

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the week

Tomorrow at midnight government funding expires and a government shutdown will begin. Last week, Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Russ Vought threatened to permanently terminate federal jobs during the potential shutdown if Democrats do not agree to the Republican continuing resolution (CR). However, Democrats are remaining steadfast with House Minority Leader Hakeem Jefferies (D) indicating that they will not cave to the pressure without Republicans providing an “iron clad and in legislation” agreement to address health care.

After cancelling last week’s meeting with Democrat leaders, President Trump will meet with both Republican and Democrat leadership today to discuss the possibility of averting a shutdown. However, each side is dug in on their approach, with no compromise in sight. Republicans continue to support their CR with funding through November 21 and would prefer to address the enhanced premium tax credits later this year, while Democrats are seeking an extension of the enhanced premium tax credits, coupled with repealing H.R. 1’s Medicaid cuts in any government funding deal.

Regulatory Update

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) completed reviewing the following:

- **Medicaid and Immigration Status.** 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.

OMB is also reviewing the following:

- **Medicare:**
 - **CY 2027 Medicare Advantage/Part D Policy.** [Proposed CY 2027 policy and technical changes](#) to Medicare Advantage, Medicare Prescription Drug Benefit, Medicare Cost Plan, and PACE
 - **CY 2026 Physician Fee Schedule.** The [final rule](#) for the CY 2026 CY 2026 Revisions to Payment Policies Under the Physician Fee Schedule and Other Revisions to Medicare Part B
 - **Procurement of Domestic PPE.** An [advance notice of proposed rulemaking](#) that would detail program incentives and requirements for Medicare providers and suppliers to invest and phase-in the procurement of American made personal protective equipment (PPE) and essential medicine to secure our nation’s health and safety.
- **Medicaid:**
 - **Gender-Affirming Care.**

- A [proposed rule](#) titled, “Medicaid Program; Prohibition on Federal Medicaid Funding for Sex Trait Modification Procedures Furnished to Children and Youth.”
- A [proposed rule](#) titled, “Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Hospital Condition of Participation: Limiting Participation Based on the Performance of Sex Trait Modification Procedures on Children.”
- **State Directed Payments.** 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:**
 - **Transparency.** A [proposed](#) rule titled, “Improving Transparency into Pharmacy Benefit Manager Fee Disclosure.”
 - **CMMI Drug Pricing Model.** A [proposed rule](#) for a Global Benchmark for Efficient Drug Pricing (GLOBE) Model.
- **Nutrition:**
 - **Head Start.** A [notice](#) from the Administration for Children and Families titled, “Publish Request for Information: Nutrition Services in Head Start Programs
- **Immigration:**
 - **Unaccompanied Children.** An [interim final rule](#) titled, “Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule; Update to Include Proof of Identity and Income Verification Standards.”

This Week in Health Policy

Mon. (9/29)

- **1:00pm – NIH Meeting: Engaging Public as Partners in Clinical Research** – The National Institutes of Health (NIH) holds a meeting of the Novel and Exceptional Technology and Research Advisory Committee for presentation, discussion and possible finalization of the draft report of the Working Group on Engaging the Public as Partners in Clinical Research. [Details.](#)

Tue. (9/30)

- **9:00am – FDA Meeting: Onshoring Pharmaceutical Manufacturing** – The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) holds a meeting to present and discuss a draft framework that seeks to facilitate onshoring of pharmaceutical manufacturing, including the current challenges faced by industry such as active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) and finished drug and biological products. [Details.](#)

- **9:15am – Hearing: Soft on Crime Policies** – The Senate Judiciary Committee holds a hearing to examine how the Trump Administration is addressing the human cost of soft on crime policies, focusing on Democratic-led cities. [Details.](#)
- **9:30am – FDA Meeting: User Fee Acts/Amendments Financial Transparency** – FDA holds a meeting on financial transparency and efficiency of the Prescription Drug User Fee Act, Biosimilar User Fee Act and Generic Drug User Fee Amendments. [Details.](#)
- **1:00pm – NIH Meeting: COVID-19 and New-Onset Diabetes** – NIH holds a meeting of the Diabetes Mellitus Interagency Coordinating Committee on "COVID-19 and New-Onset Diabetes." [Details.](#)

