

Impact Health Policy Weekly

Framing the Week

Big Picture. Last week, the House Budget Committee [advanced](#) the budget resolution for a third reconciliation package. This features \$73 billion for defense, \$12 billion for agriculture, and \$10 billion for a fund for voting restrictions, but notably excludes any health care instructions. Speaker Johnson is aiming for the House to advance the resolution this week, for the Senate to approve the measure before departing for August recess on August 7. House Appropriations Republicans also released a clean [continuing resolution \(CR\)](#) to fund through government through December 4th, past the midterm elections.

Health Policy to Watch

- 1. Health Care Legislation Markups.** This week, several health care-related bills will be marked up before the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee. On Monday, the E&C Committee [markup](#) will focus on measures addressing hospital and insurer price transparency, prior authorization reform, Medicare Advantage oversight, community health centers, and accelerating biosimilar competition, while the HELP Committee [will examine](#) bills on hospital and insurer price transparency, insulin affordability, food safety, childhood diabetes prevention, biosimilar and generic drug competition, drug supply chain labeling, compounding pharmacy oversight, nursing workforce programs, rural obstetric care, and health information privacy.
- 2. CMS Requests for Information on Original Medicare.** Last week, the Center for Medicare released a [blog](#) outlining the agency's vision for strengthening original Medicare, including aligning spending and value, empowering beneficiaries to make informed decisions, accelerating accountability. The blog also features the recent requests for information (RFIs) included in the Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) and Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) proposed rules.
- 3. Reconciliation 4.0.** Following the advancement of the third budget resolution, [reports](#) indicate that House Republican budget hawks are considering a fourth reconciliation package that would include budget reduction measures, including addressing fraud, waste, and abuse. House Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) [stated](#) that "We're right now looking at a reconciliation 4.0 to do the things that are left out of this one." This could potentially feature limited health care provisions.

Regulatory Update

Completed OMB Review

- **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

Recently Arrived at OMB

- **ACA. [Proposed Rule:](#)** Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; State Innovation Waivers and Health Care Choice Compacts

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:

Mon. (7/20)

- **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.](#)
- **5:00pm – Markup: Health Care Transparency, Medicare Advantage, and Biosimilars** – The House Energy and Commerce Committee holds a markup of 29 bills spanning health care, energy, and environment, including several bipartisan health measures focused on hospital and insurer price transparency, prior authorization reform, Medicare Advantage oversight, community health centers, and accelerating biosimilar competition. Key bills include the Lower Costs, More Transparency Act of 2026 ([H.R. 9393](#)), Premium Transparency Act ([H.R. 9397](#)), Prior Authorization Accountability Act ([H.R. 9396](#)), Improving Seniors' Timely Access to Care Act ([H.R. 3514](#)), Medicare Advantage Cost Transparency Act ([H.R. 9392](#)), Biosimilar Red Tape Elimination Act ([H.R. 5526](#)), and Expedited Access to Biosimilars Act ([H.R. 9661](#)). [Details.](#)

Tue. (7/21)

- **10:00am – Hearing: President's Supplemental Funding Request** – The Senate Appropriations Committee holds a hearing to review President Trump's June 24, 2026 supplemental funding request, with testimony from Defense Secretary Peter Hegseth, Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. John D. Caine, and Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins. The hearing will examine the administration's request for additional appropriations, including defense and agriculture funding priorities. [Details.](#)

- **10:30am – Hearing: Science, Standards, and Strategic Competition** – The Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Science, Manufacturing, and Competitiveness will hold a hearing on the role of U.S. science, technology standards, and research policy in maintaining America's strategic competitiveness. [Details.](#)
- **12:30pm – KFF Discussion: Health Care Affordability** – The Kaiser Family Foundation (KFF) holds a discussion to examine how health care affordability should be defined and measured, which groups face the greatest financial burdens, and policy options to address rising medical, prescription drug, and insurance costs, as well as the underlying drivers of health care spending. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Roundtable: Medicare Fraud in Skin Substitute Spending** – The House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Health Care and Financial Services holds a roundtable on the rapid growth in Medicare Part B spending on skin substitutes, examining alleged fraud and abuse in the wound care market. [Details.](#)
- **2:30pm – Cato Discussion: Affordability** – The Cato Institute holds a discussion featuring Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Tom Suozzi (D-NY) on the bipartisan [Problem Solvers Caucus'](#) [Bipartisan Affordability Agenda](#). The conversation will examine policy proposals to reduce the cost of housing, health care, energy, child care, and other essential goods. [Details.](#)

Wed. (7/22)

- **8:00am – Axios Discussion: GLP-1 Regulation** – Axios holds a discussion featuring Rep. Rudy Yakym (R-IN) to examine the rapid growth of GLP-1 therapies, the expanding market for compounded GLP-1 products, and the regulatory, safety, and enforcement challenges surrounding non-FDA-approved versions. [Details.](#)
- **9:00am – AHP Discussion: Health Care Payment** – The Alliance for Health Policy (AHP) convenes policymakers, health care leaders, and payment experts for a day-long summit examining the future of health care payment reform. Sessions will explore lessons from more than 15 years of CMMI payment innovation, the practical impacts of value-based payment models, strategies for centering patients in payment policy, and successful state-led payment reforms. Featured speakers include Gita Deo, Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor at the CMS Innovation Center. [Details.](#)
- **10:00am – Markup: Health Care Transparency, Insulin, and Biosimilars** – The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds a markup to consider a broad package of bipartisan health legislation addressing hospital and insurer price transparency, insulin affordability, food safety, childhood diabetes prevention, biosimilar and generic drug competition, drug supply chain labeling, compounding pharmacy oversight, nursing workforce programs, rural obstetric care, and health information privacy. Key measures include the Patients Deserve Price Tags Act ([S. 2355](#)), INSULIN Act of 2026 ([S. 4189](#)), Expedited Access to Biosimilars Act ([S. 1414](#)), Ensuring Timely Access to Generics Act ([S. 3014](#)), and the Health Information Privacy Reform Act ([S. 3097](#)). [Details.](#)

