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Intelligence and analysis on lobbying

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Daly adds former House Financial Services Committee counselBy **MARIANNE LEVINE** and **THEODORIC MEYER** | 09/21/2018 02:59 PM EDT

With David Beavers, Garrett Ross and Daniel Lippman

DALY ADDS FORMER HOUSE FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**COUNSEL:** The **Daly Consulting Group** has hired **James Clinger**, the former Republican chief counsel on the House Financial Services Committee. He'll be senior managing director at the firm. Clinger worked for the committee for more than two decades before President **Donald Trump** nominated him last year to be chairman of the Federal

Deposit Insurance Corporation. (He ultimately withdrew from consideration due to family considerations.) Since he left the committee last year, Clinger is no longer bound by House ethics rules that prohibit senior staffers from lobbying the committees on which they served. Daly Consulting Group lobbies for a number of clients on financial services issues, including **Fidelity** and **Goldman Sachs**.

FORMER DEPUTY COMMERCE SECRETARY JOINS SOFTBANK: Bruce Andrews, who was deputy secretary of the Commerce Department under President **Barack Obama**, will become vice president of global public policy at **SoftBank**, the Japanese conglomerate that owns most of **Sprint** and has a minority stake in **Uber**. He was previously managing director of **Rock Creek Global Advisors**. Andrews' hiring comes after SoftBank poached **Ziad Ojakli** from **Ford** this summer to become senior vice president and global government affairs officer. Until May, SoftBank had no lobbyists in Washington. That's when the company rehired the **Carmen Group** to work on Sprint's merger with **T-Mobile**.

— In an interview with PI, Andrews said, as an example of the type of issue he'll work on, that “often the investments that Softbank makes in companies need to be considered by [the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.]” As of now, Andrews does not plan to lobby. He will start Oct. 1.

Good afternoon, and welcome to PI. Happy first day of fall! Send tips to mlevine@politico.com and tmeyer@politico.com. You can also follow us on Twitter: [@theodoricmeyer](https://twitter.com/theodoricmeyer) and [@marianne_levine](https://twitter.com/marianne_levine).

COALITION PUSHING FOR CONSERVATION FUND REAUTHORIZATION: The **Conservation for Economic Growth Coalition** sent a letter to Senate and House leadership this week urging them to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which uses royalties paid by energy companies to fund recreation and conservation projects. Its authorization is set to expire Sept. 30.

— “When venture capitalists analyze an investment opportunity, or fast-growing company executives are searching where they will locate their next facility, the probability that the company will be able to recruit the best and brightest to help the company grow is critical to their decisions,” the letter reads. “And access to first-class outdoor recreational opportunities is extremely important to these target employees.” The coalition, whose members include dozens of venture capitalists, entrepreneurs and executives, is run by **38 North Solutions**. **Here's the full letter**.

IN TODAY'S NOTABLE REGISTRATIONS: BP America hired **Michael Zehr** of **HBW Resources** to lobby on “energy development on federal lands; renewable fuels standard; tariffs, trade, and sanctions; energy and electricity market regulation. BP America, which spent \$1.2 million on lobbying in the second quarter, also has the **Duberstein Group, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer, Covington & Burling, Fierce Government Relations, Stuntz Davis & Staffier** and **Jim Massie & Partners** on retainer, according to disclosure filings.

KAVANAUGH ACCUSER LEANS ON DEMOCRATIC OPERATIVE FOR ADVICE:

“**Christine Blasey Ford**, the woman who has accused Supreme Court nominee **Brett Kavanaugh** of sexually assaulting her when they were both teenagers, is being advised by Democratic operative **Ricki Seidman**,” **POLITICO's Annie Karni** reports. “Seidman, a senior principal at **TSD Communications**, in the past worked as an investigator for Sen. **Ted Kennedy**, and was involved with Anita Hill's decision to testify against Supreme Court Nominee **Clarence Thomas**. ‘I believe her and I think she's very courageous for coming this far,’ Seidman said in a brief interview, confirming her role advising Ford. She also worked as **Joe Biden's** communications director during the 2008 general election campaign, after he was named Barack Obama's running mate. In 2009, according to her online biography, she helped the White House manage the confirmation of Obama's Supreme Court nominee **Sonia Sotomayor**. Before that, she worked in the Clinton White House as deputy communications director.” Full story.

