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Ladies & Gentlemen, below please find this week's edition of *Executive Insight Brief* from The Roosevelt Group.

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A look to the future: [US Air Force's 'flying car' coming to an exercise near you](#)

Budget & Appropriations

[US Chip Industry Sees Niche to Beat China, if Only Congress Acts \(Bloomberg Government\)](#)

Legislation being negotiated now would spend roughly \$50 billion in the research, development, and manufacturing of semiconductors. Although policymakers have focused on the creation of the chips themselves, industry officials say quick action on the measure could bolster the US's nascent production of back-end hardware needed to put the chips to use. Advanced semiconductor chips have enabled innovations worth trillions of dollars and power the products key to the country's national security and critical infrastructure sectors—from missiles to fighter jets. Packaging such chips—one of the last manufacturing steps—is an attractive bet for the US, which leads the world in research and development on the process. It also isn't labor-intensive, making it even more ideal for the US where labor costs are high. US companies such as Intel Corp., Advanced Micro Devices Inc., and Micron Technology Inc. are leading development of advanced packaging but the supply chain is concentrated in Southeast Asia.

[Inflation in America: Track where prices are rising](#)



[Biden eyes deal as Manchin resists clean energy incentive \(E&E News\)](#)

National Economic Council Director Brian Deese said this weekend the administration was hopeful a budget reconciliation deal that tackles inflation and utility costs could be done before September. Deese told CBS News “Face the Nation” Sunday that the potential package would be the “most impactful” thing the administration and its Democratic allies could do to lower energy prices. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) and Energy and Natural Resources Chair Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) have been meeting to craft a possible accord with provisions to address climate change. “Senator Schumer is working with his caucus to try to get a final package in place. And we’re hopeful that we’ll see progress on that in the coming weeks,” said Deese. The deal’s contours will likely include mandates to reduce the deficit and record inflation. High energy prices are also on the agenda this week as Democrats scramble for a response to relentless Republican criticism.

[House seeks to establish critical munitions reserve in defense authorization](#)

[House panel's NDAA, unlike Senate's, sticks to Biden's budget \(Roll Call\)](#)

The House Armed Services Committee's new defense authorization bill endorses the amount of defense spending President Joe Biden sought and not the more than \$44 billion raise proposed in the Senate's version. The House panel's fiscal 2023 National Defense Authorization Act, which the committee will mark up in a daylong session on Wednesday, would authorize \$802.4 billion for national defense in the fiscal year starting Oct. 1. Combining that with \$11 billion to be authorized for defense by other House committees, House Democrats are offering to approve \$813.4 billion altogether for defense. By contrast, the Senate's draft companion bill and related defense authorization measures in that chamber would support \$857.6 billion for national defense initiatives — or \$44.2 billion more than the House.

Aerospace & Defense

[Pentagon should consider 'National Hypersonic Initiative' to speed development, lawmakers say \(C4ISRNET\)](#)

A provision in the House Armed Services Committee's draft policy bill could pave the way for a "National Hypersonic Initiative" aimed at addressing development and testing gaps and accelerating the Pentagon's path to fielding the technology. The U.S. Department of Defense is investing in a number of hypersonic research and development efforts across the military services, and lawmakers say they're concerned about coordination as well as workforce and industrial base limitations, according to the committee's proposed fiscal 2023 defense policy legislation. In light of threats from China and Russia, the Pentagon has prioritized research and development of hypersonic systems, which can travel at or above Mach 5. The department is expected to spend \$15 billion between 2015 and 2024 to advance the technology, and the White House's National Security Council earlier this year added hypersonic capabilities to its list of critical technologies.

[Major Pentagon IT Projects Lack Plans to Secure Networks, Supply Chains: GAO](#)

[Defense agencies among worst ranked for disclosing contracting needs to businesses \(Defense News\)](#)

The Defense Health Agency and other Pentagon offices are among the worst in government at supplying companies with information they need to bid on federal contracts, according to the Professional Services Council. Of the 27 federal agencies graded as "needs improvement," this year, about a third are housed in the Navy,

Department of Defense and Army. The Defense Health Agency slipped to “needs improvement” from “fair” in the latest Federal Business Forecast Scorecard, produced annually by PSC and released this month. “DISA continues to implement recommendations to enhance our procurement forecasts for current and potential industry partners, a spokesperson for the agency said. “DHA is committed to and passionate about serving our warfighters and our 9.6 million TRICARE beneficiaries through responsible stewardship of tax payer dollars,” said a DHA spokesperson in an email.

