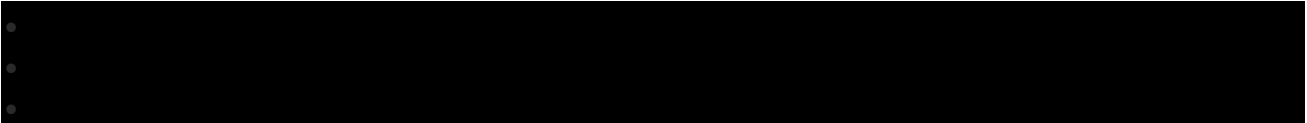


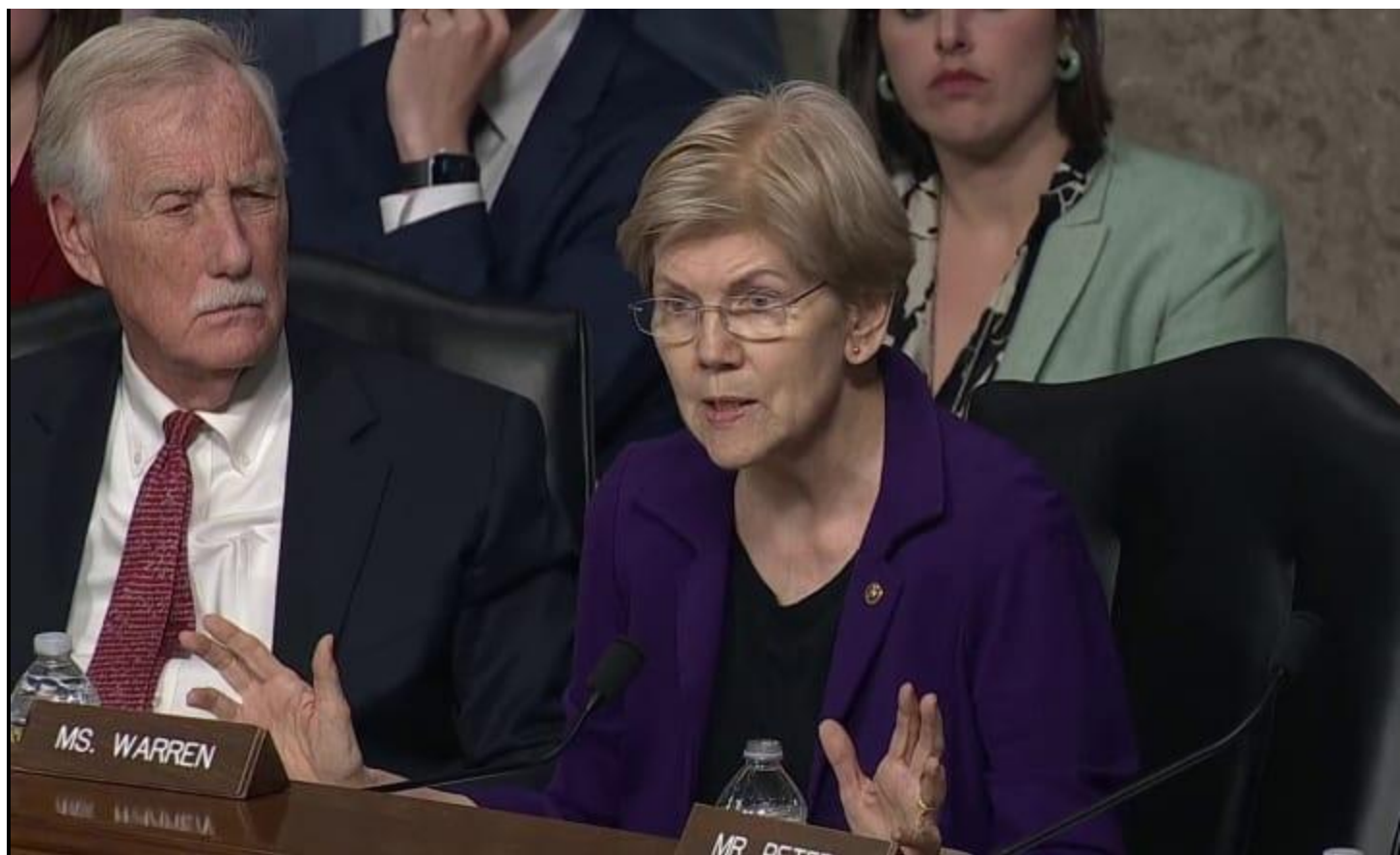
[HTTPS://WWW.NBCNEWS.COM/POLITICS/TRUMP-ADMINISTRATION/LIVE-BLOG/DEFENSE-SECRETARY-IRAN-HEGSETH-ARMED-SERVICES-SCOTUS-LIVE-UPDATES-RCNA342817](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/trump-administration/live-blog/defense-secretary-iran-hegseth-armed-services-scotus-live-updates-rcna342817)

LIVE COVERAGE Updated 3 minutes ago

Live updates: Trump signs bill ending DHS shutdown; Pete Hegseth faces questions from Senate committee amid Iran war

Congressional Republicans will seek to provide additional funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the Border Patrol in the coming weeks.





