



Health Policy Briefing

May 6, 2019

House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Advances to Full Committee

The House Appropriations Labor-Health and Human Services (HHS)-Education Subcommittee advanced its fiscal year (FY) 2020 spending bill by voice vote last week, with no amendments offered. Members expect a full committee markup this week, making it the first of 12 annual appropriations bills to be considered by the full Committee as Democrats work to pass spending legislation that includes a total of \$631 billion in nondefense funding, an increase from \$597 billion in FY 2019. The Labor-HHS-Education bill would increase discretionary funding by \$11.7 billion for a total of \$189.98 billion, \$47.8 billion over the President’s budget request. The bill includes an increase of \$8.5 billion for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The National Institutes of Health (NIH) would receive a total of \$41.1 billion, an increase of \$2 billion above currently enacted levels and enough to provide sufficient funding to increase the appropriation for each institute and Center by nearly five percent. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would receive \$8.3 billion, a \$921 million increase above current levels. The measure also proposes \$50 million in funding for the CDC and the NIH to study firearm injury and mortality prevention, but it is unclear whether such a provision could be approved in the GOP-controlled Senate. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) would be funded at \$5.9 billion, a \$115 million increase. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) would receive a \$475 million increase for a total of \$7.6 billion, and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) would receive a \$20 million increase for a total of \$358 million. The bill directs \$4 billion for administrative expenses at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), an increase of \$315 million, and instructs CMS to use \$100 million in carryover funds from Affordable Care Act (ACA) user fees to support the Navigators program and open enrollment outreach and advertising. The Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (PHSSEF) would receive \$2.7 billion, an increase of \$77 million. House Republican appropriators Kay Granger

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(R-Texas) and Tom Cole (R-Okla.) argue that the top-line spending figures in the Labor-HHS-Education measure are too high and will be rejected by the President and the Republican-controlled Senate. If appropriators succeed in marking up spending legislation in May, the 12 total appropriations bills are likely to be considered in packages on the floor in the month of June, according to House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.). The Senate has not yet scheduled markups while waiting for a deal to be struck on spending caps, but Appropriations Chairman Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) has also said that funding bills will be bundled together for consideration to expedite their passage in the Senate.

House Judiciary Advances Drug Pricing Legislation

The House Judiciary Committee advanced several bills related to prescription drug costs last week. The bills were approved by voice vote on a largely bipartisan basis with little debate. The ***CREATES Act*** (H.R. 965) would ensure that generic manufacturers have access to the brand samples necessary to develop generic products. The bill, which the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates would save \$3.9 billion, has already been advanced by the House Energy and Commerce Committee and is expected to be considered by the full House this month. H.R. 2375, the ***Preserve Access to Affordable Generics and Biosimilars Act***, would create a presumption of anti-competitiveness for so-called “pay-for-delay” agreements. This legislation differs from the pay-for-delay bill previously advanced by the House Energy and Commerce Committee (H.R. 1499), under which such settlements would be prohibited. The Judiciary Committee also passed legislation (H.R. 2376) that would give the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) authority to study proprietary data from pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), and a bill (H.R. 2374) that would restrict brand manufacturers from using the Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) citizen petition process to slow generic drug approvals.

CBO Releases Highly Anticipated Report on Single-Payer Health Care

The CBO released its [report](#) on single-payer health care last week. The report, requested by House Budget Chairman John Yarmuth (D-Ky.), does not make any recommendations but is instead an analysis of the potential impact of switching to a single-payer health care system. It examines what types of services would be covered, how people would enroll, the kinds of decisions that lawmakers would have to make in crafting such a policy, and the potential budgetary and economic impact of such legislative proposals. It does not include any formal consideration or score of Medicare for All legislation or estimates of how many people would gain or lose coverage under the system currently being advocated by Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.). CBO states that government spending on health care under a single-payer system would “increase substantially” and outlines the significant economic disruptions that could occur if the switch were to be made. Substantial changes would result in the sources and extent of health care coverage, provider payment rates, and the financing of the nation’s health care. The report warns of the increased demand for services and the possible added pressure of a single-payer system on providers. The budget office states that disruptions could be minimized by phasing in changes gradually. CBO also includes a high-level discussion of options to finance prescription drugs in a single-payer system, such as direct negotiation with the manufacturer. Chairman Yarmuth has expressed hopes that the report will accelerate the move to a single-payer system, which he has described as inevitable, while Ranking Member Steve Womack (R-Ark.) used the report to highlight the potential negative impacts of a “one-size-fits-all” approach to health care.