[US-made jets, air defense on Ukrainian fighter pilots' wishlist, but not Gray Eagle](#)

[Biden To Ban Most Land Mines, Undoing Trump's Loosened Restrictions \(Defense One\)](#)

The United States will make no new anti-personnel land mines and will use existing ones only on the Korean peninsula, reinstating Obama-era limits undone by the Trump administration, White House officials said Tuesday. The new policy follows more than a year of efforts by advocates and like-minded lawmakers to convince President Joe Biden that the Trump rules hurt civilians and reduce America's credibility with allies. Advocates welcomed the change but urged the White House to end the U.S. use of land mines entirely. “The latest policy shift has moved the U.S. closer to compliance with the 1997 Mine Ban Treaty, yet the administration still pauses at the finish line,” said Jeff Meer, the U.S. executive director of Humanity & Inclusion, an non-governmental organization that co-founded the International Campaign to Ban Landmines.

Advanced Technologies

[Pentagon unveils long-awaited plan for implementing 'responsible AI' \(FedScoop\)](#)

Deputy Secretary of Defense Kathleen Hicks signed the Responsible Artificial Intelligence Strategy and Implementation Pathway (RAI S&I pathway) on Tuesday marking a highly anticipated next step in the Defense Department's carrying out of its AI Ethical Principles adopted more than two years ago. The 47-page document directs the sprawling Pentagon's strategic approach for operationalizing those foundational principles and, more broadly, communicates a framework for how DOD will deliberately leverage AI in a lawful, ethical and accountable manner. “It is imperative that we establish a trusted ecosystem that not only enhances our military capabilities but also builds confidence with end-users, warfighters, the American public, and international partners. The pathway affirms the department's commitment to acting as a responsible AI-enabled organization,” Hicks said in a statement shared with FedScoop.

Battlefield robots getting ‘common sense’ training before deployment

[Lockheed Martin blends AI decision aide, virtual Aegis combat system in drill near Guam \(Defense News\)](#)

Lockheed Martin and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command demonstrated an artificial intelligence planning tool paired with the Virtual Aegis Weapon System to conduct joint-service, multi-domain strike operations. The demonstration took place during Valiant Shield 2022, a biennial U.S. exercise that rehearses high-end maritime warfare around the Guam area. The company used its DIAMONDShield battle management system and four virtual Aegis system nodes to feed precision targeting data to Lockheed-made High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems and Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement systems, according to a news release. In one scenario, DIAMONDShield’s artificial intelligence technology “analyzed operational command-and-control data in real-time during dynamic fires, and provided commanders with decision aids” that recommended which ship, aircraft or ground vehicle should respond to which incoming threats.

New intel program will tap AI to help personnel ‘walk through’ unfamiliar areas before they arrive

[Cybersecurity innovation among military companies has dropped off in the last year \(Army Technology\)](#)

Research and innovation in cybersecurity in the military equipment and technologies sector has declined in the last year. The most recent figures show that the number of related patent applications in the industry stood at 95 in the three months ending April – down from 137 over the same period in 2021. Figures for patent grants related to followed a similar pattern to filings – shrinking from 150 in the three months ending April 2021 to 107 in the same period in 2022. The figures are compiled by GlobalData, who track patent filings and grants from official offices around the world. Using textual analysis, as well as official patent classifications, these patents are grouped into key thematic areas, and linked to key companies across various industries.



