



Health Policy Briefing

April 26, 2021

Senate Finance Splits on CMS Nominee Amidst TX Waiver Dispute

The Senate Finance Committee voted to report the nominations of Andrea Palm to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services and Chiquita Brooks-LaSure to be Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to the full Senate last week. The panel voted 20-8 in favor of Palm, sending the nomination to the full Senate with a recommendation for approval. Brooks-LaSure's nomination was reported to the full Senate without a recommendation for confirmation, with panel Republicans voting against the nominee resulting in a tie (14-14) vote. The move was a protest against the Biden administration's recent decision to revoke a 1115 Medicaid waiver extension for the state of Texas; the waiver was approved in January by the Trump administration. Many Republican members on the committee stated that they do not oppose Brook-LaSure's nomination and praised her qualifications for the position. Finance Committee Chairman Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) had previously denied a request from Sen. John Cornyn (R-Texas) to delay a vote on the nominations until Cornyn could discuss the issue with the White House. Instead, Wyden pledged to work with Cornyn to ensure that states are able to innovate under the 1115 and 1332 waiver programs. Cornyn has also placed a hold on Brooks-LaSure's nomination, which may further delay a confirmation vote. Because Brooks-LaSure was not advanced with a recommendation for approval, Senate leadership will have to file a discharge petition to bring the CMS nomination for a vote before the entire Senate with added debate time. If the chamber splits upon party lines, the tie-breaking vote would lie with Vice President Kamala Harris.

Inside

Lawmakers Unveil Major Drug Pricing Proposals.....	2
Details on the American Families Plan Expected this Week.....	2
Congress Considers Extension of Fentanyl Ban.....	2
Senate GOP to Keep Nonbinding Ban on Earmarks.....	3
Warren, Grassley Comment on Device Safety Tracking.....	3
Emergent Biosolutions Under Congressional Investigation.....	3
Lawmakers Encourage Banning of Menthol Cigarettes.....	3
Gillibrand Requests Flexibility on Medicare Accelerated and Advanced Payments.....	3
Stivers to Retire in May.....	4
Hoyer Announces Promotions, Additions to Leadership Staff.....	4
Capitol Buildings Loosen Visitor Restrictions.....	4
HHS Renews PHE Declaration.....	4
Pause on J&J Vaccine Lifted.....	4
Hart Health Strategies COVID-19 Resources.....	5
Upcoming Congressional Hearings and Markups.....	5
Recently Introduced Health Legislation.....	6
Overview of H.R. 3 Key Provisions.....	12

Lawmakers Unveil Major Drug Pricing Proposals

Democrats in the House of Representatives have reintroduced their sweeping drug pricing legislation (H.R. 3). The ***Elijah E. Cummings Lower Drug Costs Now Act***, which was previously passed by the House in 2019, would permit Medicare to directly negotiate the cost of prescription drugs and biologics that lack competition by referencing prices in certain other countries and penalize manufacturers whose prices rise faster than the rate of inflation. In the last Congress, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that the bill would result in approximately \$456 billion in savings over the next decade; some of the savings would be used for capping Medicare beneficiaries' out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs at \$2,000 per year. The House Energy and Commerce Committee is expected to schedule a hearing on the legislation in early May. More information can be found in Hart Health Strategies Inc.'s summary of the legislation, which is included as an appendix to this newsletter.

House Republicans, led by Energy and Commerce Ranking Member Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash.), Ways and Means Ranking Member Kevin Brady (R-Texas), and Education and Labor Ranking Member Virginia Foxx (R-N.C.), released the GOP's drug pricing proposal last week. The ***Lower Costs, More Cures Act*** (H.R. 19) aims to lower out-of-pocket health care costs for patients without negatively impacting innovation. Amongst the bill's provisions, H.R. 19 would provide an out-of-pocket cap of \$3,100 on annual drug spending for seniors and cap the out-of-pocket cost of insulin for seniors in Medicare Part D.

