

[This Week in Health Policy](#), [Congressional Lookback](#), [Regulatory Lookback](#), [Comment & Application Deadlines](#)

Wynne Health Group Weekly



FRAMING THE WEEK

The House is in recess this week, but the Senate will push forward with their spring agenda, though mostly focused on energy and environmental issues. Appropriations hearings will continue with Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Jennifer Granholm and Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary Pete Buttigieg testifying on the fiscal 2023 budget proposal. Meanwhile, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will headline the week's markup schedule as it considers a biennial water resources development bill, with a particular focus on potential climate change action. Bipartisan Senate discussions on a possible deal to combat climate change and modernize U.S. energy policy also continue this week.

COVID SUPPLEMENTAL

Late last week President Biden formally requested \$33 billion in supplemental funding to help Ukraine fend off Russia and requested that it be "approved as quickly as possible." Included in the request was the \$10 billion COVID-19 package ([HR 7007](#)) for the purchase of additional vaccines, therapeutics and tests, although GOP objections to spending figures and a pending decision to lift Title 42 public health restrictions for migrants at the border remain a hurdle. Though chief medical advisor and Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Dr. Anthony Fauci declared last Tuesday that we are "past the pandemic phase" thirty-six states saw an increase over the previous week in Covid-19 cases during the week ending April 24, according to CDC data. The Administration continues to highlight the pitfalls of not providing more funds: the U.S. wouldn't be able to purchase additional COVID-19 boosters in the fall, money would run out for treatments, and monoclonal antibodies and testing capacity will diminish. On the vaccine front, the FDA has tentatively scheduled meetings on June 8 to review Pfizer and Moderna vaccines for children aged 6 months to 5 years.

FY 2023 Budget Talks

Prior to the House breaking for recess, top appropriators kicked off negotiations to agree on top-line spending levels for FY 2023 funding, and reportedly all four lawmakers remain optimistic about the odds of agreeing to top-line spending levels in the next few weeks. Though election-year politics will complicate their mission to close out fiscal 2023 work this fall, they hope to agree on the framework before the House starts marking up their bills in June.

THIS WEEK IN HEALTH POLICY

Tue. (5/3)

- **10:00am – Hearing: Broadband** – The Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety holds a hearing titled, “Connecting Workers and Communities: Preparing and Supporting the Broadband Workforce.” [Details](#).
- **10:30am – ONC Meeting: Interoperability** – The Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) holds a meeting of the Interoperability Standards Workgroup to discuss how to improve interoperability. [Details](#).
- **11:00am – CDC Meeting: Advisory Committee** – The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Advisory Committee to the Director holds a meeting to discuss data modernization, laboratory quality, and health equity. [Details](#).

Additional Multi-Day Events

- **May 2-May 3 – 1:00pm – HHS Meeting: Alzheimer’s Disease** – The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Advisory Council on Alzheimer’s Research, Care, and Services holds a meeting to hear panel presentations on recent research on biomarkers and therapeutics and presentations about dementia risk reduction. [Details](#).
- **May 2-May 3 – 10:00am – NIH Meeting: Children’s Health** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development holds a meeting of the National Advisory Board on Medical Rehabilitation Research to hear reports. [Details](#).
- **May 4-May 5 – 10:00am – HRSA Meeting: Nursing** – The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council on Nurse Education and Practice to discuss the nursing workforce, nursing practice improvement, nursing education, and the response to COVID-19. [Details](#).

FEATURED WHG ANALYSIS

- **WHG Tracker of COVID-19 PHE Flexibilities** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **WHG Memo on PBM Regulatory and Legislative Landscape** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **WHG Memo on Possible CMMI Action on Drug Pricing** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **WHG Roundup of Recent Telehealth Policy** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **WHG 2022 Legislative and Regulatory Outlook** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **WHG Issue Brief on Health Equity Implications of Potential Telehealth Reform Under Medicare** – In the Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).

CONGRESSIONAL LOOKBACK

Tues (4/26)

- **The Senate HELP Committee [convened](#)** a hearing with the directors of FDA Administration to discuss the reauthorization of the FDA user fee amendment programs. [Details](#).

Thurs. (4/28)

- **The House Ag Committee [held](#)** a hearing on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. [Details](#).

REGULATORY LOOKBACK

Fri. (4/29)

- **The CDC** [released](#) a solicitation of nominations for appointment of individuals to serve as members of the Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF). Nominations are due June 24. [Details](#).
- **SAMHSA** [announced](#) that it published three new informational resources about mental health and substance use disorder benefit parity rights. [Details](#).
- **CMS** [released](#) the latest enrollment figures for Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP. [Details](#).

Thurs. (4/28)

- **CMS** [released](#) the 2023 HHS Notice of Benefit Payment Parameters final rule. [Details](#).
- **The FDA** [released](#) proposed rules to prohibit menthol in cigarettes and characterizing flavors in cigars. Comments are due July 3. [Details](#).
- **The FDA** [issued](#) a request for nominations for nonvoting industry members to serve on the Pediatric Advisory Committee. [Details](#).
- **The CBO** [released](#) a presentation compiling findings from analyses published earlier this year on trends in prescription drug prices and prices of hospital and physician services. [Details](#).
- **HHS OIG** [published](#) a report showing that MA organizations sometimes delayed or denied MA beneficiaries access to service even though the requests met Medicare rules. [Details](#).

