

Impact Health Policy Weekly

The House and Senate are in recess and will return on April 28. On Thursday, the House passed the Senate-amended [budget resolution](#) that sets up a minimum of \$4 billion in savings for Senate Committees and \$1.5 trillion in cuts for the House Committees by a vote of 216-214. Following its passage, Senate Majority Leader John Thune (R-SD) stated that the Senate would be as aggressive as possible on spending cuts and asserted that the House and Senate are aligned on savings.

Despite the difficulty in passing the resolution, the real hard work on the budget reconciliation package begins when Congress resumes in late April, with one of the biggest decisions being how the Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee will handle its \$880 billion instruction, after Speaker Johnson promised that Medicaid benefits will not be cut, and will continue to focus on “fraud, waste, and abuse” Below we highlight potential Medicaid options that have been considered and their estimated savings:

- **Work Requirements:** [\\$109 billion](#) in 10-year savings
- **Medicaid per capita caps:** [\\$532 billion to \\$989 billion](#) in 10-year savings, depending on how states respond
- **Standardize Medicaid administrative matching rate:** [\\$69 billion](#) in 10-year savings
- **Limit Medicaid provider taxes:** [\\$175 billion](#) in 10-year savings
- **Repealing Biden Administration Regulations:**
 - Repealing the two-part final rule on Medicaid eligibility ([part 1](#) and [part 2](#)): [\\$164 billion](#) in 10-year savings
 - Repealing the [Medicaid/CHIP access final rule](#): [\\$121 billion](#) in 10-year savings
 - Imposing limits on the level of state-directed payments in Medicaid by repealing a policy in the [Medicaid and CHIP managed care access final rule](#): [\\$25 billion](#) in 10-year savings

Regarding timing, Republican leadership is still pushing for a very ambitious deadline of passing the reconciliation package before Memorial Day. As tax bills are required to start in the House, the Committees will begin marking up their respective sections as soon as Congress resumes, with it being reported that the House Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Armed Services Committees will go first. Additionally, the Ways and Means and E&C Committees are expected to mark up their portions the week of May 5th.

Regulatory Update

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released the FY 2026 Medicare payment proposed rules. Our summary of the inpatient prospective payment system (IPPS) and long-term care hospital prospective payment system (LTCH PPS) proposed rule is available [here](#). Impact Health will send summaries of the proposed rules for hospice providers, inpatient psychiatric facilities, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, and skilled nursing facilities today.

This Week in Health Policy

Tue. (4/15)

- **11:00am – Heritage Discussion: Economic Impact of Deregulation** – The Heritage Foundation holds a discussion on the economic case for deregulation, and recommendations for concrete steps Congress can take to roll back costly rules. [Details.](#)

Wed. (4/16)

- **3:00pm – Brookings Discussion: Power of the Purse** – The Brookings Institution holds a discussion on the history of the power of the purse and the legal, political, and economic issues surrounding the current debate over the control of federal spending. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (4/17)

- **11:00am – NIH Meeting: Advancing Translational Science** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) holds a meeting of the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences for a report from the center director about the center's initiatives, policies, programs and future direction. [Details.](#)
- **4:00pm – RAND Discussion: Veteran Suicide Prevention** – The RAND Family Veterans Policy Research Institute holds a discussion on "Innovations in Veteran Suicide Prevention." [Details.](#)

Additional Multi-Day Events

- **Apr 15-Apr 16 – CDC Meeting: Immunization Practices/Measles Outbreak Update** – The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) holds a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on chikungunya vaccines, COVID-19 vaccines, cytomegalovirus (CMV) vaccine, Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccines, influenza vaccines, Lyme disease vaccine, meningococcal vaccines, mpox vaccines, pneumococcal vaccines, Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) vaccines for adults, and RSV vaccines for maternal and pediatric populations. An update on the current measles outbreak will also be provided. [Details.](#)

Featured Analysis

- ***NEW* Impact Update on HHS RIF and Reorganization** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Memo on Potential Budget Reconciliation Spending Cuts: Medicaid, ACA, Immigration, Commercial Insurance and More** – Available [here.](#)
- **Insights for Impact: Federal Nutrition Programs** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Litigation Tracker: Monitoring Legal Challenges to Trump-Vance Executive Actions** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)
- **Impact Overview of President Trump's Day One EO** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here.](#)

Congressional Lookback

Fri. (4/11)

- **MedPAC** held day two of its [April 2025 public meeting](#) and held sessions on hospice and ESRD, and nursing home quality. All Impact Health session summaries are available in Policy Hub [here.](#)

- **MedPAC** held day two of its [April 2025 public meeting](#) and held sessions on HCBS workforce and behavioral health access for children. All Impact Health session summaries are available in Policy Hub [here](#).

Thurs. (4/10).

- **MedPAC** convened virtually for day one of its [April 2025 public meeting](#) and held sessions on physician payment reform, the PDP and MA-PD markets, MA supplemental benefits, MA and rural hospitals, and paying for technologies in Medicare. All Impact session summaries are available on Policy Hub [here](#).
- **MACPAC** convened virtually for day one of its [April 2025 public meeting](#) and held sessions payment and financing, CYSHCN transitions, HCBS, access to medications for OUD, and PACE. All Impact session summaries are available on Policy Hub [here](#).

Tues. (4/8)

- **The W&M Health Subcommittee** convened a [hearing](#) on the health of the biosimilar market and how increased access to such products can lower prescription drug costs for patients. [Details](#).
- **The House E&C Committee** [advanced 20 bipartisan bills](#) to the full House of Representatives. [Details](#).

Regulatory Lookback

Fri (4/11)

- **CMS** released the FY 2026 IPPS and LTCH PPS [proposed rule](#). Comments are due June 10. [Details](#).
- **OMB** released two significant policy memos that reshape the way federal agencies use and procure artificial intelligence. [Details](#).

Thurs. (4/10)

- **CMS** issued a [press release](#) describing the new Administrator for the Center for Medicare & Medicaid's vision and his role in the "Make America Healthy Again" agenda. [Details](#).
- **The OMB** issued an [RFI](#) inviting the public to submit suggestions for eliminating or revising federal regulations that are considered unnecessary, outdated, or burdensome. Comments are due May 11. [Details](#).

Wed. (4/9)

- **The GAO** [released](#) a study addressing ongoing drug shortages in the United States, which have been significantly exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. [Details](#).

Mon. (4/7)

- **CMS** announced the [Calendar Year \(CY\) 2026 Medicare Advantage \(MA\) Capitation Rates and Part C and Part D Payment Policies](#) and the [Final CY 2026 Part D Redesign Program Instructions](#). [Details](#).

Comment & Application Deadlines

- **May 11:** The OMB issued an [RFI](#) inviting the public to submit suggestions for eliminating or revising federal regulations that are considered unnecessary, outdated, or burdensome. [Details.](#)
- **June 10:** CMS released the FY 2026 IPPS and LTCH PPS [proposed rule](#). [Details.](#)
- **July 1:** The CDC [seeking nominations](#) for membership on the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Advisory Committee (CLIAC). [Details.](#)