Details on the American Families Plan Expected this Week

President Joe Biden is expected to unveil his American Families Plan this week, ahead of the President's first address to a joint session of Congress on April 28. The major initiative is expected to raise taxes on millionaires to fund education, childcare, and other anti-poverty proposals. Some congressional Democrats are pushing the Biden administration to include major health care reform proposals, including H.R. 3, in the second portion of the larger infrastructure package. Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-Ill.), for example, led a group of 30 House Democrats in [calling](#) on the administration to prioritize health care coverage and affordability policies in upcoming recovery legislation, including a permanent expansion of advance premium tax credits (APTCs) used to purchase marketplace plans under the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and 15 additional Democratic Senators have also [written](#) to the administration asking the White House to propose reducing the Medicare eligibility age; expanding Medicare benefits to include hearing, dental, and vision care; implementing a cap on out-of-pocket expenses under traditional Medicare; and negotiating lower drug prices as a part of the plan. The White House has signaled in recent days, however, that its forthcoming American Families Plan will not include any polarizing health care-related provisions and will instead save these proposals for a separate initiative.

Congress Considers Extension of Fentanyl Ban

The Senate and House of Representatives are working to advance competing proposals to extend the current ban on fentanyl analogues that is scheduled to expire on May 6. The House passed a six-month extension of the ban (H.R. 2630) by voice vote on Wednesday, and the Senate is scheduled to debate a bill (S. 1216) that would extend the ban until July 6, 2022. An extension would allow the government to continue to classify fentanyl-like substances as Schedule I controlled substances. Neither solution has widespread support – with many Republicans calling for the classification to be made permanent and many Democrats highlighting the civil rights implications of the policy, arguing that it is an extension of the war on drugs. In related news, the Senate passed the ***DUMP Opioids Act*** (S. 957) by unanimous consent last week. The bill would direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that certain medical facilities have locations to dispose of controlled substance medications.

Senate GOP to Keep Nonbinding Ban on Earmarks

Senate Republicans have made the decision to retain their nonbinding prohibition against congressionally-directed spending. The choice was made during an internal party meeting last Wednesday. While some GOP senators have pledged to continue abstaining from seeking earmarks, others – like Sens. Susan Collins (R-Maine), Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), Shelly Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), and Roy Blunt (R-Mo.) – have said they will join Democrats in seeking specific funding for projects in their home states.

Warren, Grassley Comment on Device Safety Tracking

Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) are [urging](#) the Accredited Standards Committee (X12) to require the serial numbers of implantable devices to be included in Medicare claims forms. The policy was first proposed by X12 in October 2019; the lawmakers argue that it would make tracking devices that fail or are recalled significantly easier, and that it would aid researchers studying long-term patient outcomes. The letter requests an update on the status of X12's formal recommendation.

Emergent Biosolutions Under Congressional Investigation

The House Oversight and Reform Committee and the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis have launched [an investigation](#) into Emergent Biosolutions and its federal contracts for COVID-19 vaccines. The lawmakers seek to determine whether the company leveraged its relationship with the Trump administration to profit from federal contracts, despite a history of raising prices and failing to meet contract requirements. They will also probe whether the company's performance impeded pandemic response, as well as actions taken to “unduly influence anthrax vaccine assets currently stockpiled in the Strategic National Stockpile.” A hearing on the subject is scheduled for May 19.

Lawmakers Encourage Banning of Menthol Cigarettes

Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), House Oversight and Reform Subcommittee on Economic and Consumer Policy Chair Raja Krishnamoorth (D-Ill.), and Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.) are [urging](#) the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ban menthol-flavored cigarettes. The lawmakers cite data that 70% of African American youth age 12 to 17 use menthol cigarettes, and that smoking-related illnesses rank as the number one cause of death among African Americans. The letter argues that a ban would protect both public health and racial equity.

