

WEEKLY CURRENT

March 14-18, 2022

Issues Making a Splash This Week

- **Algorithmic Destruction is Now a Legal Penalty:** The Federal Trade Commission has led the way with the novel use of algorithmic disgorgement (destruction) as a component of penalties against tech companies, but we expect this punishment to soon spread to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, where it will also be used in an even more ruthless fashion against financial services firms.
- **The Dark and Bright Sides of Solar:** The Biden administration is once again facing a choice between the domestic and global solar industries in a renewed tariff debate while geopolitical tensions with Beijing over Russia's invasion of Ukraine hang over China's prominent role in the US solar supply chain. On the bright side though, there is still a path for an extended solar tax credit to pass before year end.
- **GOP Candidates Muddle Midterm Message:** Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) should be majority leader once again given the favorable midterm environment for Republicans. But some Republican candidates and one former president are looking to make things interesting for him.

BIDEN'S REGULATORS START KILLING ALGORITHMS: The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has adopted a new standard penalty for tech companies that it has found to violate the law with illegal data collection and use of algorithms – destroy the offending algorithm and underlying data set, aka “algorithmic disgorgement.” **It is only a matter of time before the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) also imports this penalty but such a move could have an outsized impact on a financial institution, particularly as it relates to making credit underwriting decisions.**

The FTC used algorithm destruction for a third time in recent years earlier this month when it included it as part of a settlement order for WW International (formerly Weight Watchers). Under the terms of the settlement, WW is forced to delete illegally collected data from minors in its Kurbo app and any algorithms or Artificial Intelligence models built from that data set, as well as pay a \$1.5 million fine. **The FTC under Chair Lina Khan views this type of penalty as analogous**

to the long history for mandating financial disgorgement of illegally procured financial gains.

According to Krishna Gade, the CEO of Fiddler, an AI software monitoring company, the term “algorithm” can be inclusive of any piece of code used in computer software to conduct a set of actions. **Investors should make note of this very wide interpretation of the term, which for the government agency, is intentional. This means that the regulator is able to extract the maximum penalty possible and make it a deterrence, rather than just a cost of doing business as has become the case with financial penalties.**

The first use of this type of penalty was in 2019 during the settlement with Cambridge Analytica, which had been contracted by the Trump campaign in 2016 and had much success using **Facebook (FB)** user data in its digital campaign work. This was a novel penalty at the time, but has now been used three times in as many years and we expect that it will quickly become the norm also across federal and state agencies.

In addition to Khan, FTC Commissioner Rebecca Slaughter has been supportive of algorithmic disgorgement, going so far as to join with two FTC career lawyers to write an article in the Yale Journal of Law and Technology. They wrote, “The premise is simple: when companies collect data illegally, they should not be able to profit from either the data or any algorithm developed using it. The authority to seek this type of remedy comes from the Commission’s power to order relief reasonably tailored to the violation of the law. This innovative enforcement approach should send a clear message to companies engaging in illicit data collection in order to train AI models: Not worth it.”

The next logical agency we expect to adopt this penalty is the CFPB, which is led by Rohit Chopra, a former FTC commissioner who has already made waves by focusing on algorithms and use of technology in consumer finance as potentially harmful for consumers. While he was still at the FTC, Chopra wrote in a statement regarding the settlement with Everalbum (the second mandated algorithmic disgorgement) that the company needed to “forfeit the fruits of its deception” and destruction of any ill-gotten information was part of “an important course correction.”

While the CFPB has not yet forced algorithmic disgorgement, the bureau has already begun targeting the use of algorithms, with a [bulletin last month](#) announcing a review of the options that lenders have for using algorithms in making automated valuations for home mortgages. The goal of the review is to ensure that the inputs for the algorithms, as well as the outcomes, are equitable and do not perpetuate discrimination against racial minority groups.