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Updated

April 30, 2026, 7:26 PM EDT

By NBC News

What to know today

- **DHS FUNDING:** [The House passed a Senate-approved bill](#) that would fund much of the Department of Homeland Security, ending the record 75-day shutdown of the

sprawling federal agency. President Donald Trump signed the measure into law this afternoon.

- **HEGSETH, CAINE TESTIFY:** Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth and the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Dan Caine, faced questions from senators about the cost of the Iran war and the depletion of U.S. munitions stockpiles. The hearing came after they were grilled by House lawmakers for six hours about the Iran war and the Defense Department's budget request.
- **FOREIGN SURVEILLANCE BILL:** The House passed a 45-day clean extension of the FISA Section 702 program that had already been approved by the Senate, sending it to Trump for his signature before the program expires tonight.
- **SURGEON GENERAL NOMINEE:** [Trump announced](#) a new nominee for surgeon general, Dr. Nicole Saphier, putting an end to [months of speculation](#) about whether the Senate would confirm his previous pick, Dr. Casey Means.

NEW UPDATES

5m ago / 7:26 PM EDT

How Janet Mills' Maine Senate bid fell apart

[Bridget Bowman](#) and [Sahil Kapur](#)

When Maine Gov. Janet Mills launched her first attack ads against Graham Platner last month, supporters hoped it would be a turning point for her Senate campaign. Instead, the gambit exposed two major vulnerabilities that ultimately ended her run today, six weeks ahead of the primary.

[Read the full story here.](#)

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54m ago / 6:37 PM EDT

King 'raising a dram' to Trump's removing tariffs on Scottish whisky

Jean-Nicholas Fievet and [Raquel Coronell Uribe](#)

King Charles proposed a toast to Trump today after Trump lifted tariffs on U.K. whisky as the royals began their return across the pond.

In response to Trump's announcement, a Buckingham Palace spokesperson said Charles was "raising a dram" to Trump's "thoughtfulness and generous hospitality."

"The King has been informed of President Trump's warm gesture and sends his sincere gratitude for a decision that will make an important difference to the British whisky industry and the livelihoods it supports," the spokesperson said.

U.K. Business and Trade Secretary Peter Kyle echoed the sentiment.

"This is great news for our Scotch whisky industry, which is worth almost £1bn in exports and supports thousands of jobs across the UK," Kyle said in a statement.

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2h ago / 6:19 PM EDT

House passes short-term extension of FISA spying powers

Kyle Stewart and Casey Wooten

The House today passed a 45-day clean extension of the Section 702 foreign spying program already approved by the Senate. The measure heads to Trump's desk for his signature before the program expires tonight.

While the House passed a three-year extension last night, the Senate did not take it up because of an unrelated digital currency provision that was attached.

It is the second time Congress has punted on a long-term extension of the program. Lawmakers passed a 10-day extension last week.

The Section 702 FISA program is a controversial tool intelligence agencies use to spy on non-U.S. persons abroad.

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2h ago / 5:41 PM EDT

Murkowski says she plans to introduce Iran use-of-force resolution in May

Frank Thorp V and Raquel Coronell Uribe

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, said today that she plans to introduce an authorization for use of military force when Congress returns in May if there's still a "lack of a credible plan" on Iran.

Such authorization could allow the U.S. to remain engaged in Iran, but it could also limit the length of U.S. involvement and increase congressional oversight.

"When American service members are deployed and lives are on the line, the administration owes Congress and the American people a straight answer about what we are trying to achieve, and that's why I have been working with several of my colleagues on an authorization for the use of military force," Murkowski said on the Senate floor.

Murkowski has opposed the six war powers resolution votes that Democrats forced in the past months that sought to halt the war in Iran.

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3h ago / 5:21 PM EDT

Trump signs DHS funding bill, ending partial shutdown

Casey Wooten

Trump [signed into law](#) today legislation that would fund much of the Department of Homeland Security, ending a record 75-day partial shutdown of the federal agency. The measure funds agencies such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Transportation Security Administration through the end of September.

The bill does not provide new funding for Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the Border Patrol. Republicans will seek to provide additional funding for those agencies in the coming weeks.