Gillibrand Requests Flexibility on Medicare Accelerated and Advanced Payments

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.) has sent a [letter](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) asking the administration to act to alleviate the financial burdens stemming from the Medicare Accelerated and Advanced Payments Program, which was authorized in response to the COVID-19 pandemic through the **CARES Act**. Sen. Gillibrand argues that it will still be years until hospitals have recovered financially from the pandemic's effects. She requests that CMS evaluate options for total loan forgiveness, adjustments to repayment interest rates to reduce interest burdens, and extensions to repayment schedules to afford providers more time as they continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Stivers to Retire in May

Rep. Steve Stivers (R-Ohio) announced that he plans to retire in May. He has accepted a position as president and CEO of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. Stivers has represented the 15th Congressional District of Ohio for the past decade. His district is considered relatively safe for the GOP. Stivers' last day in Congress will be May 16. A special election will be held to determine his replacement.

Hoyer Announces Promotions, Additions to Leadership Staff

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) announced the following changes last week to his leadership office staff:

- Courtney Fry, Director of Legislative Operations
- Ray Salazar, Deputy Floor Director and Senior Advisor
- Deborah Rowe, Senior Floor Advisor
- Jacob Trauberman, Floor Aide
- James Leuschen, Policy Director
- Mark Iozzi, National Security Advisor
- Margaret Mulkerrin, National Press Secretary
- Maya Valentine, Maryland Press Secretary
- Vidhya Jeyadev, Press Assistant
- Julie Merz, Director of Member Services
- Claudia Urrabazo, Deputy Member Services Director and Senior Advisor
- Brian Duckworth, Senior Member Services Advisor
- Jake Bayer, Member Services and Outreach Advisor
- Chloe Brown, Research and Outreach Advisor

Capitol Buildings Loosen Visitor Restrictions

Members of the House of Representatives and their staff are once again allowed to escort certain visitors into the Capitol building after more than a year of pandemic-related restrictions. The same policy will apply to House office buildings beginning April 29. The Senate already allows for official visits with a staff escort.

HHS Renews PHE Declaration

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Xavier Becerra has renewed the public health emergency (PHE) declaration that was first issued on January 31, 2020. The declaration was issued April 15, 2021, effective April 21, 2021. Statute requires that the declaration be renewed every 90 days.

Pause on J&J Vaccine Lifted

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have lifted the pause on the use of the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccine in the U.S. The agencies express confidence that the vaccine is safe and effective in preventing COVID-19, and that the data indicates that the risk of thrombosis-thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) is very low. The agencies have conducted extensive outreach in recent weeks to providers and clinicians to ensure that they recognize the potential for TTS and can appropriately manage and treat it. The decision follows a 10-4 vote by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) to reaffirm their support of the vaccine's emergency use authorization (EUA) on Friday. More than 8 million Americans have received the J&J vaccine; ACIP reviewed evidence from 15 women who suffered from the rare side effect. The panel also recommended that the FDA include a warning statement about the risk of clots.

Hart Health Strategies COVID-19 Resources

Hart Health Strategies Inc. continues to update the following resources related to the coronavirus pandemic. Please remember to clear your cache to ensure you download the most recent documents.

- [Disaster Primer](#)
- [Federal Relief Overview](#)
- [Hospice and Palliative Care](#)
- [Nursing Resources](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- [Physician Provisions](#)
- [Re-Opening America](#)
- [Small Business Resources](#)
- [Small Business - Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [State Resources](#)
- [Tax Provisions](#)
- [Telehealth Overview](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Vaccines](#)

Upcoming Congressional Hearings and Markups

House Science, Space, and Technology Subcommittee on Research and Technology hearing “National Science Foundation: Advancing Research for the Future of U.S. Innovation;” 10:00 a.m.; April 28

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee hearing “Examining Our COVID-19 Response: Using Lessons Learned to Address Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders;” 10:00 a.m.; April 28

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies hearing “Addressing Health Disparities in Indian Country: Review of the Indian Health Service’s COVID Response and Future Needs;” 10:00 a.m.; April 28