BIG SPENDERS COME OUT IN ANTICIPATION OF THE 2018 MIDTERMS:

“With fewer than 50 days remaining before the 2018 midterms, political action committees and super PACs are raising and spending huge amounts of money with Democrats surging in their quest to seize control of the House, which would put them in position to begin non-stop investigations of the Trump administration and, depending upon the findings of Special Counsel **Robert Mueller**, possibly commence impeachment proceedings against President Trump,” the **Center for Public Integrity's Sarah Kleiner, Lateshia Beachum, Dave Levinthal** and **Carrie Levine** report. “The Democrats need to win 23 seats to flip the House and think they're at least competitive in almost four times that number, if their spending is any indication. And Democratic money is pouring into Representative **Kyrsten Sinema's** Arizona Senate race against Republican Representative **Martha McSally**.”

— Here's an interesting data point: “136: Number of state-level political candidates to whom the federal PAC of oil giant **ExxonMobil** contributed money from August 13 through 15. The PAC especially targeted politicians in North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania,

West Virginia and Wyoming. It's not unheard of for a federal PAC to make contributions to state-level politicians, but rarely will one make so many such contributions in such a brief period of time. An ExxonMobil representative did not respond to a request for comment." Full story.

RUSSIA'S DIVISIVE TWITTER CAMPAIGN TOOK A PRO-GUN STANCE:

"Russia's influence campaign on **Twitter** pushed pro-gun and pro-**National Rifle Association** messages during the 2016 election and beyond — a rare example of consistency in a scheme that mostly sought to play up extremes on the left and right," **NPR's Tim Mak** reports. "On every issue, from race to health care, women's rights to police brutality, gay marriage to global warming, accounts associated with the Internet Research Agency sought to amplify controversy by playing up conflict. Except when it came to guns and the NRA. That's according to a new analysis of millions of now-deleted Twitter posts connected to the group, done by NPR in collaboration with an outside data firm." Full story.

JOBS REPORT:

— "The **American Bankers Association** has hired an aide for Rep. **David Scott** (D-Ga.) to work with House Democrats as part of the trade group's congressional lobbying team," **POLITICO's Zachary Warmbrodt** reports. "Scott senior legislative assistant **Tanner Daniel** will join ABA on Oct. 1 as vice president for congressional relations, according to an internal memo obtained by POLITICO."

NEW JOINT FUNDRAISERS:

None

NEW PACs:

American United PAC (PAC)

Anal Trump Super PAC (PAC)

Californians For Change (super PAC)

Planned Parenthood Of Orange And San Bernardino Counties Community Action Fund PAC (super PAC)

Safe Streets Safe Communities (super PAC)

So It Has Come To This (PAC)

NEW LOBBYING REGISTRATIONS:

Butzel Long, P.C.: ElringKlinger USA, Inc.

Cornerstone Government Affairs, Inc.: City of Des Moines

Cornerstone Government Affairs, Inc.: Greater Houston Partnership

DiNino Associates, LLC: Cornerstone Government Affairs obo City of Des Moines

GrossmanHeinz: Pharmaceutical Industry Labor Management Association

HBW Resources: BP America, Inc.

Jochum Shore & Trossevin PC: CIMC Intermodel Equipment LLC

Monument Policy Group, LLC: Alaska Airlines, Inc.

NEW LOBBYING TERMINATIONS:

Neiweem Group LLC: Southern Utah University

Neiweem Group LLC: United Spinal Association

Neiweem Group LLC: VetsFirst

Aspect 50: People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals

Policy Matters, LLC (formerly known as TKB Consulting, LLC): Colorado Historical Society

Policy Matters, LLC (formerly known as TKB Consulting, LLC): Imagine!

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