The House Budget Committee will hold a hearing on single-payer health care during the third week of May, focusing on the recent CBO report. The House Ways and Means Committee has also confirmed plans to hold a hearing on single-payer health care. Leadership of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the other House panel with health care jurisdiction, has not committed to hold a hearing on the issue but has instead reiterated a commitment focusing on legislation to lower health care costs.

CBO Details Cost of WH Rebate Rule

The CBO released a new [analysis](#) indicating that the administration's plan to eliminate drug-manufacturer rebates to PBMs in Medicare and Medicaid would increase federal spending by \$177 billion over the next decade. The White House proposal would significantly curtail the use of rebates between pharmaceutical companies and PBMs. CBO found that the move would increase spending for both the Medicare (\$170 billion) and Medicaid (\$7 billion) programs. The estimated increase in cost would be a result of higher insurance premiums – rebates can currently be used to broadly lower premiums. CBO also found that the rebate proposal would result in lower out-of-pocket costs for some Medicare beneficiaries, which could lead to higher drug utilization. CBO predicts that the policy would lead to manufacturers withholding 15 percent of the amounts they currently rebate to PBMs in Medicare and Part D.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has reportedly asked the CBO to determine how much would be saved by delaying the rebate proposal. A delay or full repeal of the policy could be combined with other Democratic drug pricing proposals, such as capping Medicare out-of-pocket costs for prescriptions and then included as a part of must-pass legislation, like raising the budget caps.

CBO Releases Updated Estimates of ACA Mandate Repeal

The CBO [estimates](#) that the repeal of the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual mandate will result in seven million more people without health insurance by 2020. The agency's latest report projects that the number of uninsured will continue to grow – from 28 million in 2017 to 35 million by 2029. CBO attributes this increase not only to the repeal of the individual mandate but also to rising health insurance premiums and an increase in the number of people choosing plans that do not meet the definition of health insurance (short-term, limited-duration plans). Subsidies in the ACA marketplace are estimated to increase from \$62 billion in 2019 to \$79 billion in 2029, while the number of people who receive subsidies is projected to drop from eight million people to six million people. CBO's most recent projections are similar to those made by the budget office in 2018.

Talks on Prescription Drug Pricing Continue

President Trump met with a group of Democratic lawmakers, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), last week, pledging to work together to lower the cost of prescription drugs. According to the White House, the President and Democratic leaders agreed to another meeting on prescription drug prices in the near future. The President's promise was met with skepticism from some members of Congress, such as Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-Ore.), who have pointed to the lack of detailed proposals coming from the administration. Wyden is hopeful that a bipartisan drug pricing bill will be advanced through the Finance Committee this year.

House Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) and Ways and Means Chairman Richard Neal (D-Mass.) held a closed door meeting last week with the Congressional Progressive Caucus regarding potential legislation to lower drug prices. The chairmen told the liberal Democrats that they have not ruled out a policy that would strip drug manufacturers of their monopolies if they refuse to negotiate a reasonable price with the federal government. Members of the Progressive Caucus have expressed concerns that this policy has been abandoned in favor of a proposal from House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's (D-Calif.) office that would use a binding arbitration approach to drug price negotiation.

President Encourages Murray, Alexander to Reopen ACA Negotiations

President Trump is encouraging Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-Wash.) to revive talks with Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) on stabilizing the ACA. The effort stalled last year over an abortion-related disagreement. While both Murray and Alexander have appeared open to revisiting the issue of strengthening insurance markets, neither have altered their stance on the dispute over language to restrict funds to insurers that provide coverage for abortions. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has said that the Senate will not consider any legislation related to the ACA until after the next election.

