

## \*\*\*RELIGION\*\*\*

In his address at the National Prayer Breakfast in D.C., Trump declared, "I will get rid of and totally destroy the Johnson Amendment." This provision to the U.S. tax code bans all tax-exempt nonprofits, like churches, houses of worship, and charities, from directly or indirectly participating in any political candidate's campaign. As part of the tax code, it would take an act of Congress to remove it.

#### ★★★DIPLOMACY★★★

The U.S. and Iran have announced sets of sanctions against each other after Iran tested its ballistic missile program. These actions resemble those that former president Obama had taken after Iran's previous ballistic missile tests. Iran insists the test didn't violate the 2015 nuclear accord it reached with the United States and five other world powers.

#### ★★★ ECONOMY★★★

Uber CEO Travis Kalanick quit President Trump's 15-member economic advisory council.

The first employment report since the inauguration showed the labor market expanding, with companies adding 227,000 jobs in January. Commenting on the growth, President Trump said, "I think it's gonna continue big league."

#### \*\*\*IMMIGRATION\*\*\*

A federal judge in Seattle, Wa. temporarily halted President Trump's immigration order preventing refugee entries for 120 days, and individuals from seven Muslim majority countries from entering the United States for 90 days. A federal appeals court in San Francisco, Calif. denied the Department of Justice's request for an immediate reinstatement of the ban.

> The Department of Homeland Security has suspended implementation of the order and the State Department has reversed cancellation of visas.

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has stated he will express his objections to the recent executive order on immigration and offer suggestions for changes to the policy at the next economic advisory council meeting.

# \*\*\*REGULATION\*\*\*

### ★★★ SUPREME COURT ★★★

President Trump has nominated Judge Neil M. Gorsuch, a federal appeals court judge in Denver, Colo. to the Supreme Court. If confirmed, Gorsuch will take the seat that Justice Antonin Scalia's death vacated. President Trump signed an executive order to review the 2010 Dodd-Frank Act, the set of regulations passed in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis. Critics see the reforms that Dodd-Frank set as examples of government overreach.

He also issued a separate presidential memorandum to have the Labor Department review the "fiduciary rule," which requires financial professionals to act with their clients' interests ahead of their own. The rule was supposed to go into effect in April, but now it will be delayed 90 days.

Compiled by Mark De Leon '17. Information from BBC World News and PBS. Graphic by Kaitlyn Patterson '20.