



February 08, 2019



Heard on the Hill

The temporary reprieve from the (partial) government shutdown expires next Friday at midnight. Bipartisan intel from the conference committee suggests progress towards a solution around border security. However, the sleeper sticking point may be disaster relief funding for Puerto Rico. Particularly since negotiations the last two weeks have occurred at the Congressional level, the White House's position remains unclear. Stay tuned.

Retirement Policy Hearing in the Ways and Means Committee

On Wednesday, the House Ways and Means Committee held its first hearing on retirement security. Chairman Richie Neal (D-MA), who has long focused on retirement security policy, deemed the financial situation facing retirees a “crisis” and promised further hearings on the subject.

Retirement policy is one area involving the tax code where we are optimistic that important new initiatives can become law this Congress, based on the bipartisan leadership and interest in the subject. AALU will be an active player in those discussions.

MassMutual CEO, Roger Crandall, testified, at Chairman Neal's invitation, as an expert on the panel of witnesses. Mr. Crandall did an exemplary job highlighting the role we play in supporting the secure financial future of the American people. [Watch his opening statement here.](#)

Mr. Crandall articulated the three main barriers to retirement security: (1) Lack of access to employer sponsored plans; (2) Workers not starting to save early enough in life; (3) Longevity risk and worries about outliving one's savings.

[Read more about the solutions discussed](#)

AALU, ACLI, and NAIFA host new Democrat Ways and Means Members



On February 6th, AALU's Chris Morton co-hosted a meet and greet with Alane Dent and Diane Boyle from ACLI and NAIFA respectively, introducing the broader life insurance community to the new Democratic members of the Ways and Means Committee. Among the topics discussed were the critical role that life insurance plays in a holistic financial plan, how it protects families, and how long-term care is increasingly becoming a need for Americans and family members live longer in retirement.

[Read More](#)

House Democrats Announce Priorities for Defense in 2020

DCCC Chairwoman Cheri Bustos released their initial list of vulnerable incumbents for the 2020 election. The list includes many of the same seats where newly elected Democratic freshmen wrested control from Republicans in the 2018 midterm election. Congressional Democrats have identified forty-four districts as part of their "Frontline Program."

[Check out the full list](#)

Beyond the Gridlock: Engagement in Divided Government

Below the surface of partisan rhetoric, laws will be made and precedents established in the 116th Congress. Your consistent engagement is essential to our continued success.

- Bruce Mehlman gives color to the missed productivity of Congress so often overlooked in this Fox News op-ed; [The state of our union is better than you think -- here's why](#).

It is unfortunate that so many incentives in our politics and the media dictate a focus on negativity and division, but buying into that narrative is the excuse too many use to give

up on our government.

The AALU Ambassador program proves you can make a difference and affect outcomes. We will help you do it and you will have some fun!

Become an Ambassador Today!

Upcoming Webinar:

The 199A Deduction Series

AALU's Pass-Through Win: How Can the 199A Deduction Work for You?

February 19, 2019

1:00pm ET

Tune in for an exclusive webinar with Ken Kies, Chris Morton, and Armstrong Robinson to discuss the regulation and answer questions on its applicability to you.

Save Your Seat





Love AALU? Refer a friend today!

Copyright © 2019 AALU, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you are a AALU Member

Our mailing address is:

AALU

11921 Freedom Dr Ste 1100

Reston, VA 20190-5634