Military Installations & Communities

[Space Force Needs 'Bodies' at Pacific Commands to Meet Rising Threats \(Air Force Mag\)](#)

In past Pacific exercises, space capabilities came into the picture after the fact—supposition over what Air Force Space Command might have done had it been involved. Since the creation of the Space Force, however, small teams of Guardians assigned to Pacific Air Forces and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command have been tasked with assuring that space effects are incorporated into all exercises, but some work is falling through the cracks. Current Space Force leaders at PACAF say the small number of Guardians planning exercises and advising both INDOPACOM commander Adm. John C. Aquilino and PACAF commander Gen. Kenneth S. Wilsbach are not enough. What's more, as allies and partners stand up their own space components, Space Force Guardians are needed to coordinate the joint force, allies, and partners to unite efforts against rising threats posed by China, Russia, and North Korea. "We're short-handed all over, but we look at our allies and partners" to supplement, said PACAF deputy director of space forces Space Force Lt. Col. Walt Priebe.

[VA Delays Electronic Records System Rollout Due to Reliability Issues Following Crashes](#)

[Army's New Fitness Test Might Change Again as Congress Looks to Switch Standards \(Military.com\)](#)

The Army might be on the cusp of yet another change to its new fitness test after lawmakers backed an effort to switch to job-specific standards. Lawmakers on the House Armed Services Committee on Wednesday passed the proposal into the National Defense Authorization Act, or NDAA, which sets funding and policy priorities for the Pentagon. That amendment, introduced by Rep. Michael Waltz, R-Fla., would direct the Army to establish fitness standards for troops in combat roles such as infantry and cavalry that would be higher than non-combat roles in the force. The proposal also directs the service to keep those standards gender neutral." Combat absolutely can be physical in urban environments, and trench warfare environments can be brutal, require hand-to-hand combat and require some physicality," Waltz said. "The physical requirements for being in the infantry or the artillery or armor is different than being a cyber warrior, or supply sergeant or pilot. The requirements for the military should reflect that requirement."

[PA House committee passes bill limiting wind turbines near military bases](#)

[Fort Polk Progress changes name to Louisiana Armed Forces Alliance \(KALB\)](#)

In a move to include representation of more areas of the state and to accommodate a pending name change for Fort Polk as a result of the William "Mac" Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for 2021 (NDAA 2021) the board of directors for Fort Polk Progress voted recently to change the nonprofit organization's name to the Louisiana Armed Forces Alliance. The Naming Commission is charged by the NDAA 2021 with providing recommendations to Congress for the removal or renaming of DoD assets that commemorate the Confederate States of America or those who voluntarily served with the Confederacy. The Commission is suggesting that Fort Polk, named for Gen. Leonidas Polk, Confederate States of America, be renamed Fort Johnson, for Sgt. William Henry Johnson. "Since the name change of Fort Polk is written into law and will obviously affect our own name, the board and I thought this would be an excellent opportunity to broaden our organization's overall purpose," said Rick Allen, chairman of the Louisiana Armed Forces Alliance.

Homeland Security

[GAO Finds Room for Improvement in ICE's Growing Alternatives to Detention Program \(HS Today\)](#)

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) uses the Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program as a way to monitor individuals it releases into the community. New analysis by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) of ICE contractor data found that the number of individuals enrolled in the ATD program more than doubled from approximately 53,000 in 2015 to 111,000 in 2020. ICE has wide discretion to detain or release individuals of foreign nationality awaiting resolution of their immigration court proceedings, except for individuals subject to mandatory detention. The ATD program, which ICE administers through a \$2.2 billion contract, uses electronic monitoring and case management to help ensure that individuals enrolled comply with release conditions, such as appearing at immigration court hearings.

[More than \\$4M in methamphetamine seized at Texas-Mexico border](#)

[The Homeland Security & Public Safety Industry is Expected to Grow to \\$658 Billion by 2026 \(Yahoo! Finance\)](#)

The "Homeland Security & Public Safety Global Markets - 2022-2026 - with COVID-19 Impact" report has been added to [ResearchAndMarkets.com](https://www.researchandmarkets.com)'s offering. This report contains a thorough analysis of 15 vertical, 22 technology, 5 regional and 43 national markets, detailing 377 sub-markets. According to the report, the market is expected to grow to \$658 Billion by 2026. This 377 Sub-Markets report is the utmost comprehensive review of the global homeland security & public safety market available today, and is considered the industry's gold standard for Homeland Security & Public Safety market research reports. The objective of this mega-report is to provide today's strategic decision-makers with an expert 360-degree, time-sensitive, detailed view of this interconnected market.