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4h ago / 3:57 PM EDT

Senate again rejects war powers resolution

Frank Thorp V_{producer and off-air reporter}

The Senate voted today for a sixth time today to reject a war powers resolution to end U.S. military operations in Iran until Congress votes to approve them.

The resolution, which was introduced by Sen. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., failed 47-50.

Sen. John Fetterman of Pennsylvania was the only Democrat to vote no, and Sens. Susan Collins of Maine and Rand Paul of Kentucky were the two Republicans to vote yes.

Collins' vote is notable, as it's the first time she has voted to support the resolution.

“As I have said since these hostilities with Iran began, the President’s authority as Commander-in-Chief is not without limits,” [Collins said on X](#). “The Constitution gives Congress an essential role in decisions of war and peace, and the War Powers Act establishes a clear 60-day deadline for Congress to either authorize or end U.S. involvement in foreign hostilities. That deadline is not a suggestion; it is a requirement.”

“Further military action against Iran must have a clear mission, achievable goals, and a defined strategy for bringing the conflict to a close,” she added. “I voted to end the continuation of these military hostilities at this time until such a case is made.”

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5h ago / 3:21 PM EDT

Senate passes 45-day extension to key spy program

Frank Thorp V and Kyle Stewart

The Senate just unanimously passed a 45-day clean extension of the spy program known as FISA Section 702 to give Congress more time to negotiate a longer-term extension with reforms.

The bill now goes to the House, which needs to pass it and send it to Trump’s desk for his signature before the program expires at the end of the day today.

The House will vote around 4 p.m., according to a whip notice sent to members.

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5h ago / 3:16 PM EDT

Cassidy responds to Trump's calling him a 'very disloyal person'

Brennan LeachBrennan Leach is an associate producer for NBC News covering the Senate.

As he left the Capitol this afternoon, Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., responded to Trump’s [calling him](#) “a very disloyal person” by saying: “I am loyal to the United States of America. I’m going to do my darndest and work with the president whenever we’re working for the best in the United States of America.”

He reassured reporters that he feels “very good” about his race and said he has delivered more for Louisiana than any of his opponents.

Asked why Trump pulled Dr. Casey Means’ nomination for surgeon general, Cassidy said the White House has “known for a while she didn’t have the votes to pass.” Trump has blamed the fact that Means' nomination stalled on Cassidy.

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5h ago / 3:14 PM EDT

Senate bans members and staff from trading on prediction markets

Frank Thorp V and Dareh Gregorian

The Senate passed a resolution to ban members and staffers from trading on [prediction markets](#).

The resolution, which changes the rules of the Senate, passed unanimously without a roll call vote. It goes into effect immediately.

The resolution applies only to the Senate. Rep. Ashley Hinson, R-Iowa, [said on X](#) that she would introduce a similar resolution in the House.

[*Read the full story here.*](#)

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5h ago / 3:12 PM EDT

Louisiana Senate primary will move forward as scheduled on May 16, while House contests will be delayed

Ben Kamisar

Louisiana Secretary of State Nancy Landry [announced this afternoon](#) that House primaries that were set to take place May 16 will be delayed following yesterday's Supreme Court decision.

But she said all other races, including the state's hotly contested Senate primary, will go forward as scheduled.

Absentee voting for the May 16 primary is already underway in Louisiana, and early voting for all races had been set to start this weekend. The move to halt voting for the House primaries could face legal scrutiny. But Republicans are confident they'll be able to press pause on the process because the Supreme Court's ruling directly labeled Louisiana's congressional lines an unconstitutional racial gerrymander.

In the Senate primary, Republican Sen. Bill Cassidy faces a crowded field that includes Rep. Julia Letlow, [who has Trump's endorsement](#).

[Read the full story here.](#)

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5h ago / 2:47 PM EDT

Trump expected to sign DHS bill today

Monica Alba

Trump is expected to sign the DHS bill today, according to a White House official, but it's unclear exactly when. It typically takes a little bit of time for a bill to get enrolled and sent over to the White House.

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5h ago / 2:45 PM EDT

Trump says he plans to remove whisky tariffs in honor of King Charles visit

Alexandra Marquez

Trump said on Truth Social that he will remove tariffs on whisky from Scotland and cited a conversation with King Charles III as the driving factor in his decision.

"In Honor of the King and Queen of the United Kingdom, who have just left the White House, soon headed back to their wonderful Country, I will be removing the Tariffs and Restrictions on Whiskey having to do with Scotland's ability to work with the Commonwealth of Kentucky on Whiskey and Bourbon," Trump wrote.

He added later in the post, "The King and Queen got me to do something that nobody else was able to do, without hardly even asking!"