Lawmakers Urge Continued Delay of New OPTN Policy

Sens. Roy Bunt (R-Mo.) and Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) have [written](#) to HHS Secretary Azar asking him to continue to delay changes made to the national liver distribution policy by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN), pending additional information that the lawmakers have requested from the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Blunt and Moran have expressed concerns about the potential for the new liver allocation policy to bias other organ distribution policies, and about the lack of adequate oversight of changes made by the OPTN.

Finance Releases Report on Medicaid Supplemental Payments

The Senate Finance Committee has released a majority staff [report](#) on the issue of Medicaid supplemental payments. The report calls for improved education and transparency to ensure that taxpayer dollars being used for Medicaid supplemental payments are spent appropriately and effectively. It urges the collection of non-disproportionate share hospital (DSH) supplemental payment data at the provider level.

Enzi to Retire in 2020

Wyoming Sen. Mike Enzi (R) announced that he will not run for reelection next year. The four-term senator currently chairs the Senate Budget Committee and sits on the Finance and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) committees. Enzi stated that he wishes to focus on budget reform during his remaining time in Congress. There is currently speculation that Rep. Liz Cheney (R-Wyo.), who challenged Enzi in the 2014 primary, will run to replace him in 2020.

House to Vote on Protections for Preexisting Conditions This Week

House leadership announced that the House will vote on the *Protecting Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act* (H.R. 986) sometime mid-to-late this week. The bill would rescind U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Treasury Department guidance issued by the Trump administration in October 2018 that expanded the types of section 1332 waivers states could request to make changes to their ACA marketplaces. The guidance allows states to subsidize health plans that do not comply with all of the ACA's standards. Democrats argue that the guidance undermines many of the law's important consumer protections, such as those for individuals with preexisting conditions. H.R. 986 would also prohibit the issuance of any new rules that are substantially similar to the October 2018 guidance.

HHS Personnel Update

HHS has announced that Jack Kalavritinos, head of the Office of Intergovernmental and External Affairs since December 2017, will be leaving the administration. Kalavritinos plans to join communications consulting firm APCO Worldwide. His replacement at HHS has not yet been announced.

Upcoming Congressional Hearings and Markups

Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs hearing to examine privacy rights and data collection in a digital economy; 10:00 a.m., 538 Dirksen Bldg.; May 7

Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions hearing to examine implementing the 21st Century Cures Act, focusing on making electronic health information available to patients and providers, part II; 10:00 a.m., 430 Dirksen Bldg.; May 7

Senate Committee on the Judiciary hearing to examine intellectual property and the price of prescription drugs, focusing on balancing innovation and competition; 10:00 a.m., 226 Dirksen Bldg.; May 7

Senate Committee on Finance hearing to examine Medicare physician payment reform after two years, focusing on Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act implementation and the road ahead; 10:15 a.m., 215 Dirksen Bldg.; May 8

House Committee on Energy and Commerce Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee hearing “Oversight of the Federal Trade Commission: Strengthening Protections for Americans’ Privacy and Data Security;” 10:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn Bldg.; May 8

House Committee on Oversight and Reform National Security Subcommittee hearing “Veteran and Active-Duty Military Suicides;” 2:00 p.m., 2154 Rayburn Bldg.; May 8

Senate Special Committee on Aging hearing to examine the Older Americans Act, focusing on protecting and supporting seniors as they age; 2:30 p.m., 562 Dirksen Bldg.; May 8

House Committee on Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee hearing “Lowering Prescription Drug Prices: Deconstructing the Drug Supply Chain;” 10:00 a.m., 2322 Rayburn Bldg.; May 9

House Committee on Small Business Innovation and Workforce Development Subcommittee hearing “The Digital Ecosystem: New Paths to Entrepreneurship;” 10:00 a.m., 2360 Rayburn Bldg.; May 9

House Committee on Oversight and Reform hearing “The Trump Administration’s Response to the Drug Crisis, Part II;” 11:00 a.m., 2154 Rayburn Bldg.; May 9