Wed. (10/1)

- **8:00am – Politico Discussion: Cybersecurity Policy Outlook** – Politico holds a policy briefing on the cybersecurity challenges posed by quantum computing and other emerging technologies, and how the U.S. and its allies are preparing to handle the risks. Sen. Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) will be participating. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Brookings Discussion: Gun Violence** – The Brookings Institute holds a discussion exploring how policymakers can transcend gun violence debates and offer actionable, evidence-based, and bipartisan solutions for reducing gun violence by focusing on place, collective efficacy, and community vitality. [Details.](#)
- **12:00pm – Federalist Society Discussion: Supreme Court Preview for 2025-2026 Term** – The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy holds a discussion to preview the 2025 Supreme Court term, which will begin on October 6, 2025. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (10/2)

- **12:00pm – Heritage Discussion: Supreme Court Preview for 2025-2026 Term** – The Heritage Foundation holds a discussion to preview the 2025 Supreme Court term, which will begin on October 6, 2025. [Details.](#)

Featured Analysis

- **Impact Health Spring 2025 Regulatory Outlook** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **Insight for Impact: Vaccine Policy Under RFK Jr.** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **OBBA Medicaid Provisions and Timeline for Implementation** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **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.](#)

Congressional Lookback

Tues. (9/23)

- **SFC Ranking Member Wyden (D-OR)** [led a letter](#) sent on behalf of 18 Democrats requesting that the Trump Administration halt the Wasteful and Inappropriate Service Reduction (WISeR) model. [Details.](#)

Mon. (9/22)

- **The House Judiciary Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, Artificial Intelligence, and the Internet** held a [hearing](#) titled “AI at a Crossroads: A Nationwide Strategy or Californication?” [Details.](#)

Regulatory Lookback

Fri. (9/26)

- **CMS** [released](#) the average premiums and plans choices for Medicare Advantage (MA) and the Medicare Part D prescription drug program. [Details.](#)
- **The USDA FNS** announced several updates to its nutrition programming. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (9/25)

- **The OSTP** issued an [RFI](#) to gather public input on identifying outdated or overly restrictive federal statutes, regulations, and administrative processes that hinder the development, deployment, and adoption of AI technologies. Comments due October 26. [Details.](#)
- **ARPH-A** announced the launch of two new programs ([here](#) and [here](#)) to advance the development and manufacturing of cell and gene medicines. [Details.](#)

Wed. (9/24)

- **The GAO** [released](#) a report examining physician consolidation in the United States. [Details.](#)

Tues. (9/23)

- **President Trump** signed a [proclamation](#) restricting the entry of certain H-1B nonimmigrant workers by imposing a \$100,000 fee on all new H-1B visa petitions, citing systemic abuse of the visa program. [Details.](#)
- **HHS ACF** [announced](#) \$61 million in supplemental nutrition funding for Head Start programs. [Details.](#)

Mon. (9/22)

- **President Trump and HHS** [announced](#) a set of updates related to autism. [Details.](#)

Comment & Application Deadlines

- **October 26:** The OSTP issued an [RFI](#) to gather public input on identifying outdated or overly restrictive federal statutes, regulations, and administrative processes that hinder the development, deployment, and adoption of AI technologies. [Details.](#)
- **November 3:** The FTC issued an [RFI](#) to examine the use and impact of employer noncompete agreements and to help shape potential future enforcement actions. [Details.](#)

- **November 5:** CMS released a [NOFO](#) for the [Rural Health Transformation \(RHT\) Program](#). [Details.](#)