Weekly News Recap

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Top Stories of The Week

President Trump signs order to establish Strategic Bitcoin Reserve, will hold as store of value akin to Fort Knox

The Block Crypto News

President Donald Trump signed an executive order to establish a strategic Bitcoin reserve. The reserve will initially comprise approximately 200,000 Bitcoin seized from criminal activities, with authorizations to acquire more in a budget-neutral way. The order also establishes a US digital asset stockpile, which will consist of other digital assets seized by the government, but without provisions to acquire more.

Crypto scores win after US Senate votes to repeal DeFi tax rule

DL News Feeds

The U.S. Senate voted to repeal a Biden-era rule that required decentralized finance (DeFi) platforms to report user transactions to the IRS, citing concerns over privacy and handicapping innovation. The repeal now awaits approval from the House of Representatives and President Donald Trump, who is expected to sign it into law.

SEC moves to drop lawsuit against Cumberland DRW, marking latest crypto probe dissolved under Trump administration

The Block Crypto News

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has agreed to drop its lawsuit against Cumberland DRW which it accused last year of acting as an unregistered dealer when trading $2 billion in cryptocurrencies. This decision marks a significant shift in the SEC's approach under the Trump administration, following similar actions like dropping lawsuits against Kraken, ConsenSys, and Coinbase, as well as ending probes into Gemini and Yuga Labs.

Lawmakers Launch Bipartisan Congressional Crypto Caucus Following Trump Bitcoin Push

Decrypt

A bipartisan group of U.S. lawmakers has formed the Congressional Crypto Caucus to support and defend open, permissionless, and private innovation in the United States. Led by Representatives Tom Emmer (R-MN) and Ritchie Torres (D-NY), the caucus aims to promote a nonpartisan approach to cryptocurrency policy.

The Ethereum Foundation Restructures Leadership With New Co-Executive Directors

News

The Ethereum Foundation has appointed Hsiao-Wei Wang and Tomasz Stańczak as co-executive directors, restructuring its leadership to enhance technical expertise and community engagement. This follows Aya Miyaguchi's transition from executive director to president, aiming to strengthen institutional relationships and expand Ethereum's global influence.

Ethereum

Ethereum's Pectra Upgrade Delayed Following Testing Hitches

Ethereum's Second Buggy 'Pectra' Test Could Lead to a Delayed Upgrade

Ethereum Researcher Proposes Shared Random Algorithm to Decentralize Block Building

Ethereum Foundation backs advanced cryptography startup ZKNox, eyeing post-quantum future

Ethereum Foundation forms external council to uphold core blockchain values

Altcoins

Cardano Foundation Partners with World's Largest State-Owned IT Company Serpro to Enhance Blockchain Adoption in Brazil's Public Sector

Jito Foundation contributor proposes new JTO tokenomics model, including potential buybacks

Canary Capital registers SUI ETF in Delaware

SUI Surges on Trump-Affiliated World Liberty Financial Reserve Asset Deal

Sam Altman's World Network Unveils New Chat Feature to Connect Real Humans

Uniswap community expands ‘Delegate Reward Initiative’ to incentivize active governance with UNI tokens

Bitwise files S-1 registration for a Aptos ETF as number of potential altcoin-based funds swells

Canary Capital Files to Launch ETF Tracking Cross-Chain Protocol Axelar

Blockchain oracle RedStone launches RED token, enabling staking and paving the way for multi-asset rewards

SingularityNET and Privado ID Establish First Decentralized AI Agent Trust Registry

Ripple focuses on US crypto education with $50M grant to launch National Cryptocurrency Association

SSV Labs proposes decentralized staking module for Lido on Ethereum

Paradigm leads $41 million token round for Across Protocol aiming to unify Ethereum

Aave contributor presents ‘most important proposal in our history,’ token price jumps 8%

Pyth Network Launches Open-Source Insights Hub for Real-Time DeFi Price Transparency Across Chains