The CFPB is so concerned about the increased use of algorithms because the rise in the use of automated valuation models, particularly due to the Covid-19

pandemic, means consumers and regulators may never know that there is bias and redlining in the lender's decision making until long after the fact. **When a human is involved, there can be assessments done more easily and immediately to ascertain whether he or she is acting in a discriminatory manner and there are also only a limited number of appraisals that one person can do in a period of time. Automated valuations can be done on a far larger scale and much more quickly, potentially exacerbating any discrimination that the bureau alleges is present due to the programmers' choice of data inputs.**

In its press release, the bureau wrote, "The CFPB is particularly concerned that without proper safeguards, flawed versions of these models could digitally redline certain neighborhoods and further embed and perpetuate historical lending, wealth, and home value disparities."

Once the bureau finalizes its new standards for use of algorithms in this and other areas of consumer finance, we expect that disgorgement will certainly be a part of any enforcement penalty and that Chopra will not be moved by any pleas that disentangling the data or algorithm is impossible or financially problematic, which would lead to an interesting clash with safety and soundness regulators, including the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

WEIGHING SOLAR RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES: Even though the sun seems to have set on the Build Back Better Act (BBB), which contains new and expanded clean energy tax credits that would have boosted the solar industry, solar energy remains in the spotlight with another tariff decision looming and the possibility of solar tax credits eventually coming to light in another budget reconciliation package or in a year-end tax extenders package. The Biden administration and both the domestic and global solar industry are still pressing for tax credits as well as pushing for or against the imminent tariff decision. **In the short term, the nearest event on the solar horizon is the Commerce Department's decision over the fate of Auxin Solar's petition requesting an expansion of the solar tariffs that currently apply to China.**

The petition in question from Auxin makes the case that solar cells and modules imported from Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam should be covered by tariffs on imports from China. Auxin is arguing that the expanded tariffs are necessary because Chinese manufacturers are circumventing roughly decade-old duties by assembling their products in the four countries listed. **The expansion would significantly impact the US solar industry because Malaysia, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam supply 80 percent of US solar imports.** Because of this, the Solar Energy Industries Association is fighting Auxin's petition with its head, Abigail Ross Hopper, warning that the immediate impact to the solar industry if the request is granted would be "significant" and "chilling," and it is "hard to overstate

what it would mean.”

On the other side, nearly a dozen House members led by Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-NJ) and Brad Wenstrup (R-OH) [wrote](#) to Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo this week arguing that “the United States can and must robustly enforce its trade laws across the board,” and that a decision in support of Auxin would not doom solar expansion in the US. **The Biden administration will find itself in a familiar position leading up to March 25th — when a decision is due — of having to weigh the two competing perspectives, which it previously navigated in determining the fate of the Section 201 solar tariffs earlier this year.** In that case, President Biden attempted to strike a compromise by modifying the Commerce Department’s recommendation and extending the tariffs with major caveats through carve-outs and exemptions of bifacial panels.

Besides the Commerce Department’s consideration of Auxin’s petition, the US solar supply chain faces further risks from Russia’s invasion of Ukraine. Biden is speaking by phone today with Chinese President Xi Jinping and is expected to continue to pressure Xi to avoid taking any type of action that supports Russia. One potential source of leverage could be additional tariffs or even sanctions on Chinese goods, including solar panels.

However, on the positive side is the potential resurrection of the BBB tax credits in the latest budget reconciliation effort titled Build a Better America (BABA). Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), whose lack of support effectively killed BBB, has recently outlined which clean energy policies he is willing to support in a new budget reconciliation package. Manchin has not taken issue with the solar industry and has said that he would support climate measures including tax credits if they are paid for through other tax reform measures. **This is a positive for the solar agenda, which also remains bolstered by the fact that if a second coming of BBB does not eventually come to fruition, then solar tax credits like the investment tax credit that was included in the Manchin-authored bipartisan American Energy Act of 2020 could ultimately pass in a year-end bipartisan tax extenders package.**

GOP CHALLENGES MCCONNELL THEORY ON ELECTIONS: Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) wants the 2022 midterm elections to be about anything but Republicans. To which, several GOPers are saying, “Hold my beer.”

