

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the week

Both chambers are in session for a busy week. The Senate has until the end of the week to pass the White House-requested and House-approved recissions package ([H.R. 4](#)), while the House of Representatives is expected to send bipartisan legislation establishing federal crypto policy to President Trump's desk. Meanwhile, both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees will continue their work on fiscal year (FY) 2026 appropriations bills. Additional details follow.

FY 2026 Appropriations

Last week, the Senate Appropriations Committee advanced the [FY 2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA and Related Agencies bill](#), which provided flat level funding for the FDA at \$7 billion, including \$3.6 billion in discretionary funding and \$3.4 billion in user fees. This is above the \$6.79 billion advanced in the House Appropriations Committee version, teeing up additional funding discrepancies in funding between the two chambers.

On the House side, House Appropriations Committee has several subcommittee and full committee [markups scheduled](#) this week, including the Transportation, HUD, and Related Agencies bill. Relatedly, following HHS Secretary Kennedy's testifying before the House Energy and Commerce (E&C) Committee regarding the agency's fiscal year (FY) 2026 HHS budget, Ranking Member Franke Pallone (D-NJ) [sent a letter](#) to the Secretary demanding following on several topics address, including the reduction-in-force (RIF), the dismissal of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and errors in the Make America Healthy Again (MAHA) Report.

Medical Debt

On Friday, a Texas U.S. District Court [ruled](#) to vacate a Biden Administration rule that would have removed medical debt from consumers' credit reports, citing that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau exceeded its regulatory authority. The rule was set to take effect at the end of the July and was estimated to remove \$49 billion of medical debt from 15 million Americans' credit reports.

Regulatory Update

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) cleared the CY 2026 Physician Fee Schedule proposed rule, and an [interim final rule](#) titled, "Administrative Simplification: Modifications to NCPDP Retail Pharmacy Standards. OMB is also reviewing the following:

- **Medicare:**
 - **CY 2026 Medicare Payment.** Proposed CY 2026 payment update for [hospital outpatient departments and ambulatory surgical centers](#), This proposed rule is expected soon.
 - **FY 2026 Medicare Payment.** Final FY 2026 payment updates to the [acute care hospitals and long-term care hospitals](#), [hospice facilities](#), [skilled nursing facilities](#), [inpatient](#)

[rehabilitation facilities](#), and [inpatient psychiatric facilities](#). These final rules are typically published around August 1.

- **CY 2026 Medicare Advantage/Part D Policy.** Final CY 2026 policy and technical changes to the [Medicare Advantage, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit, and Medicare Cost Plan Programs, and PACE](#)
- **Medicaid:**
 - A [final rule](#) titled, “Medicaid Eligibility Changes Under the Affordable Care Act of 2010; Giving States Freedom to Use Immigration Information to Determine State Residency for Medicaid Eligibility.” The final rule is part of the Trump administration’s efforts to [increase federal oversight](#) on states using Federal Medicaid funding for the health care of undocumented immigrants.
 - A [proposed rule](#) titled, “Medicaid Managed Care-State Directed Payments.” The proposed rule appears intended to advance a [presidential memorandum](#) released on June 6, which directs HHS to “eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicaid, including by ensuring Medicaid payments rates are not higher than Medicare, to the extent permitted by applicable law.”
- **Prescription Drugs:**
 - **340B Program.** A [notice](#) from the Health Resources and Services Administration titled, “340 Rebate Guidance.”

This Week in Health Policy

Mon. (7/14)

- **9:00am – FDA Meeting: Prescription Drug User Fee Act FY2028 to FY2032** – The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) holds a meeting to discuss proposed recommendations for the reauthorization of the Prescription Drug User Fee Act for fiscal year (FY) 2028 through FY2032. [Details.](#)
- **5:00pm – Markup: FY2026 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Bill** – The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies holds a markup of its FY 2026 appropriations bill. [Details.](#)

Tue. (7/15)

- **2:00pm – Hearing: Nonprofit Networks Exploiting Federal Funds** – The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Oversight holds a hearing to “examine how left-wing organizations have exploited federal tax dollars to advance their radical causes,” focused on the use of federal grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Justice Department to fund causes fundamentally opposed to the national interests of Americans. [Details.](#)
- **3:00pm – Hearing: Vaccine Injuries** – The Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Investigations holds a hearing on “Voices of the Vaccine Injured.” [Details.](#)

