

NEWSLETTER May 8th, 2017

Week in Brief

AHCA: American Health Care Act (AHCA) passes the House; President Trump [Speaks](#) at White House Ceremony Celebrating House Passage of the Bill.

WHITE HOUSE UPDATE

May 1st

Mental Health: President Trump [Proclaims](#) May 2017 as National Mental Health Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

May 1st

FY2017 Appropriations: Senate Committee on Appropriations [Majority](#) and [Minority](#) Both Release Summary of FY2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. House Committee on Appropriations [Majority](#) and [Minority](#) Both Release Statement on FY2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. Senate Committee on Finance Ranking Member [Ron Wyden](#) (D-OR), Senate HELP Committee Ranking Member [Patty Murray](#) (D-WA), Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman [Greg Walden](#) (R-OR), and Rep. [Fred Upton](#) (R-MI) also Issue Statements on FY 2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill.

AHCA: Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) [Responds](#) to President Trump's Statement on the AHCA's Coverage for Americans with Pre-Existing Conditions.

May 2nd

FY2017 Appropriations: HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN) [Applauds](#) Increased Medical Funding and the Reintroduction of Year-round Pell Grants in the FY2017 Omnibus Appropriations Bill.

CHIP Reauthorization: Chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR) [Release](#) Statement in Advance of CHIP Reauthorization Hearing.

FDA User Fee Reauthorization: House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health [Holds](#) Hearing Examining Four Bipartisan Bills, Including the FDA User Fee Reauthorization Act.

VA Appeals Process: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Johnny Isakson (R-GA) and Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) [Announce](#) *Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017* (The Proposed Act). House Committee on Veteran Affairs Chairman Mike Bost (R-IL) and Ranking Member Elizabeth Esty (D-CT) also [Introduce](#) Legislation to Modernize the Appeals Process at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Medicaid Abuse: The Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations [Holds](#) Hearing Examining Waste, Fraud, and Abuse in Medicaid's Personal Care Services (PCS) Program. Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Frank Pallone Jr. (D-NJ) [Offers](#) Remarks.

May 3rd

U.S. Surgeon General: Senate HELP Committee Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) and Other Top HELP Committee Democrats [Send](#) Letter to President Trump Regarding Dr. Vivek Murthy's Dismissal.

AHCA: House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Greg Walden (R-OR) [Issues](#) Statement on AHCA Amendment.

May 4th

AHCA Vote:

- *House*: Ways and Means Committee Chairman [Kevin Brady](#) (R-TX), Ways and Means Committee Ranking Member [Richard Neal](#) (D-MA), Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman [Phil Roe](#) (R-TN), Budget Committee Ranking Member John Yarmuth (D-KY), Energy and Commerce Committee Ranking Member [Frank Pallone](#) Jr. (D-NJ), Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman [Greg Walden](#) (R-OR) and Health Subcommittee Chairman Michael C. Burgess (R-TX), and Budget Committee Chairman [Diane Black](#) (R-TN) Release Statements on the AHCA Passage through the House.
- *Senate*: Committee on Finance Chairman [Orrin Hatch](#) (R-UT), Committee on Finance Ranking Member [Ron Wyden](#) (D-OR), HELP Committee Chairman [Lamar Alexander](#) (R-TN), and HELP Committee Ranking Member [Patty Murray](#) (D-WA) Release Statements on the AHCA Passage through the House.

REGULATORY UPDATES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

May 4th

OIG: HHS OIG [Publishes](#) Report, *CMS Validated Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting Program Data, But Should Use Additional Tools to Identify Gaming*.

OTHER UPDATES

GAO: GAO Issues Reports,

- [Medicaid Managed Care: Compensation of Medicaid Directors and Managed Care Organization Executives in Selected States in 2015](#) (May 1st).
- [Medicaid Personal Care Services: More Harmonized Program Requirements and Better Data Are Needed](#) (May 2nd).
- [Medicaid Demonstrations: Federal Action Needed to Improve Oversight of Spending](#) (May 3rd).

May 3rd

Drug Costs: BlueCross BlueShield [Issues](#) Report, *Rising Costs for Patented Drugs Drive Growth of Pharmaceutical Spending in the U.S.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS/MARKUPS

HELP Committee Executive Session

[S. _____, Recognize, Assist, Include, Support, and Engage \(RAISE\) Family Caregivers Act and S.934, Food and Drug Administration](#) Reauthorization Act

- May 10 | 10:10 a.m.

G-50 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

[Examining the Veterans Choice Program and the Future of Care in the Community](#)

- May 10 | 2:30 p.m.

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