This week, Herschel Walker, the Republican frontrunner for the Georgia Senate race against Senator Raphael Warnock (D-GA), [questioned](#) the theory of evolution. “Why are there still apes? Think about it,” Walker said. Warnock, who is a pastor, [told HuffPost](#), “I believe in science and my faith has no quarrel with science.” This comes as another Republican candidate in the race [released an ad this week](#) highlighting Walker’s troubled past. In the Show-Me State, President Trump in an

[interview this week](#) said former Governor Eric Greitens (R-MO) could receive his endorsement in the Republican primary for the seat being vacated by Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO). Greitens resigned the governorship in 2018 over an affair and allegations of blackmail. In a [Trafalgar Group poll this week of the solidly red state](#), Greitens is tied in a hypothetical matchup with Democratic Senate candidates while other Republican candidates are beating Democrats by double digits. Then there is Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI), the man who courts controversy and is running for a third term this year in a purple state. After [saying](#) in January that he was against making child care more affordable, he [posited this week](#) that mothers who receive child care assistance should have to work at daycare centers where their children go. This comes a week after he [said](#) Republicans should repeal the Affordable Care Act if the GOP returns to power.

All of this is just this week's newscycle of Republican antics (if we weren't so confident in Dave McCormick's chances in the Pennsylvania Senate GOP primary, we'd include the latest Dr. Oz [shenanigans](#), [plural](#)). After the 2020 elections, McConnell [said](#) Republicans "need to win back the suburbs. We need to do better with college-educated voters than we're doing lately. And we need to do better with women." **Walker, Greitens, and Johnson are not the poster boys for McConnell's mission. If it's a referendum on President Biden and Democratic control of Congress, Republicans win back control. If the narrative is different, the answer is muddled.**

So Democratic hope springs eternal in the springtime of an election year. In 2018, Democrats were feeling good about their chances in states like Tennessee and Missouri after their special election victory in Alabama. Of course, Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) was going to win reelection in 2018! Even McConnell and Republican leadership thought Johnson was a goner in his 2016 reelection race.

Yet the optimism that blooms in the spring often wilts under the political realities come fall. In our [Spotlight Report](#) on the state of the Senate last month, we listed 11 variables to watch for as the midterms neared. In only two did Democrats have an advantage – recruitment and retirements (since then Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) announced he would resign this year, thus triggering a special election for his seat in November). Republicans had an advantage in eight variables with fundraising being no meaningful advantage to either party.

At this point, we would caution against missing the forest for the trees when focusing on just one variable like recruitment/candidate quality. Even with a tied race in Missouri if (and that's still a big if) Greitens wins the nomination, the higher number of undecided voters are almost certainly Republican leaning, giving the GOP upside in keeping them in the fold. In the [little Georgia polling](#) that has been done so far this year, Walker leads Warnock in every one (although well within the margin of error). As Senate Minority Whip John Thune (R-SD) said about Johnson, "He's going to do it his way, but that way has worked. ...If it requires him to chart sort of an independent path relative to what other candidates may be doing,

so be it."

These candidates make life more complicated for McConnell, and he may very well intervene in Missouri to try to prevent Greitens from winning the nomination. His allies tried and failed in Georgia, instead looking to bring Walker into the fold. But it's a continuing low approval rating for Biden, high inflation, and the historical tailwinds the opposition party receives in midterm elections that should have McConnell sleeping well at night.

A Quick Look Back

House

On Monday, the House was not in session.

On Tuesday, the House considered non-controversial measures under expedited procedures.

On Wednesday, the House attended a virtual address from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and considered the rule providing for consideration of the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act, a bill that would prohibit contracts that require disputes to be resolved through arbitration, and the CROWN Act, a bill that would prohibit hairstyle and hair texture discrimination.

On Thursday, the House considered the Forced Arbitration Injustice Repeal Act as well as two measures under expedited procedures, including one that would suspend normal trade relations with Russia and Belarus.