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Wed. (7/16)

- **8:00am – Hill Discussion: Policy Outlook** – The Hill holds its inaugural Hill Nation Summit, a bipartisan gathering of members of Congress, Administration Officials, and business leaders to discuss the policy outlook for the Trump Administration and Congress, focused on business, trade, energy, and health care. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: Labor and HHS Nominations** – The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds a hearing to examine the nominations of Crystal Carey to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board for term of four years, Brian Christine to be an Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Brittany Panuccio to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: Public Health Workforce/Access to OTC Medicines** – The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health holds a hearing to discuss legislative proposals impacting the public health workforce, rural health, and over-the-counter (OTC) medicines, including the reauthorization of the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Program. [Details.](#)
- **10:15am – Hearing: OSHA Compliance** – The House Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Workforce Protections holds a hearing to examine the future of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) compliance assistance. [Details.](#)
- **11:00am – NIH Meeting: Cancer Research** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) holds a meeting of the National Cancer Institute for a discussion of NCI's Clinical and Translational Research Programs. [Details.](#)

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Thurs. (7/17)

- **10:00am – Markup: FY2026 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Bill** – The House Appropriations Committee holds a markup of the FY 2026 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: Independent Workers/Access to Portable Benefits** – The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds a hearing on how to empower independent workers to access portable workplace benefits, like health care and retirement. [Details.](#)
- **1:00pm – CMMI Meeting: WISeR Model** – The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Innovation Center (CMMI) holds a meeting to provide an overview of the WISeR Model and answer questions about the model. The [WISeR Model](#) will leverage enhanced technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML), along with human clinical review, to ensure timely and appropriate Medicare payment for select items and services. [Details.](#)

Featured Analysis

- ***NEW*** OBBA Medicaid Provisions and Timeline for Implementation – In Policy Hub [here](#).
- ***NEW*** Changes to ACA Premium Tax Credit Policy in 2026 and Beyond - In Policy Hub [here](#).

- **Supreme Court Decisions Reshape Medicaid, Gender-Affirming Care, and Judicial Power** – In Policy Hub [here](#).
- **AI in Health and Governance Roundup: New Frameworks, Tools, and Oversight Challenges** – In Policy Hub [here](#).
- **Litigation Update: Legal Cases in Response to Trump Administration Executive Actions** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).
- **100 Days of Disruption: Health Policy Under Trump 2.0** – In Policy Hub Insight Bank [here](#).

Congressional Lookback

Fri (7/11)

- **Rep. Carter (R-GA)** introduced the [PBM Reform Act](#), which includes the PBM provisions that were dropped from the budget reconciliation, as well as provisions that apply to the commercial market. [Details](#).

Wed. (7/9)

- **The Senate HELP Committee** [voted 12-11](#) along party lines to advance Dr. Susan Monarez, President Donald Trump's nominee to lead the CDC. [Details](#).

Regulatory Lookback

Thurs. (7/10)

- **HHS** announced that the Trump Administration is rescinding a previous interpretation of the PRWORA in order to prevent access to federal public benefits for non-citizens. Comments are due August 13. [Details](#).

Tues. (7/8)

- **A U.S. District Court** ordered HHS to restore certain webpages and datasets that had been removed in response to the [Executive Order 14168](#), "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government." [Details](#).

Mon. (7/7)

- **The House Oversight Committee** recently [launched an investigation](#) into allegations that New York State misused federal Medicaid funds by withholding or reclaiming over \$1 billion from local governments and low-income hospitals to address its budget shortfall. [Details](#).

Comment & Application Deadlines

- **July 14:** CMS released a [proposed rule](#) entitled "Medicaid Program; Preserving Medicaid Funding for Vulnerable Populations – Closing a Health Care-Related Tax Loophole Proposed." [Details](#).
- **July 15:** The NIH [issued](#) a Request for Information (RFI) to gather public input on the development of a comprehensive NIH Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy. [Details](#).

- **August 13:** HHS announced that the Trump Administration is rescinding a previous interpretation of the PRWORA in order to prevent access to federal public benefits for non-citizens. [Details](#)
- **August 29:** CMS issued the CY 2026 home health prospective payment and rate update [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **August 29:** CMS issued the CY 2026 ESRD PPS [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **September 11:** The FDA issued an [RFI](#) to begin its process of reviewing nutrition requirements in infant formulas. [Details](#).