

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the Week

Big Picture. Republicans will need to introduce a budget resolution if they intend to complete reconciliation 3.0 in July. Details could be released this week. Political appetite for moving forward remains stronger in the House than in the Senate.

In the meantime, the Senate plans to vote on a [major bipartisan housing bill](#) that reflects a [bicameral agreement](#). The legislation will then need to return to the House for a final vote before being sent to the President for signature. Other congressional priorities include the FISA reauthorization and FY 2027 appropriations, although a continuing resolution in September is highly likely.

Health Policy to Watch

1. **Fraud is the focus of three hearings this week.** On Wednesday, the Senate Joint Economic Committee will hold a [hearing](#) that, based on the witness list, will likely touch on a range of issues – ACA Marketplace enrollment, Medicaid payments, prior authorization in Medicare, and government contracting. On Thursday, the House Energy and Commerce Committee will hold an oversight [hearing](#) to examine state Medicaid program integrity. On Thursday, the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Delivering Government Efficiency will hold a [hearing](#) on SNAP program integrity.
2. **Senate Democrats are seeking to force a vote** to overturn the 2027 Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters final rule. Sens. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer [introduced a resolution of disapproval](#) under the Congressional Review Act last week. They warn that the rule would reduce enrollment in ACA plans by up to 2 million, according to CMS estimates.
3. **The Senate Appropriations Committee will mark-up [several FY 2027 appropriations bills](#),** including legislation to fund the USDA and FDA, on Thursday. This is the first markup in the Senate for this cycle.
4. The HHS Office of the Secretary and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology will [meet to discuss key takeaways](#) from its December [request for information](#) on **how to accelerate the adoption and use of artificial intelligence in clinical care**. The meeting could signal potential plans for rulemaking.
5. The HHS Office of the Secretary and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology will [meet to discuss key takeaways](#) from its December [request for](#)

[information](#) on how to accelerate the adoption and use of artificial intelligence in clinical care. The meeting could signal potential plans for rulemaking.

Regulatory Update

Completed OMB Review

- **Fraud and Abuse.** [Notice](#): Medicare and State Health Care Programs: Fraud and Abuse; Request for Information Regarding the Federal Anti-Kickback Statute and Beneficiary Inducements CMP
- **Nutrition.** [Proposed Rule](#): Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Changes in Federal-State Administrative Cost Sharing

Recently Arrived at OMB

- **Gender-Affirming Care.** [Final Rule](#): Prohibition on Federal Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program Funding for Specified Sex-Rejecting Procedures Furnished to Children and Youth
- **GUARD Model.** [Final Rule](#): Guarding U.S. Medicare Against Rising Drug Costs (GUARD) Model

Pending OMB Review

Coverage and Payment:

- **Medicaid Tax Waivers.** [Proposed Rule](#): Amending the Indirect Hold Harmless Threshold of Health Care-Related Taxes Security Act
- **Managed Care.** [Proposed Rule](#): Strengthening the Integrity of Medicaid and CHIP Managed Care, Financing, and Access to Care
- **Medicare.** Proposed Rules: CY 2027 policy changes and payment rates for [hospital outpatient departments](#), [physicians](#), [home health providers](#), and [ESRD facilities](#)
- **Marketplace.** [Proposed Rule](#): Exchange Pre-Enrollment Eligibility Verification
- **ERISA.** [Proposed Rule](#): Default Electronic Disclosures by Group Health Plans Under ERISA
- **Short-Term Insurance.** [Proposed Rule](#): Short-Term, Limited-Duration Insurance

Prescription Drugs

- **340B.** [Prerule](#): Notice Regarding 340B Rebate Model Pilot Program
- **New Drugs.** [Notice](#): Expedited Investigational New Drug Pilot Program; Request for Information

