

LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY UPDATE

October 3, 2016

Week in Brief

President Barack Obama [Signs](#) Continuing Resolution into Law, Appropriating Funding to Federal Agencies Through December 9, 2016; Funding also Addresses the Zika Virus, the Opioid Crisis, and Veterans Health Administration Medical Services. See Statements from Senate Appropriations Committee Leadership ([Majority](#), [Minority](#)).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

September 27

Senate HELP Committee Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) [Sends](#) Letter to CEO of Mylan Regarding Price Increases of EpiPens.

September 28

Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) [Release](#) Statement Indicating Continued Commitment to Advancing Innovation, Precision Medicine, and Cancer Moonshot Legislative Initiatives this Year; Senate and House Leadership Later [Highlight](#) 21st Century Cures Legislation Passage as Lame Duck Priority.

House Ways & Means Committee [Holds](#) Hearing on Health Care Fraud Investigations.

House Oversight & Government Reform Committee [Spotlights](#) Op-Ed on High EpiPen Prices.

September 29

Senate Finance Committee Republicans [Wrote](#) the Obama Administration Regarding the Viability of CO-OPs.

“Right to Try” Legislation for Terminally Ill Patients Blocked in Senate; Lead Sponsor Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI) [Responds](#) with Letter to Democratic Leadership.

REGULATORY UPDATE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

September 26

ONC [Releases](#) the *Health IT Playbook* and the *EHR Contracts Untangled: Selecting Wisely, Negotiating Terms, and Understanding the Fine Print*.

September 27

HHS [Issues](#) Final Rule, *Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders Reporting Requirements*.

September 28

CMS [Publishes](#) Final Rule to Improve the Safety and Care of Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities Participating in Medicare and Medicaid.

September 29

CMS [Awards](#) \$347 Million to Organizations to Serve as Hospital Improvement Innovation Networks.

OTHER NEWS

GAO Releases Reports,

- [*Electronic Health Information: HHS Needs to Strengthen Security and Privacy Guidance and Oversight*](#). (Sept. 26)
- [*Information Security: FDA Needs to Rectify Control Weaknesses That Place Industry and Public Health Data at Risk*](#). (Sept. 29)
- [*Department of Health and Human Services: Transitional Reinsurance Program*](#). (Sept. 29)

September 28

The New England Journal of Medicine [Features](#) Case Study on Secondary, Nonsexual Zika Virus Transmission.