[Biden Signs Cyber Bills Establishing Federal Rotational Workforce, Greater DHS Collaboration with State and Local Governments](#)

[U.S. lawmakers to unveil bill barring U.S. data flows to high-risk countries \(MSN\)](#)

A bipartisan group of U.S. senators plans to introduce legislation on Thursday that would give the Biden administration the power to block exports of U.S. personal data to countries like China that they say pose national security risks. The bill, cosponsored by Finance Committee chair Ron Wyden, a Democrat, and Marco Rubio, the top Republican on the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee, aims to protect Americans' sensitive personal information from being sold or transferred to high-risk foreign countries. "Right now it's perfectly legal for a company in China to buy huge databases of sensitive information from data brokers about the movements or health records of millions of Americans, and then share that information with the Chinese government," Wyden said in a statement announcing the legislation. "That's a huge problem for our country's security."

Transportation & Infrastructure

[Raw material costs for electric vehicles have doubled during the pandemic \(CNBC\)](#)

Raw material costs for electric vehicles more than doubled during the coronavirus pandemic, according to a new report Wednesday by AlixPartners, forcing automakers from General Motors and Tesla to start-ups like Lucid and Rivian to significantly raise prices on new vehicles. Average raw material costs for an EV totaled \$8,255 per vehicle as of May, up 144% from \$3,381 per vehicle in March 2020, led by materials such as cobalt, nickel and lithium – all essential for the production of batteries used to power electric cars and trucks. EV-specific costs have increased to \$4,500 from roughly \$2,000 in the past two years, according to AlixPartners.



[6 issues to get the ball rolling on mass fiber deployments in the U.S.](#)

[Viasat to test 5G networking for Marine Corps operations \(C4ISRNET\)](#)

Viasat, a California-based communications company, will experiment with 5G to support U.S. Marine Corps operations and broader command-and-control applications after securing a research award from the Department of Defense. Over four years, Viasat will explore how 5G networking and related technologies can come together to support what are known as expeditionary advanced base operations, or EABO, including needs for long-range precision fires, refueling, rearming, surveillance and reconnaissance, according to a

June 15 announcement. Viasat, which furnishes satellite and networking capabilities, among other goods, to the U.S. military, won the deal through the Information Warfare Research Project, a consortium that connects industry and academia to develop tech for Navy and Marine Corps missions. It's the third such award the company won as part of the Pentagon's \$600 million 5G research initiative.

[Silver Line Extension transferred to Metro's control](#)

[Inflation Means Fewer Projects Under Biden Infrastructure Plan \(Bloomberg Law\)](#)

The government can buy fewer roads, bridges, and tunnels today than it could seven months ago when President Joe Biden signed the \$1 trillion infrastructure law. Historic inflation and labor shortages now threaten to hamstring one of the administration's signature successes, which lawmakers were hoping to tout in reelection campaigns. States across the country are seeing project bids come in as much as 30% above their original expectations, as contractors complain about supply problems, spiking material costs, and a dearth of workers. The law (Public Law 117-58) sends billions to be spent on surface transportation each year over the next five years, limiting the ability of officials to wait out the worst of the economic tumult. "In all likelihood, the number of projects that we're going to put out this calendar year will be reduced," Mike Keiser, acting deputy secretary for highway administration at the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, said.

Biotechnology & Healthcare

[U.S. Department Of Commerce Invests \\$1.2 Million In Cares Act Recovery Assistance To Support Workforce Development In Guam \(Department of Commerce\)](#)

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo announced that the Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.2 million CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant to Guam Community College (GCC), Barrigada, Guam, to support workforce development programs. This project will support renovations and improvements to an existing facility serving as the Guam Workforce Development Center. This EDA grant will be matched with \$1.2 million in local funds and is expected to create 1,800 jobs, retain 200 jobs, according to grantee estimates. "The Biden Administration is committed to creating new opportunities for workers throughout the United States," said Secretary of Commerce Gina M. Raimondo. "This EDA investment will support Guam Community College as it expands and improves workforce development programs to ensure residents have the skills they need to compete for good-paying jobs."