- **10:00am – Hearing: Shutdown Reform** – The House Appropriations Committee holds a hearing to examine proposals to reform the federal government shutdown process and the budget framework governing funding lapses. [Details.](#)
- **10:15am – Hearing: FY2027 Research and Technology Priorities** – The House Science, Space, and Technology Committee holds a hearing on the Administration's FY2027 research and technology agenda, with testimony from the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Director Michael Kratsios. [Details.](#)
- **2:00pm – Justice in Aging Discussion: Medicaid Work Requirements** – Justice in Aging holds a discussion on CMS's interim final rule implementing new Medicaid work requirements under H.R. 1, with a focus on strategies to minimize unnecessary coverage losses. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (7/23)

- **10:00am – Markup: ASPR and CDC Nomination** – The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee holds a markup to consider the nominations of Sean Kaufman to be Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), and Erica Schwartz to be Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), both of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). [Details.](#)

Additional Multi-Day Events

- **July 23-July 24 – FDA Meeting: Drug Compounding** – The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) holds a meeting of the Pharmacy Compounding Advisory Committee to discuss a series of bulk drug substances being considered for inclusion on the 503A Bulks List. [Details](#)

Featured Analysis

- ***NEW* 2026 Regulatory Outlook** – In Policy Hub [here](#).
- **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

Fri. (7/17)

- **The Democrats' [Congressional Review Act](#) challenge to the [\(WISeR\) Model](#)** that tests the use of technology-enabled prior authorization for a select set of services in Traditional Medicare failed a party line vote of 46-50. Details. [Details.](#)

Thurs. (7/16)

- **The Senate HELP Committee heading a [hearing](#) to consider the CDC and ASPR nominations.** [Details.](#)

- **The House E&C Health Subcommittee** convened a [hearing](#) examining how Congress can maintain U.S. leadership in biomedical innovation. [Details.](#)
- **The Senate Special Committee on Aging** convened a [hearing](#) to discuss the impact of Chinese ownership and control of biomanufacturing and the drug supply chain. [Details.](#)

Wed. (7/15)

- **The House W&M Committee** convened a [markup](#) of seven bills including proposals on caregivers, payment for remote patient monitoring and anesthesiologist services in rural areas, site-neutral payment for long-term care hospitals, prior authorization in Medicare Advantage, and health care transparency. [Details.](#)
- **Reps. Joyce, Murphy, and Schrier** introduced the [Patients First Act](#). [Details.](#)
- **The House Education and Workforce Committee** held a [hearing](#) examining the role of DEI policies in medical education. [Details.](#)

Tues. (7/14)

- **The CBO** released its latest quarterly *Recent Publications and Work in Progress* [report](#). [Details.](#)

Regulatory Lookback

Thurs. (7/16)

- **CMS** issued [draft guidance](#) on Manufacturer Effectuation of the MFP in 2028 under the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program. Comments are due September 18. [Details.](#)
- **DHS** issued a [final rule](#) rescinding the 2022 public charge ground of inadmissibility regulations. [Details.](#)

Wed. (7/15)

- **The GAO** released a [report](#) finding that CMS lacks sufficient safeguards to prevent unauthorized actions by agents and brokers in the federally facilitated Health Insurance Marketplace. [Details.](#)
- **CMS and CDC** issued an [RFI](#) on potential actions to update CLIA regulations. Comments are due September 13. [Details.](#)

Tues. (7/14)

- **CMS** released the CY 2027 Medicare PFS [proposed rule](#). Comments are due September 14. [Details.](#)

Mon. (7/13)

- The [FDA](#) and [HRSA](#) issued RFIs on the therapeutic use of psychedelic drugs. The FDA comments are due October 5 and HRSA comments are due August 13 [Details.](#)

Litigation Highlights

- **Federal Grants: Judge Rules Trump Administration Cannot Terminate Federal Grants Based on Priorities Established After the Grants Were Awarded**

On Friday, July 17th, in a [case](#) brought last year by 20 states, three governors and the District of Columbia, a federal judge ruled that the federal government cannot terminate grants based on new rules that are established *after* a grant was awarded. Specifically, the judge ruled that federal law does not allow the “terminations of awards based on new program goals or agency priorities that an agency identifies after granting the award.” This is a crucial case in the wake of the Trump Administration’s broad termination of grants since the President began his second term. The ruling also comes as bipartisan lawmakers urge White House Budget Director Vought to delay the implementation of a recent OMB rule that would seismically alter how federal awards are granted. That rule received more than [496,000 comments](#) by the July 13 deadline, the majority of which express concern about the proposal.

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

New Comment & Application Deadlines

- **August 13:** HRSA issued [RFI](#) on the therapeutic use of psychedelic drugs. [Details](#).
- **September 13:** CMS and CDC issued an [RFI](#) on potential actions to update CLIA regulations. [Details](#).
- **September 14:** CMS released the CY 2027 Medicare PFS [proposed rule](#). [Details](#).
- **September 18:** CMS issued [draft guidance](#) on Manufacturer Effectuation of the MFP in 2028 under the Medicare Drug Price Negotiation Program. [Details](#).
- **October 5:** The FDA issued an [RFI](#) on the therapeutic use of psychedelic drugs. [Details](#).

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