Recently Introduced Health Legislation

H.Res.323 — Supporting State, local, and community initiatives to encourage parents, teachers, camp counselors, and childcare professionals to take measures to prevent sunburns in the minors they care for, and expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that State, local, and community entities should continue to support efforts to curb the incidences of skin cancer beginning with childhood skin protection; Sponsor: Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor

H.R.2328 — To reauthorize and extend funding for community health centers and the National Health Service Corps; Sponsor: Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2333 — To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of the responsibilities, workload, and vacancy rates of Department of Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Brindisi, Anthony [D-NY-22]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2339 — To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2340 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide to Congress notice of any suicide or attempted suicide of a veteran in a Department of Veterans Affairs facility, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Rose, Max [D-NY-11]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2359 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress a report on the Department of Veterans Affairs advancing of whole health transformation; Sponsor: Rep. Lamb, Conor [D-PA-17]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2361 — To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to administer vaccinations for hepatitis A, at no cost to the inoculated, in certain areas at risk of a hepatitis A outbreak; Sponsor: Rep. Mast, Brian J. [R-FL-18]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2365 — To amend title 18, United States Code, to limit the ability to assess a fee for health care services for prisoners, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]; Committees: House - Judiciary

H.R.2371 — To amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the requirement for certain former members of the Armed Forces to enroll in Medicare Part B to be eligible for TRICARE for Life, and to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain DNA specimen provenance assay tests under the Medicare program; Sponsor: Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Armed Services

H.R.2372 — To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of all memoranda of understanding and memoranda of agreement between Under Secretary of Health and non-Department of Veterans Affairs entities relating to suicide prevention and mental health services; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

S.Res.172 — A resolution to authorize testimony in an administrative hearing for Bryan K. Stanley before the Mississippi Division of Medicaid; Sponsor: Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]; Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

S.1222 — A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide hospital care and medical services to veterans in the Freely Associated States of the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia and to conduct a study on the feasibility and advisability of establishing regional offices, suboffices, contact units, or other subordinate offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs in the Freely Associated States to provide such care and services, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

S.1223 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories; Sponsor: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.1224 — A bill to enable the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Judiciary

S.1227 — A bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]; Committees: Senate - Judiciary

H.R.2374 — To enable the Federal Trade Commission to deter filing of sham citizen petitions to cover an attempt to interfere with approval of a competing generic drug or biosimilar, to foster competition and facilitate the efficient review of petitions filed in good faith to raise legitimate public health concerns, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Jeffries, Hakeem S. [D-NY-8]; Committees: House - Judiciary

H.R.2375 — To prohibit prescription drug companies from compensating other prescription drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug, biosimilar biological product, or interchangeable biological product into the market; Sponsor: Rep. Nadler, Jerrold [D-NY-10]; Committees: House - Judiciary, Energy and Commerce

H.R.2376 — To require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Collins, Doug [R-GA-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary

H.R.2387 — To amend subsection (q) of section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the process for denying certain petitions whose primary purpose is to delay the approval of an application submitted under subsection (b)(2) or (j) of such section 505, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.331 — Expressing support for the designation of April 30 as “National Adult Hepatitis B Vaccination Awareness Day”; Sponsor: Rep. Johnson, Henry C. “Hank,” Jr. [D-GA-4]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2401 — To prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in biomedical research; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Budget, Energy and Commerce, Armed Services, Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2408 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update and clarify the classification of and applicable payment methodology for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr. [R-WI-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.2417 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to expand and improve health care services by health centers and the National Health Service Corps for individuals with a developmental disability, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.Res.175 — A resolution supporting increased awareness of sepsis and the importance of early diagnosis and appropriate intervention; Sponsor: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.Res.177 — A resolution expressing support for the designation of April 30, 2019, as “National Adult Hepatitis B Vaccination Awareness Day”; Sponsor: Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1240 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count resident time spent in a critical access hospital as resident time spent in a nonprovider setting for purposes of making Medicare direct and indirect graduate medical education payments; Sponsor: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]; Committees: Senate – Finance

S.1250 — A bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in biomedical research; Sponsor: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]; Committees: Senate – Budget