[ARPA-H must think differently and leverage technology](#)

[Behind the scenes of N.C.'s Medicaid expansion battle \(Axios\)](#)

A national group has ramped up pressure on North Carolina Republicans in recent days, urging them to expand health care to some of the state's poorest and most vulnerable residents. The group, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, has spent at least \$121,000 on television ads, Federal Communications Commission records show. The ads name nine House Republicans and accuse them of standing in the way of Medicaid expansion, including House majority leader John Bell. The ads come just weeks after the Senate passed a bill that would expand Medicaid. The bill also includes numerous provisions — some controversial — that could expand access to health care in the state. The legislation has since stalled in the House, where it has less support among Republicans.

[Aim\(ing\) for the Moonshot: Cancer Survivorship and Screening](#)

[Pandemic-era checks rewired how these Americans see money: 'Stimulus changed how I think about what's possible' \(CNBC\)](#)

For Denise Diaz, the benefits of pandemic-era stimulus checks went beyond everyday dollars and cents. They rewired how she thinks about money. Diaz, a mother of three who lives outside Orlando, Florida, received more than \$10,000 from three rounds of “economic impact payments.” They were among the 472 million payments issued by the federal government, totaling about \$803 billion. The effort amounted to an unprecedented experiment to prop up households as Covid-19 cratered the U.S. economy. The checks (and other federal funds) are at the epicenter of a debate as to whether and to what extent the financial assistance helped fuel inflation, which is running at its hottest in about 40 years.

Climate & Development

[How CRISPR rice could help tackle climate change \(The Verge\)](#)

Can gene-editing technology CRISPR create new crops that help fight climate change as

they grow? That's what a group of researchers hopes to do with \$11 million in funding from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. The funding will go toward efforts to enhance plants — starting with rice — and soil so that they're better at trapping carbon dioxide. The effort, which was announced last week, is being led by the Innovative Genomics Institute, which was founded by Nobel laureate and co-inventor of CRISPR Jennifer Doudna. “[Jennifer] and I saw eye to eye on climate and how big of a problem it is in the world. And we just didn't want to sit on the sidelines anymore,” says Innovative Genomics Institute (IGI) executive director Brad Ringeisen.

[Should Climate Change Force Some Military Bases to Close?](#)

[EU lawmakers back stricter emission caps in climate change fight \(PBS\)](#)

European Union lawmakers stepped up the fight against global warming Wednesday by requiring deeper emission cuts from power plants, factories and planes in the EU and by endorsing an unprecedented import tax. The European Parliament advanced draft climate legislation that would slash the EU greenhouse gases by at least 55 percent in 2030 compared with 1990 rather than by a previously agreed 40 percent. The legislation also includes a tool that would allow the EU to raise the prices of some imported goods — including steel and aluminum — that are spared the climate-protection costs faced by manufacturers in the 27-nation bloc. The overall goal is to put the EU on track to become climate-neutral in 2050 and to prod other major polluters, including the United States and China, to follow suit.

[“Intolerable tide” of people displaced by climate change: UN expert](#)

[In rural coastal Virginia, an academic tool helps jumpstart flood resilience \(VPM\)](#)

Back in the 17th century, famed explorer Capt. John Smith supposedly called Onancock “the gem of the Eastern Shore.” The town's beloved wharf area has been around nearly as long, supporting marine industry and recreation, said T. Lee Byrd, chair of Onancock's Waterfront Committee. But like everywhere along Virginia's coast, the waters are rising. Each time there's a high tide, the parking lot around the wharf fills with several feet of water, Byrd said. “What we haven't had up until this point is a way to keep that water from coming in as fast as it's going out,” he said. Bigger coastal communities faced with such a problem often conduct their own analysis and start preparing solutions. But smaller and more rural places like Onancock, which has a population of about 1,200, don't have the resources to do so. That's where a local program called RAFT comes in: the Resilience Adaptation Feasibility Tool.

Next Week's Hearings

Congress is out of session from June 27th to July 8th for a District Work Period. June 28th, 29th, and 30th are Committee Work Days for the House of Representatives.

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