most important provisions of the health reform law with a simple majority. Millions of Americans are at risk of losing their coverage. [NYT Editorial Board, [1/5/17](#)]

Repeal and delay — the Republicans' plan to end Obamacare — explained Republican congressional leaders are coalescing around a plan to repeal Obamacare — and set up a deadline, two to four years in the future, to pass a replacement plan. [Vox, [1/5/17](#)]



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McCain, Graham to take on Trump over Russia hacking John McCain and Lindsey Graham have spent the past eight years chiding President Barack Obama's foreign policy, sarcastically calling the president naïve when it comes to world affairs and regularly grilling his Cabinet members at congressional hearings. [Politico, [1/4/17](#)]

Israeli PM Netanyahu backs pardon for manslaughter soldier Elor Azaria, 19 at the time, shot Abdul Fatah al-Sharif, 21, in the head while he was lying immobile on a road. [BBC, [1/4/17](#)]