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CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE  NEW

The House and Senate met today but did not conduct roll call votes. Both will reconvene on Wednesday, January 21, following Martin Luther King Jr. Day on Monday and the Presidential Inauguration on Tuesday.

CongressDaily reports that the House is expected to focus on legislation intended to bring more transparency to the Troubled Asset Relief Program. The House is not expected to be in session Jan. 23.

The Senate could vote as early as Wednesday on a bill expanding the statute of limitations to sue for pay discrimination. This would be followed by reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE DEMOCRATS INTRODUCE RECOVERY PLAN

House Democrats announced their economic recovery proposal on January 15, combining $550 billion in new spending with $275 billion in individual and corporate tax breaks. (See spending bill press release, report, and text, and tax bill press release.)

AAU staff has prepared a summary of provisions of particular interest to universities that can be found on the AAU website.

The House plan was developed in consultation with the Obama transition team, and the incoming President will not propose a separate economic stimulus plan.

In a statement for the press, AAU President Robert M. Berdahl commended House Democratic leaders and President-elect Obama “for recognizing the critical role that science and higher education must play in both short-term recovery and long-term economic growth.”

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