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United States Government & Politics

Weekly Current Events: Posted: 2.22.21

[Subramanian, “Why Biden is Standing Firm on . . . Tandeen,” *USA Today*, 2.20.21.](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/02/20/neera-tanden-biden-presses-ahead-omb-pick-despite-pushback/4523573001/)

1. Which Biden nominee (her name and office) is facing opposition in the Senate?
2. Why is she looking at a thorny confirmation process?
3. What is President Biden’s response?
4. Which senator said he would oppose this nomination and why is he somewhat unique?
5. Do you think some Republican senators will vote for her? Why or why not?
6. What presidential aides/staffers are mentioned, and what do they say?
7. What support does she have beyond the Democratic party?
8. Will Sen. Bernie Sanders vote to confirm or reject her? Why?

[Suderman, “Biden’s Coronavirus Relief Package . . .”](https://reason.com/2021/02/18/bidens-coronavirus-relief-package-has-almost-nothing-to-do-with-the-coronavirus/) *[Reason](https://reason.com/2021/02/18/bidens-coronavirus-relief-package-has-almost-nothing-to-do-with-the-coronavirus/)*[, 2.18.21.](https://reason.com/2021/02/18/bidens-coronavirus-relief-package-has-almost-nothing-to-do-with-the-coronavirus/)

1. What proposal/legislation is at issue in this Op-Ed?
2. How does the author view it?
3. What problems have surfaced because schools are closed?
4. What legislative branch agency is mentioned and what did it say/report?
5. When will some of the money to schools be spent?
6. What is another stated drawback to the plan?
7. Do you support the Biden plan? Why or why not?

[Lach, “The Sound and Fury of Andrew Cuomo,” *New Yorker*, 2.20.21 (long, language).](https://outline.com/XUnc3q)

1. What information or facts is NY Governor Andrew Cuomo accused of hiding or misrepresenting?
2. What is NY Assemblyman Kim’s relevance to the story?
3. What did Gov. Cuomo say to Kim?
4. What action did 9 Democrats (including Kim) take since Cuomo’s actions?
5. What is his record on aggressive behavior toward other politicians?
6. How are separation of powers or checks and balances at play here?
7. What is government transparency and why is it important?