Nutrition

- **Work Requirements.** [Proposed Rule](#): Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Modification to Work Requirements for Able-Bodied Adults
- **Categorical Eligibility.** [Proposed Rule](#): Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Reforming Categorical Eligibility
- **WIC.** [Final Rule](#): Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC): WIC Online Ordering and Transactions and Food Delivery Revisions to Meet the Needs of a Modern, Data-Driven Program

- **Milk. [Final Rule](#):** Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC): Increase to the Maximum Monthly Allowance of Milk for Child, Pregnant, and Breastfeeding Participants

Other Issues

- **Pharmaceuticals. [Notice](#):** Oncology Pharmaceuticals: Streamlined Nonclinical Safety Studies for Biologics and Conjugated Products
- **Immigration. [Interim Final Rule](#):** Unaccompanied Children Program Foundational Rule; Update to Include Proof of Identity and Income Verification Standards
- **Medication-Assisted Treatment. [Final Rule](#):** Implementation of the SUPPORT Act: Dispensing and Administering Controlled Substances for Medication-Assisted Treatment
- **HIPAA. [Final Rule](#):** HIPAA Privacy Rule: Changes to Support Coordinated Care and Individual Engagement and Reduce Regulatory Burdens
- **Discrimination. [Final Rule](#):** Rescinding Portions of Department of Health and Human Services Title VI Regulations to Conform More Closely with the Statutory Text and to Implement Executive Order 14281
- **Discrimination. [Final Rule](#):** Rescinding Guidelines for Eliminating Discrimination and Denial of Services on the Basis of Race, Color, National Origin, Sex, and Handicap in Vocational Education Programs

This Week in Health Policy

An overview of upcoming events is included below. Events highlighted in **orange** are those that we will be covering in detail:

Mon. (6/22)

- **3:00pm – HITAC Meeting: Health IT Infrastructure** – The Health Information Technology Advisory Committee (HITAC) holds a meeting of the Annual Report Workgroup to discuss program updates, including recommendations to the National Coordinator on the topics of interoperability, privacy and security, patient access, and use of technologies that support public health. [Details](#).

Tue. (6/23)

- **9:00am – JHU Discussion: Insulin Access** – The Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg Center holds a discussion with Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) on their new bipartisan legislation, the *Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now (INSULIN) Act* ([S.4189](#)), which would cap the cost of insulin at \$35 per month in the commercial market. [Details](#).
- **9:00am – BPC Discussion: Housing Affordability** – The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) holds its 2026 Terwilliger Center Summit on Housing Supply Solutions, featuring discussions on housing affordability and supply. [Details](#).

- **12:00pm – AHP Discussion: Health Care Payments** – The Alliance for Health Policy (AHP) holds a discussion on health care payment policy. [Details.](#)
- **12:00pm – Cato Discussion: Medicaid Fraud** – The Cato Institute holds a briefing to examine Medicaid fraud and potential program integrity reforms. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Families USA Discussion: Health Care Affordability** – Families USA holds a discussion on its latest report, [Big Systems, Bigger Profits: The Price of Hospital Power](#), which examines the impact of hospital consolidation on health care affordability. [Details.](#)
- **5:00pm – Axios Discussion: Early Disease Care** – Axios holds a discussion on actionable solutions to improve preventive care. Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-MI) is participating. [Details.](#)

Wed. (6/24)

- **8:00am – Axios Discussion: Health Care Access and Affordability** – Axios holds a discussion examining the future of health care access, affordability and funding ahead of the midterms. Rep. Sydney Kamlager-Dove (D-CA) and Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) will participate. [Details.](#)
- **1:00pm – FDA Meeting: READI-Home Challenge** – The Food and Drug Administration holds a webinar to discuss the [Reducing Readmissions through Device Innovation for the Home \(READI-Home\) Innovation Challenge](#) and answer questions about the challenge, which aims to accelerate patient access to medical device technologies aimed at reducing hospital readmission. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Hearing: American Citizenship** – The Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Constitution holds a hearing to examine protecting American citizenship, focusing on America 250 and American Citizenship. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Hearing: Health Care Fraud** – The Joint Economic Committee holds a hearing titled "Protecting Patients and Taxpayers: Combating Healthcare Fraud and Leakage to Strengthen Program Integrity." [Details.](#)