Uniswap Partners with Robinhood and Payment Platforms for Seamless Crypto-to-Fiat Transactions

Former Congressman Patrick McHenry joins Ondo Finance as advisory board vice chairman

Solana Price Rebounds as CME Group Debuts Futures to Meet 'Increasing Client Demand'

Stablecoins

Cosmos-based Noble’s yield-paying USDN stablecoin goes live

Tether appoints Simon McWilliams as new CFO in step toward full financial audit

Crypto Ecosystem

Pyth Network Partners with Coinbase to Enhance Asset Pricing

‘Omnichain’ tokenization platform Libre brings institutional funds from the likes of BlackRock, Nomura to Layer 1 network Injective

Prediction Market MYRIAD Launches USDC Markets

Base acquires team at PoW blockchain Iron Fish to develop ‘privacy-preserving primitives’

MetaMask Integrates Crypto Tax Calculator to Offer Built-In Tax Management Tool

Bitwise Taps Maple Finance as 'Battle-Tested' DeFi Lender

DoubleZero’s alternative to public internet targets mainnet rollout in H2

Fireblocks Unveils Cyber Security Tools to Help Crypto Handlers Meet Europe’s DORA Rules

Payments Infrastructure Provider Transak Expands to Australia Following Exchange Approval

Crypto Custodian Hex Trust Secures Major Payment Institution License in Singapore

World Liberty Financial amasses millions in ETH, WBTC and MOVE ahead of White House Crypto Summit

Lombard Finance to Launch its Liquid-Staking Bitcoin Token LBTC on Sui

Reddit co-founder aims to put TikTok on the blockchain with US acquisition bid

Sygnum Bank Expands Off Exchange Custody Platform to Include Deribit

Crypto Prime Broker FalconX's Head of Trading Brian Strugats Has Left the Business

Paradigm's Policy Council adds Van Jones and key former Trump aides, among other political operatives

PayPal-Backed Mintoak Acquires CBDC Startup Digiledge in $3.5M Deal

MegaETH set to deploy public testnet this week

Berachain liquid staking protocol Infrared raises $14 million in Series A token round

US judge dismisses SEC's lawsuit against Richard Heart and Hex, PulseChain on jurisdictional grounds

Layer-2 BOB's 'Bitcoin DeFi' Continues Progress With Fireblocks Integration

Copper Hires Tammy Weinrib as Chief Compliance Officer for Americas as it Expands in U.S.

Aave Launches Lending Markets on Sonic Blockchain with $15 Million Backing in First Layer 1 Expansion

MetaMask denies MASK token as Coinbase-backed DEX lists speculative pre-markets

Coinbase, NEAR, Others Form Alliance to Develop Open AI Services

CoW Swap surges to 26% market share, challenging 1inch for DEX aggregator dominance

Base cuts block times to 0.2 seconds on testnet with Flashblocks, mainnet rollout expected in Q2

MetaMask wallet to add support for Solana and Bitcoin

NFTs / Gaming / Metaverse

'Axie Infinity: Atia's Legacy' MMO Game Coming to Ethereum Network Ronin

'Eve Frontier' Recruits Central Bank Economist to Develop Ethereum Game's Virtual Economy

Solana Game 'Nyan Heroes' Reveals Biggest Airdrop Yet for Next Playtest

'Parallel' Headed to Mobile as Ethereum Card Game Crowns $100K Champion

Ethereum NFT Protocol Zora Reveals Token Airdrop Plans

Trump files trademark application for 'TRUMP' metaverse, which would sell NFTs and experiences related to the '45th and 47th president'

Mining

Core Scientific Shares Drop 15% as Microsoft Cuts CoreWeave Commitments

Core Scientific Appoints Former Investment Banker as New CFO

Canaan Mines 82 Bitcoin in February, Surpasses Q4 Revenue Guidance with $89M

Hut 8 Reports $331M Net Income in 2024 While Expanding AI Infrastructure

Exchanges

Russian Crypto Trading Platform Garantex Seized by Secret Service

Coinbase eyes tokenized securities as crypto regulations shift under Trump administration

