

**Wynne Health Group Weekly**



**FRAMING THE WEEK**

This week, congressional committees will convene hearings on top priorities, including the President's fiscal year (FY) 2023 budget request, health of older adults, and mental health. Today, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) is expected to tee up a Wednesday vote on the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA) of 2022 ([S. 4132](#)), which would prohibit government restrictions on the provision of, and access to, abortion services.

The Senate version of WHPA includes some changes to address concerns from moderate lawmakers (e.g., removed language saying abortion restrictions perpetuate "white supremacy" and are "a tool of gender oppression"). However, the Senate is not expected to clear the 60-vote filibuster threshold. Still, the largely symbolic vote is intended to get lawmakers on the record regarding reproductive rights ahead of the anticipated Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*. In February 2022, Senate Majority Leader Schumer attempted to pass the House version of WHPA ([H.R. 3755](#)) but failed in a 46-48 vote to overcome the filibuster. The House passed the bill along party lines (218-211) back in September 2021.

House Appropriations Committee hearings will continue with [directors from the National Institute of Health](#) testifying on the fiscal year 2023 budget proposal. The Committee will also hold hearings on funding for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and National Science Foundation, among other federal agencies. On Thursday, a panel of advocates and experts will appear before the Committee to [discuss](#) how to maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults.

The House Energy and Commerce (E&C) Subcommittee on Health is expected to mark up this week the Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022 – a bipartisan bill introduced by E&C Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) and Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) ([WHG summary](#)). The legislation mostly reauthorizes key programs at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Highlights include:

- Establishes a Behavioral Health Crisis Coordinating Office within SAMHSA;
- Establishes a maternal mental health hotline;
- Eliminates the option for nonfederal governmental health plans to elect out of mental health parity compliance;
- Reauthorizes important programs that focus on substance use disorder prevention treatment, and recovery support;
- Addresses youth mental health by reauthorizing the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbances, Youth and family TREE programs, and the Pediatric Mental Health Care Access grant program.

On Thursday, the Senate Judiciary Committee will mark up the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Reauthorization Act of 2022 ([S. 3846](#)) – a bipartisan bill that would reauthorize the [Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program](#), which integrates mental health care and law enforcement. The lead

sponsors are Sens. John Cornyn (R-TX), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Dick Durbin (D-IL), and Chuck Grassley (R-IA).

## **THIS WEEK IN HEALTH POLICY**

### **Mon. (5/9)**

- **9:00am – NQF Meeting: Behavioral Health** – The National Quality Forum (NQF) holds a meeting of the Opioids and Behavioral Health Committee to discuss the final report. [Details.](#)
- **1:00pm – NIH Meeting: Muscular Dystrophy** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) holds a meeting of the Muscular Dystrophy Coordinating Committee to provide updates on the Action Plan for Muscular dystrophies. [Details.](#)

### **Tue. (5/10)**

- **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.](#)
- **1:00pm – CMS Forum: Quality Programs** – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) holds the Quality Programs Bi-Monthly Forum to provide updates on the Quality Measurement and Value-Based Incentives Group. [Details.](#)
- **1:15pm – NIH Meeting: Drug Abuse** – The NIH National Institute of Drug Abuse holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse to hear presentations. [Details.](#)
- **3:00pm – HPCLAN Event: Updates** – The Health Care Payment Learning and Action Network (HPCLAN) holds the Spring Event and will discuss CMS leadership, health equity, and alternative payment models. [Details.](#)

### **Wed. (5/11)**

- **10:00am – Hearing: NIH FY 2023 Budget** – The House Appropriations Committee holds a hearing titled, “Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Budget Request for the National Institutes of Health.” [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – NIH Meeting: Aging** – The NIH National Institute on Aging holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council on Aging to hear reports from the Task Force on Minority Aging Research. [Details.](#)

### **Thurs. (5/12)**

- **10:00am – Hearing: Aging** – The House Appropriations Committee holds a hearing titled, “Healthy Aging: Maximizing the Independence, Well-Being, and Health of Older Adults.” [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – AHRQ Meeting: Healthcare Research and Quality** – The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) holds a meeting of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality to discuss program updates. [Details.](#)
- **12:00pm – NCD Meeting: Disability** – The National Council on Disability (NCD) holds a meeting to hear reports. [Details.](#)
- **12:30pm – HHS Meeting: AA and NHPI Issues** – The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) holds a meeting of the President’s Advisory Commission on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (AA and NHPI) to advise the President on issues affecting the AA and NHPI communities. [Details.](#)
- **3:00pm – NQF Meeting: Risk Adjustment** – NQF holds a meeting of the Risk Adjustment Guidance Technical Expert Panel to develop guidance on risk adjustment in quality measurement. [Details.](#)

### **Additional Multi-Day Events**

- **May 12-May 13 – 10:00am – HRSA Meeting: Heritable Disorders in Children** – The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) holds a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Heritable Disorders in Newborns and Children program updates. [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

##### Weds. (5/4)

- **The House E&C Committee** [released](#) the legislative text for the reauthorization of the FDA user fee agreements. [Details](#).

##### Tues. (5/3)

- **The Republicans' Healthy Future Task Force** [announced](#) their solutions to lower drugs and increase the availability and development of life-saving cures and therapies. [Details](#).

##### Fri. (5/6)

- **The E&C Committee** [introduced](#) the Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022. [Details](#).

#### REGULATORY LOOKBACK

##### Fri. (5/6)

- **The CBO** [published](#) its letter to the House Committee on the Budget describing how the agency is analyzing differential effects of federal policies by race and ethnicity. [Details](#).

##### Thurs. (5/5)

- **SAMHSA** [announced](#) \$55 million in grant funding for Tribal Opioid Response Grants. Applications are due June 27. [Details](#).
- **ASPE** [released](#) an issue brief describing hospital cost savings associated with COVID-19 vaccinations among Medicare beneficiaries. [Details](#).
- **AHRQ** [released](#) a notice of request for nominations for members of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality. Nominations are due July 5. [Details](#).

##### Weds. (5/4)

- **HRSA** [awarded](#) \$25 million to HRSA-funded health centers delivering school-based health services in underserved communities.
- **The CDC Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD)** [held](#) its second meeting to hear committee updates. [Details](#).

##### Tues. (5/3)

- **The CDC** is seeking nominations for membership on the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) Data and Surveillance Workgroup. Nominations are due May 14. [Details](#).
- **HHS** is [seeking nominations](#) for members on the [National Vaccine Advisory Committee](#). Nominations are due June 24. [Details](#).

- **ASPE** [released](#) an issue brief examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the health care workforce. [Details](#).
- **ASPE** [released](#) an issue brief describing health coverage changes under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) throughout 2021. [Details](#).
- **MACPAC** [released](#) an issue brief describing the CMS [Financial Alignment Initiative](#) for beneficiaries dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid. [Details](#).

## COMMENT & APPLICATION DEADLINES

- **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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 14:** The CDC is seeking nominations for membership on the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) Data and Surveillance Workgroup. [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:** HHS is [seeking nominations](#) for members on the [National Vaccine Advisory Committee](#). Nominations are due June 24. [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](#).
- **June 27:** SAMHSA [announced](#) \$55 million in grant funding for Tribal Opioid Response Grants. [Details](#).

- **July 3:** The FDA [released](#) proposed rules to prohibit menthol in cigarettes and characterizing flavors in cigars. [Details](#).
- **July 5:** AHRQ [released](#) a notice of request for nominations for members of the National Advisory Council for Healthcare Research and Quality. [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](#).

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