

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the Week

Big Picture. The Senate is in recess, while the House will attempt to advance several Republican priorities before recessing on Thursday ahead of the July 4th holiday. The House Rules Committee will meet today to consider amendments to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), but Rep. Anna Pualina Luna (R-FL) instance on including the Safeguard American Voter Eligibility (SAVE) Act as an amendment may delay the process. The House will also take up the appropriations bill for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, as well as the bipartisan Kids Online Safety Act under suspension of the rules.

Regarding reconciliation 3.0, Republicans are unlikely to meet their July 4th deadline to markup a budget resolution this week as members have not come to agreement on pay-fors for the package yet. However, House Budget Chair Jodey Arrington still [sees a scenario](#) in which the markup does occur this week.

Health Policy to Watch

- Reports indicate that Rep. Kim Schrier (D-WA) and the Doc Caucus continue to work on a **bipartisan Medicare physician reform bill**, with a meeting last week focused on pay-fors. The legislation could be released as early as this week and the Doc Caucus had previously released a [discussion draft](#) for stakeholder feedback.
- **FY 2027 Final Payment Rules Arrive at OMB.** The fiscal year 2027 IPPS and LTCH PPS, IPF PPS and SNF PPS final rules have arrived at OMB for review. The final rules are typically released in late July or early August.
- **CMS to recalculate Medicare Advantage (MA) Stars Ratings.** In light of the *Clover Insurance Company v the Department of Health and Human Services* court case, which found that the agency improperly twenty measures, CMS will [voluntarily recalculate the](#) 2027 Quality Bonus Payment (QBP) ratings for certain MA contracts.

Reg Update

Recently Arrived at OMB

- **Medicare.** [Final Rule](#): Hospital Inpatient Prospective Payment Systems for Acute Care Hospitals; the Long-Term Care Hospital Prospective Payment System; and FY 2027 Rate
- **Medicare.** [Final Rule](#): FY 2027 Inpatient Psychiatric Facilities Prospective Payment System Rate and Quality Reporting Updates
- **Drug Pricing.** [Final Rule](#): Global Benchmark for Efficient Drug Pricing (GLOBE) Model

All other pending regulations can be found [here](#).

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:

Tue. (6/30)

- **10:00am – Hearing: OMB Oversight** – The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government holds an oversight hearing of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) with OMB Director Russell Vought. [Details.](#)
- **11:00am – BPC Discussion: Rural Health Transformation** – The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) holds a discussion examining how states are deploying funding from the \$50 billion Rural Health Transformation Program to strengthen rural health care. The discussion will focus on state implementation strategies, including technology innovation, workforce development, and new models of care, as well as the federal policy changes needed to sustain rural health investments amid broader Medicaid funding changes. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Hearing: US Technology Leadership** – The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing, and Trade will hold a legislative hearing to examine a package of bipartisan bills aimed at strengthening U.S. competitiveness in emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, quantum computing, robotics, semiconductors, immersive technologies, biomanufacturing, biosecurity, and advanced manufacturing. [Details.](#)

Wed. (7/1)

- **8:30am – Punchbowl Discussion: America 250/AI/Workforce** – Punchbowl News holds a discussion with Rep. Brett Guthrie (R-KY) to discuss the news of the day, AI infrastructure, small business and the American workforce. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Hearing: DEI in American Institutions** – The House Oversight and Government Reform Task Force on Defending Constitutional Rights and Exposing Institutional Abuse holds a hearing titled “Combating DEI in American Institutions.” [Details.](#)
- **10:15am – Hearing: Direct Contracting and Health Care Costs** – The House Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions will hold a hearing to examine how direct contracting arrangements between employers, providers, and other purchasers may improve price transparency, reduce health care costs, and increase access to high-quality care by bypassing traditional insurance intermediaries. [Details.](#)

Fri. (7/3)

- **Holiday – Fourth of July**

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

Thurs. (6/25)

