



Good afternoon, everyone. Hope you enjoyed the three-day weekend.

Following last week's historic ousting of House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, Congress is strategizing how this year will come to a close. The fight for the next Speaker promises to be a messy one, and we are carefully watching to see who assumes the gavel.

The new budget deadline of November 17 looms over everyone on the Hill, and things in the House are at a standstill until a new Speaker is selected. Everyone seems to be holding their breath, thinking about the end of the year, and avoiding the obvious question: "What's next?"

Other news items can be found below. Things are relatively quiet in Washington, but we will keep you apprised with any additional updates.

Wishing you the best for the rest of your week. We will check back in with you shortly.

With high regard,

-Sandy Vorhies, AMVETS National Third Vice Commander



House Republicans are scrambling after [Speaker Kevin McCarthy was ousted](#) from his position last week, the first time a Speaker has ever been removed from their office via House resolution.

Experts are dubious that either of his possible replacements, House Majority Leader Steve Scalise and House Judiciary Chairman Jim Jordan, will have the votes to take his place. McCarthy has also not ruled out pursuing the position a second time. Interim Speaker Patrick McHenry says he hopes to have a new Speaker [by the end of the week](#).

At least 11 Americans have been [killed in Israel](#) after the Gaza-based terrorist organization Hamas launched attacks over the weekend. President Biden released a statement on Monday saying it is “likely” that several missing Americans are being held hostage. Hamas is responsible for Saturday massacres that led to the deaths of over 900 Israelis. Israel has responded to the attacks, killing over 760 Palestinians.

Last week, President Biden signed a bill into law [extending critical VA services](#) and programs. This bipartisan effort will ensure veterans have timely access to medical disability examinations, protect student veterans from losing their earned GI Bill or other VA education benefits when educational institutions are closed, and extend emergency preparedness funding for the VA. For more information on this law, click [here](#).



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