Thurs. (6/25)

- **10:00am – Markup: USDA, FDA Appropriations** – The Senate Appropriations Committee holds a markup of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agency Appropriations Act, 2027, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2027, and the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2027. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: SNAP Fraud** – The House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Delivering Government Efficiency holds a hearing to examine the root causes of waste, fraud, and abuse within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and explore program integrity reforms. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: DHS Oversight** – The House Appropriations Committee holds an oversight hearing of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) with DHS Secretary Markwayne Mullin. [Details.](#)
- **10:15am – Hearing: State Medicaid Programs Fraud** – The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations holds a hearing to continue the Committee's

oversight work in rooting out systemic fraud in Medicaid and strengthening program integrity across the nation. [Details.](#)

- **2:00pm – Hearing: Maternal Health Support** – The House Ways and Means Work and Welfare Subcommittee holds a hearing to discuss impacts of the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) program. [Details.](#)
- **3:00pm – ONC Meeting: Adoption of AI in Clinical Care** – The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Secretary and the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) holds a meeting to discuss key takeaways from its December [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) on how to accelerate the adoption and use of artificial intelligence in clinical care. [Details.](#)

Featured Analysis

- **Reproductive Health Roundup** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **FDA Policy Roundup** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **Behavioral Health Roundup** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)
- **Innovation Center Model Portfolio Overview** – In Policy Hub [here.](#)

Congressional Lookback

Wed. (6/17)

- **The Senate HELP Committee** convened a [markup](#) to consider a bipartisan package of health care legislation focused on expanding access to care, reauthorizing public health programs, supporting medical research, and advancing prescription drug affordability through increased generic and biosimilar competition. [Details.](#)

Tues. (6/16)

- **Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR)**, along with a group of Senate Democrats, released a 48-page Request for Information (RFI) outlining potential reforms to lower prescription drug costs, reduce patient out-of-pocket spending, and strengthen U.S. biopharmaceutical innovation. [Details.](#)

Mon. (6/15)

- **MedPAC** released its [June 2026 Report to Congress.](#) [Details.](#)
- **MACPAC** released its [June 2026 Report to Congress.](#) [Details.](#)

Regulatory Lookback

Thurs. (6/18)

- **The federal government** has released over \$740 million in behavioral health grant funding after months of waiting for Notice of Funding Opportunities to be released by the Office of Management and Budget. [Details.](#)

Tues. (6/16)

- **CMS** issued a request for information to inform implementation of requirements regarding pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) compensation and data collection. [Details.](#)
- **HHS OIG** released two reports on high rates of coverage denials by Medicare Advantage organizations (MAOs) for post-acute care services, including long-term acute care hospitals (LTCHs), inpatient rehabilitation facilities (IRFs), and skilled nursing facilities (SNFs). [Details.](#)
- **HHS OIG** released an audit examining the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' (CMS) oversight of state-reported Medicaid expenditures on the Form CMS-64, the quarterly report used to claim federal Medicaid reimbursement. [Details.](#)
- **GAO** released a report estimating that Medicare paid approximately \$16.7 billion for hospice routine home care services between 2022 and 2024, compared with roughly \$9.1 billion it would have paid if those services had been reimbursed using comparable Medicare home health per-visit rates. [Details.](#)

Mon. (6/15)

- **USDA** announced that \$5 million is available for fiscal year (FY) 2026 to implement tools proven to boost integrity and fight fraud in SNAP. [Details.](#)

Litigation Highlights

The **Supreme Court** is in the final weeks of its 2025-2026 term, with at least 19 cases still awaiting decisions ranging from birthright citizenship to transgender protections to presidential authority over independent agencies. **The court is scheduled to release opinions on Tuesday and Thursday of this week.** A summary of select forthcoming decisions is available [here](#).

