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March 2013



[Click here to view a chart of the White House estimates of state-by-state impacts of sequestration.](#)

[Click here to view a chart of the affect of the sequester according to each federal agency.](#)

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In the Senate, Women Grab the Purse Strings

It's a longstanding point of pride between the female Senators of both parties that they believe they could create and pass a federal budget without a problem were it not for their feuding brethren. We've actually heard two female senators boast that they could get the budget written and passed in one week!

Well the women of the Senate may be given that opportunity. According to high ranking Senate sources, [Senator Patty Murray \(D-WA\)](#), newly minted Chair of the Senate Budget Committee, is working closely with [Senator Barbara Mikulski \(D-MD\)](#) to get a Senate budget. If they accomplish this goal, it will be first Senate budget in over three years!

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Sequester is Here, Where's the Doom?

By Scott Orr

What if sequestration took place and nobody noticed?

That's what it looked like over the weekend as \$85 billion in automatic federal budget reductions went into effect.

Nothing much happened, but that's not because the [forced federal spending cuts](#) are harmless, it's because it's going to take a while for them to sink in and begin hurting the economy and costing jobs.



When that happens, there is little doubt that the Congress and the

Gov-Con
[Networking
Event](#) hosted by
Jennifer Schaus
and Associates!

Come out and
network with
SBA, DoD,
BAE and more.

March 19 at
5pm at The
Kennedy
Center

The Obama
Administration
filed a [brief](#)
urging the
Supreme Court
to declare
unconstitutional
Proposition 8,
California's
voter-approved
ban on same-
sex marriage.

Click here to
view the DoD,
Military
Construction
and Veterans
Affairs, and
[Full-Year
Continuing
Appropriations
Act](#) introduced
by Rep. Rogers
(R-KY).

administration will get down to business and reach an agreement, probably a short term one that will set up yet another doomsday date in the not too distant future. This is called kicking the can down the road.

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For the Voting Rights Act, A Major Challenge

By **Scott Orr**

When it was passed, The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was hailed as the solution to state and local laws that denied blacks and other minorities access to their electoral franchise.



Now, 48 years later, some believe it has outlived its usefulness. And the Supreme Court is poised to decide if the federal government should retain a level of control over voting laws in states that historically discriminated.

On March 3, black leaders and others marked the anniversary of the Selma, Ala, freedom march [that helped crystallize support for civil rights laws](#), including the Voting Rights Act.

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Climate Change a Top Obama Administration Agenda Item

By **Carl Chancellor**

Just like our nation's summers are increasingly doing of late, the issue of climate change is heating up in Washington.



In his recent State of the Union address President Obama made it clear that tackling climate change is going to be a priority in his second term. But unlike the Administration's other top agenda items--the budget, immigration, and gun control--climate change is the one area where the President can take direct action through the use of the powers of the executive branch. And the President made it clear during his [SOTU address](#) that is what he intends to do.

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