- **The House E&C Health Subcommittee** convened a [markup](#) of 15 bills including proposals to improve federal efforts to address illicit drugs, several policies to increase transparency in the health care sector including in Medicare Advantage, and use of prior authorization. [Details](#).
- **Sen. Cassidy** released a [discussion draft](#) of the 340B Drug Pricing Integrity and Affordability for Patients Act. Comments are due August 28. [Details](#).
- **The House E&C Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee** [convened](#) a hearing examining state Medicaid program integrity. [Details](#).
- **The House Science, Space, and Technology Committee** convened a markup to consider ten bipartisan AI bills aimed at strengthening U.S. AI research, standards development, cybersecurity, education, workforce preparedness. [Details](#).
- **Senate Democrats** introduced the [Medicare Cost Cap Act](#). [Details](#).

Wed. (6/24)

- **House E&C Chair Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone** announced a [bipartisan agreement](#) on an updated version of the Kids Internet and Digital Safety (KIDS) Act ([H.R.7757](#)). [Details](#).
- **Senate Agriculture Chair Boozman** [introduced](#) his legislation for Farm Bill reauthorization. [Details](#).

Regulatory Lookback

Fri. (6/26)

- **DHS** has released two significant immigration regulatory actions that advance key priorities of the Trump Administration's immigration agenda. [Details](#).

Thurs. (6/25)

- **HHS** hosted a [public webinar](#) to discuss updates from its December 2025 RFI on accelerating the adoption of artificial intelligence in clinical care. [Details](#).
- **CMS Office of the Actuary** [released](#) updated National Health Expenditure projections for 2025-2034. [Details](#).

Wed. (6/24)

- **CMS** released the CY 2027 ESRD PPS [proposed rule](#). Comments are due August 25. [Details](#).

Tues. (6/23)

- **The NIH** issued an [RFI](#) seeking public input on how the agency should measure, recognize, and incentivize scientific contributions in modern biomedical research. Comments are due August 19. [Details.](#)
- **The USDA** issued a [proposed rule](#) to amend the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) regulations to reduce the Federal government's share of the administrative costs incurred by states. Comments are due August 22. [Details.](#)

Mon. (6/22)

- **The FDA** issued an [RFI](#) on a proposal to establish the Expedited Investigational New Drug (IND) pilot program. Comments are due July 22. [Details.](#)
- **HHS OIG** issued an [RFI](#) on whether any additions or modifications are needed to the safe harbor regulations under the Federal AKS or the exceptions to the CMP provision prohibiting inducements to beneficiaries or remuneration provided to individuals in connection with participation in clinical trials. Comments are due August 23. [Details.](#)
- **The White House Council of Economic Advisers** [estimates](#) that a nationwide ban on hospitals' anti-steering, anti-tiering, and all-or-nothing contracts would reduce hospital and physician prices by 18 percent. [Details.](#)

Litigation Highlights

The **Supreme Court** is expected to release its remaining decisions this week, with decisions coming this morning and then likely again later this week. While the court is not obligated by law or any other legal obligation to release decisions by a certain time, historically they have always done so by July 4. Forthcoming decisions include some of the most watched cases of the term including the birthright citizenship case, decisions regarding whether mail-in ballots must be received by election day, cases regarding the President's authority to fire members of independent commissions, and decisions impacting the rights of transgender athletes. The court released [four decisions](#) last week impacting immigration, public health and gun relations.

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

New Comment & Application Deadlines

- **July 22:** The FDA issued an [RFI](#) on a proposal to establish the Expedited Investigational New Drug (IND) pilot program. [Details.](#)
- **August 19:** The NIH issued an [RFI](#) seeking public input on how the agency should measure, recognize, and incentivize scientific contributions in modern biomedical research. [Details.](#)
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- **August 28:** Sen. Cassidy released a [discussion draft](#) of the 340B Drug Pricing Integrity and Affordability for Patients Act. [Details.](#)

All other open comment and application deadlines can be found [here](#).