Recent lower court developments include:

- **Medicaid:** The Department of Justice (DOJ) brought a [civil lawsuit](#) against New York, its health officials, and contractor Public Partnerships LLC, alleging they engaged in an ongoing fraud within the state's \$10 billion Medicaid home-care program. The DOJ claims the state conducted a sham bidding process, failed to enforce contract limits, and allowed mismanagement and misleading representations that harmed patients and misused taxpayer funds. (See [case](#))
- **Immigration:** Federal court vacated USCIS policies that had paused adjudication of asylum related applications, work permits, green cards, and naturalization requests for nationals from 39 countries subject to expanded travel restrictions. In a [case](#) in which the plaintiffs challenged that the policies were unlawful and discriminatory, the court wrote that the administration's actions "cannot be attributed to anything that [the targeted individuals] did wrong: rather, it arises solely by the happenstance of their birth." (See [summary](#); [case](#)).
- **Transgender Rights:** Transgender people in federal prisons will continue receiving gender-affirming medical care after a federal judge blocked the Trump administration's latest effort to phase out treatment. Just hours after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit issued a [2-1 ruling](#) that briefly allowed the Federal Bureau of Prisons to move forward with plans to ultimately end hormone therapy for transgender inmates, Judge Royce C. Lamberth issued a new [preliminary injunction](#), restoring protections before the policy could meaningfully take

effect and ensuring access to care remains in place while the legal challenge proceeds. Additionally, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), joined by Alaska, Iowa, Nebraska, and Texas, has [filed a lawsuit](#) against the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), alleging the organization misled parents and medical providers about the safety, effectiveness, and medical necessity of pediatric gender-transition treatments.

For additional information regarding legal developments, please see our [litigation tracker](#).

Comment & Application Deadlines

- **June 25:** The Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) announced the Intelligent Generator of Research (IGoR) initiative to modernize how biomedical research is conducted by addressing persistent inefficiencies in speed, coordination, and reproducibility. [Details](#).
- **June 29:** The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued a notice proposing to exclude three widely used GLP-1 therapies – semaglutide, tirzepatide, and liraglutide – from the 503B Bulks List. [Details](#).
- **June 29:** The Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) issued a proposed rule to replace references to “gender” and “gender identity” with “sex” in program language. [Details](#).
- **June 30:** FDA issued a Request for Information (RFI) seeking input on how obesity affects drug pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics during development. [Details](#).
- **July 5:** The Department of Health and Human Services issued a request for information (RFI) on substance use research and policies that can improve the continuum of [prevention](#), treatment, and recovery for behavioral health conditions. [Details](#).
- **July 10:** The Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Treasury announced a proposed rule to allow employers to provide standalone fertility benefits. [Details](#).
- **July 13:** OMB issued a sweeping proposed rule revising the government-wide Uniform Guidance governing Federal financial assistance. [Details](#).
- **July 15:** HRSA released a 30-day Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) notice outlining data collection requirements for its proposed 340B Rebate Model Pilot Program. [Details](#).
- **July 15:** CMS issued a request for information to gather input on possible future notice and comment rulemaking to revise the “typical employer standard” for the scope of Essential Health Benefits. [Details](#).
- **July 18:** CMS issued a request for information to inform implementation of requirements regarding pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) compensation and data collection. [Details](#).
- **July 31:** The ACL announced the [launch of Phase 1](#) of the ACL Caregiver AI Prize Competition. [Details](#).
- **July 31:** CMS released an interim final rule on how states will need to implement their community engagement programs required by H.R. 1. [Details](#).
- **August 17:** Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR), along with a group of Senate Democrats, released a 48-page Request for Information (RFI) outlining potential reforms to lower prescription drug costs, reduce patient out-of-pocket spending, and strengthen U.S. biopharmaceutical innovation. [Details](#).