Weds. (4/27)

- **CMS** [held](#) quarterly National Stakeholder Call with CMS Administrator Chiquita Brooks-LaSure. [Details](#).
- **The GAO** [released](#) the latest in its COVID-19 oversight reports. [Details](#).

Tues (4/26)

- **MACPAC** [released](#) a comment letter to the SFC and the House E&C Committee addressing two HHS reports on behavioral health treatment and prescription drugs. [Details](#).
- **MACPAC** [released](#) an issue brief reviewing Medicaid coverage of community health workers. [Details](#).
- **FNS** [announced](#) \$5 million in grant funding for Process and Technology Improvement Grants in SNAP. Applications are due June 27. [Details](#).

COMMENT & APPLICATION DEADLINES

- **May 2:** The HHS Office of the Surgeon General is [seeking](#) input on the impact and prevalence of health misinformation in the digital information environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Details](#).
- **May 9:** The USPSTF issued draft recommendation statements in favor of screening for [major depressive disorder \(MDD\)](#) and [anxiety](#) among children and adolescents. [Details](#).
- **May 9:** HRSA [released](#) a RFI on ways to strengthen and improve the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network (OPTN). [Details](#).
- **May 9:** The NIH [released](#) a notice of proposed rulemaking to update the NIH Loan Repayment Programs (LRP) to reflect changes made by the 21st Century Cures Act. [Details](#).
- **May 12:** The FNS [released](#) proposed scientific questions to inform the development of the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2025-2030*. [Details](#).
- **May 17:** SAMHSA [posted](#) three grant opportunities related to mental health. [Details](#).
- **May 17:** SAMHSA [posted](#) a notice of funding opportunity for the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Grant Program. [Details](#).
- **May 24:** The FDA [issued](#) a proposed rule to amend the device CGMP requirements. [Details](#).

- **May 24:** AHRQ [extended](#) the comment period for its RFI on its proposed strategic framework for the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund (PCORTF) investments. [Details](#)
- **May 31:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2023 inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) prospective payment system (PPS) proposed rule. Comments are due May 31. [Details](#).
- **May 31:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2023 inpatient psychiatric facility (IPF) prospective payment system (PPS) proposed rule. Comments are due May 31. [Details](#).
- **May 31:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2023 hospice payment rate update proposed rule. [Details](#).
- **June 1:** HRSA [released](#) a NOFO to strengthen the public health workforce under the Public Health Scholarship Program. [Details](#).
- **June 6:** The Treasury Department and the IRS issued a [proposed rule](#) to revise criteria for ACA premium tax credit (PTC) eligibility in the individual market. [Details](#).
- **June 6:** HHS OCR [issued](#) a RFI to solicit comments on the HITECH Act. [Details](#).
- **June 7:** The FDA [issued](#) a request for comments on changes to the agency's previously proposed quality metrics (QM) reporting program. [Details](#).
- **June 10:** CMS [released](#) the FY 2023 SNF PPS proposed rule. [Details](#).
- **June 13:** The FDA [issued](#) draft guidance on diversity plans to improve enrollment of participants from underrepresented racial and ethnic populations in clinical trials. [Details](#).
- **June 14:** HRSA [announced](#) the availability of \$226.5 million in American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding to launch the new Community Health Worker Training Program (CHWTP). [Details](#)
- **June 14:** SAMHSA [released](#) a notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) for Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Regional Centers. [Details](#).
- **June 20:** The FDA [issued](#) a request for comments on providing mail-back envelopes and education on safe disposal for opioid analgesics dispensed in an outpatient setting. [Details](#).
- **June 24:** The CDC released a solicitation of nominations for appointment of individuals to serve as members of the Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF). [Details](#).
- **June 27:** FNS [announced](#) \$5 million in grant funding for Process and Technology Improvement Grants in SNAP. [Details](#).
- **July 3:** The FDA [released](#) proposed rules to prohibit menthol in cigarettes and characterizing flavors in cigars. [Details](#).
- **July 7:** The FDA [issued](#) draft guidance on cybersecurity in medical devices and quality system considerations. [Details](#).
- **July 13:** CMS [issued](#) an IFC to implement a maximum OOP and cost sharing limits in MA. [Details](#).
- **September 17:** The CDC [issued](#) a request for nominations for members to serve on the Healthcare Infection Control Practices Advisory Committee (HIPAC). [Details](#).

WHG Contacts for Inquiries

Alyssa Llamas: alyssa@wynnehealth.com; (562) 207-8807

Josh LaRosa: josh@wynnehealth.com; (703) 309-4248

Erin Slifer: erin@wynnehealth.com; (410) 984-4552

Billy Wynne: billy@wynnehealth.com; (202) 309-0796