S.1251 — A bill to improve coordinate interagency Federal actions and provide assistance to States for responding to public health challenges posed by emerging contaminants, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]; Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

H.Res.337 — Expressing support for the designation of May 2019 as “Mental Health Awareness Month”; Sponsor: Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.341 — Expressing support for the designation of May as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”; Sponsor: Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.342 — Supporting the goals and ideals of National Healthy Schools Day; Sponsor: Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-3]; Committees: House - Education and Labor

H.R.2428 — To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to prohibit group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage from imposing cost-sharing requirements or treatment limitations with respect to diagnostic examinations for breast cancer that are less favorable than such requirements with respect to screening examinations for breast cancer; Sponsor: Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2431 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a loan repayment program for mental health professionals to relieve workforce shortages, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2435 — To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an interagency task force on the use of public lands to provide medical treatment and therapy to veterans through outdoor recreation; Sponsor: Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]; Committees: House - Veterans’ Affairs

H.R.2439 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions to help combat the opioid crisis; Sponsor: Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.2447 — To repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Sponsor: Rep. Brindisi, Anthony [D-NY-22]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.2452 — To amend the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare for America health program to provide for comprehensive health coverage for all Americans; Sponsor: Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, Judiciary, Natural Resources, House Administration

H.R.2455 — To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to citizen petitions; Sponsor: Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2463 — To provide for the establishment of Medicare part E public health plans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Education and Labor

H.R.2464 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program supporting trauma centers with violence intervention and violence prevention programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Ruppertsberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2466 — To extend the State Opioid Response Grants program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.1260 — A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for grants to enable States to carry out activities to reduce administrative costs and burdens in health care; Sponsor: Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1261 — A bill to provide for the establishment of Medicare part E public health plans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.1263 — A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an interagency task force on the use of public lands to provide medical treatment and therapy to veterans through outdoor recreation; Sponsor: Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

S.1266 — A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to protect patients from surprise medical bills; Sponsor: Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1268 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that hospitals receive adequate payment for the acquisition of hematopoietic stem cells under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]; Committees: Senate - Finance

H.R.2468 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the preference given, in awarding certain allergies and asthma-related grants, to States that require certain public schools to have allergies and asthma management programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Hoyer, Steny H. [D-MD-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2469 — To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to better align the grace period required for non-payment of premiums before discontinuing coverage under qualified health plans with such grace periods provided for under State law; Sponsor: Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.2477 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a system to notify individuals approaching Medicare eligibility, to simplify and modernize the eligibility enrollment process, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.2482 — To amend section 303(g) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823(g)) to eliminate the separate registration requirement for dispensing narcotic drugs in schedule III, IV, or V (such as buprenorphine) for maintenance or detoxification treatment, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Tonko, Paul [D-NY-20]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary, Ways and Means

H.R.2487 — To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to establish, or expand upon, master's degree programs in orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2493 — To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authorization period for emergency treatment in non-Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities under the Veterans Community Care Program; Sponsor: Rep. Gibbs, Bob [R-OH-7]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2498 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure that hospitals receive adequate payment for the acquisition of hematopoietic stem cells under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.2501 — To provide for the coverage of medically necessary food and vitamins and individual amino acids for digestive and inherited metabolic disorders under Federal health programs and private health insurance, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means, Armed Services, Oversight and Reform

H.R.2503 — To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to increase support for mental health; Sponsor: Rep. Phillips, Dean [D-MN-3]; Committees: House - Education and Labor

H.R.2507 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize certain programs under part A of title XI of such Act relating to genetic diseases, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Roybal-Allard, Lucille [D-CA-40]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2508 — To provide for a pilot program to include respiratory therapists as telehealth practitioners under the Medicare program; Sponsor: Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.2511 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow for payments to States for substance abuse services furnished to inmates in public institutions, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.1280 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a system to notify individuals approaching Medicare eligibility, to simplify and modernize the eligibility enrollment process, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.1281 — A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide grants for institutions of higher education to prevent substance misuse, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1315 — A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to establish, or expand upon, master's degree programs in orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

S.1316 — A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to award grants to fund research on orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]; Committees: Senate - Armed Services