Robinhood Lists Arbitrum ($ARB), an ETH L2 Token, to Expand Cryptocurrency Offerings

Deribit Launches Block RFQ System to Improve Liquidity for Large Over-the-Counter Trades

Crypto.com CRO faces backlash amid 70 billion burned token restore, 87% early voters say ‘no’

Coinbase demands SEC reveal US taxpayer cost of Gary Gensler’s aggressive crypto enforcement

Binance to Delist Non-MiCA Compliant Stablecoin Trading Pairs for EEA Users by March 2025

Uphold Relaunches Staking in the US, Reveals US Crypto Reserve Basket

Upbit owner clashes with South Korean regulators in legal battle

Investment Mgmt

Tokenized Asset Manager Superstate Registers Transfer Agent with SEC

Bitwise Debuts Bitcoin and Gold ETP in Europe

Blockstream Receives Multibillion-Dollar Investment to Launch Bitcoin Lending Funds

Early Solana Backer Foundation Capital Raises $600M for Eleventh Flagship Fund

BlackRock Adds Its IBIT Bitcoin ETF to Alternative Asset Model Portfolio

Trad Fi / Tech

Medical Tech Firm BioNexus Gene Lab Announces New Ethereum-Focused Treasury Strategy

Dubai Government-Owned Bank Emirates NBD Offers Crypto Trading Through Liv X App

Brazilian Fintech Méliuz to Allocate 10% of Cash Reserves to Bitcoin

Japan's SBI VC Trade completes regulatory registration to process USDC transactions

Deutsche Telekom subsidiary becomes a validator for Injective blockchain

Boerse Stuttgart Partners With DekaBank to Offer Crypto Trading for Institutional Clients

CBDC

Israel releases preliminary CBDC design for digital shekel

Regulatory / Countries

Congressman Tom Emmer revives anti-CBDC bill, calls digital dollar a 'surveillance tool'

Texas Surges in U.S. States' Race to Put Public Funds Into Crypto

India's Income Tax Department to Monitor Digital Activities, Including Cryptocurrency Holdings, from April 2026 Under New Bill

Indian town adopts Avalanche blockchain for tamper-proof land records

Japan's ruling party proposes capping crypto tax rate at 20%, matching stocks

New York introduces new bill to crack down on crypto rug pulls and private key theft

Pakistan Appoints Bilal bin Saqib as Chief Advisor for Crypto Policy Development

Bitcoin Reserve Announcement Coming Friday, Says Commerce Secretary

Russia Explores Regulated Crypto Trading for Qualified Investors Under Experimental Framework

SEC's crypto task force set to hold its first roundtable later this month

Yuga Labs Announces Conclusion of SEC Investigation into the NFT Company

Vietnam to Establish Legal Framework for Digital Assets

El Salvador's Bukele Adds 19 Bitcoin as IMF Pushes Back on BTC Adoption

Trump Admin Throws Weight Behind Bill to Repeal Anti-DeFi IRS Crypto Tax Rule

Senator Lummis to discuss US Bitcoin reserve bill with industry leaders on March 11

House investigates Biden-era crypto debanking claims that FDIC was 'closed for business' on blockchain

U.S. Senate Expected to Vote on Erasing IRS's Crypto Broker Rule That Threatens DeFi: Source

Colombia plans crypto regulations to curb risks and attract investment

SEC agrees to drop case against crypto exchange Kraken, firm says

SEC and Justin Sun Pause Tron Fraud Lawsuit for Settlement Talks

Coinbase case officially dropped by SEC

Arizona crypto reserve bills inch closer to law after passing Senate

Why the SEC says memecoins are more like Beanie Babies than securities

Surveys, Hacks, Other Misc

Almost Half of Mexican Startups Want to Use Crypto – Report

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