Today, the House will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. and will consider the CROWN Act.

Senate

On Monday, the Senate considered the nomination of Shalanda Young to be director of the Office of Management and Budget.

On Tuesday, the Senate held a final confirmation vote on Young's nomination, a procedural vote on the nomination of Susan Tsui Grundmann to be a member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and a vote on a joint resolution to disapprove a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention rule related to mask mandates for transportation.

On Wednesday, the Senate attended a virtual address from Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and resumed consideration of the nominations of Jacqueline Scott Corley to be a judge for the Northern District of California and Fred W. Slaughter to be a judge for the Central District of California. The Senate also held procedural votes on the nomination of

Ruth Bermudez Montenegro to be a judge for the Southern District of California and the nomination of Victoria Marie Calvert to be a judge for the Northern District of Georgia.

On Thursday, the Senate held final confirmation votes on the nominations of Jacqueline Scott Corley to be a judge on the Northern District of California, Alison Nathan to be a judge on the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and Fred Slaughter to be a judge on the Central District of California.

Today, the Senate will not be in session.

White House

On Monday, President Biden addressed the National League of Cities Congressional City Conference and took part in a Democratic National Committee fundraiser.

On Tuesday, President Biden signed the FY22 appropriations omnibus into law and spoke at an Equal Pay Day event.

On Wednesday, President Biden delivered separate speeches about assistance to Ukraine and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. He also spoke at the Ireland Fund's 30th National Gala at the National Building Museum.

On Thursday, President Biden participated in a virtual bilateral meeting with Irish Taoiseach Micheál Martin. The president gave remarks at the annual Friends of Ireland St. Patrick's Day lunch on Capitol Hill. Biden and First Lady Dr. Jill Biden hosted a St. Patrick's Day event at the White House.

Today, President Biden will speak by telephone with Chinese President Xi Jinping at 9:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m., the president will receive his daily intelligence briefing. At 1:30 p.m., Biden will meet with patients and researchers to discuss the newly formed Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health. At 5:10 p.m., he will leave the White House en route to Rehoboth Beach, DE, where he will arrive at 6:10 p.m. and remain over the weekend.

Spotlight Review

Tuesday: [FDA Poised to Reignite a Tobacco Crackdown](#)

Thursday: [Biden's Russian Quandaries](#)

On the Horizon

Macroeconomic

On Monday and Tuesday, the National Association for Business Economics will hold its 38th annual economic policy conference titled "Policy Options for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Raphael Bostic, president and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
- Cecilia Rouse, chair, Council of Economic Advisers
- Jerome Powell, chair, Federal Reserve Board

On Monday at 10:00 a.m., the Center for Strategic and International Studies will hold a virtual discussion titled "Economy Disrupted: The View from Fort Worth." [More information here.](#)

On Monday at 12:00 p.m., Women in Housing Finance, Inc. will hold a virtual discussion on "current economic and banking topics." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Thomas Barkin, president and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee will hold a hearing titled "Rural Quality of Life: Opportunities and Challenges for the Rural Care Economy."

On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee will hold a hearing titled "Child Care and Preschool: Cutting Costs for Working Families."

On Tuesday at 10:15 a.m., the Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee will hold a hearing titled "Building a Resilient Economy: Shoring Up Supply."

On Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., New York Federal Reserve Bank President John Williams will participate in a virtual conversation with the Governors panel before the BIS Innovation Summit 2022 organized by the Bank for International Settlements.

On Tuesday at 2:00 p.m., the Hamilton Project will hold a virtual discussion titled "Tracking the Recovery From the COVID-19 Recession." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Mary Daly, president and CEO, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

On Wednesday at 9:30 a.m., the Peterson Institute for International Economics will hold a virtual discussion titled "How Russia's war in Ukraine affects the financial sector." [More information here.](#)

On Wednesday at 11:45 a.m., San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank President Mary Daly will participate in a conversation at the Bloomberg Equality Summit. [More information here.](#)

On Thursday at 11:00 a.m., Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank President Raphael Bostic will

participate in a moderated conversation on increasing minority participation in the economics profession at Spelman College Convocation Series.

On Thursday and Friday, the Brookings Institution will hold its virtual Brookings Papers on Economic Activity Spring 2022 Conference with sessions titled "Monetary Policy and Racial Inequality," "Understanding the Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Women," and "Cryptocurrencies and Decentralized Finance." [More information here.](#)

Antitrust and Consumer Protection

On Monday at 5:00 p.m., the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation will hold a virtual discussion titled "The FTC Rulemaking Agenda - Dwindled Innovation Through Regulation?" [More information here.](#)

Cybersecurity

On Wednesday at 1:00 p.m., the Information Technology Industry Council will hold a virtual discussion titled "Security in the Face of Rapidly Evolving Cyber Threats." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Senator Gary Peters (D-MI)

On Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., the Aspen Institute's Society of Fellows will hold a discussion titled "Defending the Digital World: A Survey of the Cybersecurity Risk Landscape." [More information here.](#)

On Wednesday at 7:00 p.m., the Henry L. Stimson Center will hold a virtual discussion titled "The Post-Cold War Transformation of the US-ROK Alliance: Implications and Future Cooperation." [More information here.](#)

On Friday at 1:00 p.m., the Atlantic Council will hold a virtual discussion titled "Beyond hope as a strategy: New models for public-private collaboration," focusing on cybersecurity. [More information here.](#)

Defense

From Monday through Thursday, Access Intelligence will hold its 2022 Satellite Conference. [More information here.](#)

On Tuesday at 10:00 a.m., the Henry L. Stimson Center will hold a virtual discussion titled "Maintaining the Nuclear Peace." [More information here.](#)

On Thursday at 2:30 pm., the Business Council for International Understanding will hold a discussion with Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Mike Miller. [More](#)

[information here.](#)

On Thursday at 6:00 pm., the International Institute for Strategic Studies will hold its Elleman Memorial Lecture and Reception on prospects for arms control. [More information here.](#)

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources

Today at 10:30 a.m., the Atlantic Council will hold a virtual discussion titled "Unearthing potential: The value of geothermal energy to U.S. decarbonization." [More information here.](#)

On Monday at 12:00 p.m., the Hudson Institute will hold a virtual discussion titled "The Future of U.S. Energy Production." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA)

On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will hold a hearing titled "Promoting American Energy Security by Facilitating Investments and Innovation in Climate Solutions."

On Thursday at 8:00 a.m., the American Council on Renewable Energy will hold its 2022 Policy Forum. [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Gina McCarthy, climate advisor, White House
- Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR)

On Friday at 1:00 p.m., the Center for a New American Security will hold a virtual discussion on preparedness for climate related disasters, pandemic response, and new strategic plans. [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Deanne Criswell, administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Financial Services

On Monday at 11:00 a.m., the Securities and Exchange Commission will hold an open meeting and is expected to vote on a mandatory climate disclosure proposal. [More information here.](#)

Geopolitical

Today at 8:30 a.m., the Atlantic Council will hold a virtual discussion titled "Baltic Perspectives on Russia." [More information here.](#)

Today at 12:00 p.m., the Hudson Institute will hold a virtual discussion titled "Reassessing America's Middle East Policy." [More information here.](#)

Today at 12:30 p.m., the Atlantic Council will hold a virtual discussion titled "A Structural Response to Russia's War." [More information here.](#) Expected participants include:

- Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

On Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., the George Washington University Institute for Korean Studies will hold a virtual Korea Policy Forum titled "The New Yoon Administration and U.S.- Republic of Korea Relations." [More information here.](#)

On Tuesday at 9:00 a.m., the Center for American Progress will hold a virtual discussion titled "Toward a More Balanced Foreign Policy for Japan." [More information here.](#)

On Tuesday at 1:30 p.m., the Center for Strategic and International Studies will hold a virtual discussion titled "Ukraine and Taiwan: Parallels and Early Lessons Learned." [More information here.](#)

On Tuesday at 4:00 p.m., the George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs will hold a discussion titled "The Avoidable War: The Dangers of a Catastrophic Conflict between the U.S. and Xi Jinping's China." [More information here.](#)

On Wednesday at 8:30 a.m., the Center for Strategic and International Studies will hold a virtual discussion titled "The Prospects for a U.S.-Japan Technology Security Alliance." [More information here.](#)

On Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., the Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Center for Strategy and Security will hold a virtual discussion titled "Future Foreign Policy: What Russia's war means for European defense." [More information here.](#)

On Thursday at 11:30 a.m., Washington Post Live will hold a virtual discussion with International Atomic Energy Agency Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi on the "specter of a nuclear incident in Europe" as a consequence of the Russian-Ukrainian war. [More information here.](#)

On Thursday at 8:00 p.m., the Business Council for International Understanding will hold a virtual discussion on issues including the Covid-19 situation in China and the state of US-China relations. [More information here.](#)

Healthcare

Today at 1:00 p.m., the American Hospital Association's Association for Health Care Resource & Materials Management will hold a virtual discussion titled "The Future of Health Care Supply Chain: How Organizations Are Proactively Managing Their Inventory Using Demand Planning."

On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

Committee will hold a hearing titled "Strengthening Federal Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Programs: Opportunities, Challenges, and Emerging Issues."

On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Special Aging Committee will hold a hearing titled "An Economy That Cares: The Importance of Home-Based Services."

Housing

On Thursday at 1:00 p.m., the Bipartisan Policy Center will hold a virtual discussion titled "Supporting Construction Innovations to Drive Down Costs." [More information here.](#)

Judicial

On Monday at 11:00 a.m., the Senate Judiciary Committee will hold a hearing on the nomination of Ketanji Brown Jackson to serve as an associate justice on the Supreme Court of the United States. The hearing will continue on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

On Tuesday at 3:00 p.m., Resources for the Future will hold a virtual discussion titled "Climate Change and the Supreme Court." [More information here.](#)

Tech-Media-Telecom

On Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee will hold a hearing titled "Developing Next Generation Technology for Innovation."

Trade

On Monday at 4:15 p.m., the World Trade Organization will hold a virtual discussion titled "Easing supply chain bottlenecks for a sustainable future." [More information here.](#)

On Wednesday at 2:00 p.m., the Washington International Trade Association and the George Washington University Institute for International Economic Policy will hold a discussion titled "Trade Links: New Rules for a New World." [More information here.](#)

Afterthoughts

Some Senators Were in the Dark on Daylight Savings Vote: Some senators likely lost

sleep last week after unwittingly taking on an issue that affects the wakeups of a majority of Americans every year. [Many were caught off guard](#) when the Senate passed a bill via unanimous consent to make daylight savings permanent – including those members in the chamber. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL) proposed passing the bill via the unanimous vote, which only requires one senator opposing it to prevent passage, but the senator who planned to block it, Roger Wicker (R-MS), unexpectedly stood down. The surprise allowed the bill to pass before other senators, some of whom were not even aware of the proposal, realized what had happened. Though the sneak strategy worked in the Senate, the Sunshine Protection Act would still need House approval and sign-off from President Biden before Americans permanently change their clocks.

The Wrong Time for Catching ZZZs: In another political sleep-related snafu, a member of the United Kingdom’s House of Lords has been banned from speaking after being caught sleeping during an opening speech. When Lord Young of Norwood Green later tried to weigh in on the debate over rules on genetic modifications of crops that he had partially missed, he was [told](#) by Baroness Bloomfield of Hinton Waldrist that she had been forced to ask an attendant to rouse him.



Copyright © 2022 [Beacon Policy Advisors LLC](#)

1701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20006 | (202) 729-6335

[Our Compliance Policy](#) [Unsubscribe](#)