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee executive session to consider legislation including S.1260, Endless Frontier Act; 10:00 a.m.; April 28

House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health hearing “The Long Haul: Forging a Path Through the Lingering Effects of COVID-19;” 11:00 a.m.; April 28

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies hearing “Review of the Activities and Fiscal Year 2022 Funding Priorities of the Office of U.S. Trade Representative;” 2:00 p.m.; April 28

House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health hearing “Charting the Path Forward on Telehealth;” 2:00 p.m.; April 28

Senate Judiciary Committee hearing “Stop Gun Violence: Extreme Risk Order/”Red Flag” Laws;” 2:30 p.m.; April 28

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies hearing “VA Telehealth Program: Leveraging Recent Investments to Build Future capacity;” 3:00 p.m.; April 28

4/29 – Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee nomination hearing for Eric S. Lander to be Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy; 10:00 a.m.; April 29

House Small Business Committee hearing “Supply Chain Resiliency and the Role of Small Manufacturers;” 1:00 p.m.; April 29

House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law hearing “Treating the Problem: Addressing Anticompetitive Conduct and Consolidation in Health Care Markets;” 1:00 p.m.; April 29

House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade hearing “Advancing U.S. Economic Competitiveness, Equity, and Sustainability Through Infrastructure Investments;” 1:30 p.m.; April 29

House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health hearing “Negotiating a Better Deal: Legislation to Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs;” 11:30 a.m.; May 4

Recently Introduced Health Legislation

H.R.2611 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the exclusion from medical assistance under the Medicaid Program of items and services for patients in an institution for mental diseases, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2615 — To amend the Small Business Act to allow certain applicants for paycheck protection program second draw loans to select a 90-day period to demonstrate eligibility, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Balderson, Troy [R-OH-12]; Committees: House - Small Business

H.R.2623 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the amount of the orphan drug tax credit, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Gottheimer, Josh [D-NJ-5]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce

H.R.2630 — To amend the Temporary Reauthorization and Study of the Emergency Scheduling of Fentanyl Analogues Act to extend until September 2021, a temporary order for fentanyl-related substances; Sponsor: Rep. Pappas, Chris [D-NH-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Judiciary

H.R.2631 — To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of peripheral artery disease screening tests furnished to at-risk beneficiaries under the Medicare and Medicaid programs without the imposition of cost-sharing requirements, to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage for such screening tests furnished to at-risk enrollees of group health plans and group or individual health insurance coverage without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.2636 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to submit to Congress a report on the security and resilience of the United States medical supply chains, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Trone, David J. [D-MD-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.1200 — A bill to amend the definition of eligible entity in the second draw loan program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]; Committees: Senate - Small Business and Entrepreneurship

S.1202 — A bill to establish a program to improve community connectivity by identifying and removing or mitigating infrastructural barriers that create obstacles to mobility or economic development or expose the community to pollution and other health and safety risks, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]; Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

S.1203 — *A bill to rescue domestic medical product manufacturing activity by providing incentives in economically distressed areas of the United States and its possessions; Sponsor: Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]; Committees: Senate - Finance*

S.1213 — *A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct a study on the top 10 emerging science and technology challenges faced by the United States and develop recommendations to address them, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]; Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation*

S.1216 — *A bill to extend the temporary scheduling order for fentanyl-related substances; Sponsor: Sen. Grassley, Chuck [R-IA]; Introduced in the Senate. Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.*

H.R.2648 — *To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to provide self-harm and suicide prevention services in primary care offices, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

H.R.2653 — *To rescue domestic medical manufacturing activity by providing incentives in economically distressed areas of the United States and its possessions; Sponsor: Resident Commissioner Gonzalez-Colon, Jennifer [R-PR-At Large]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce*

H.R.2654 — *To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare coverage for all physicians' services furnished by doctors of chiropractic within the scope of their license, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Higgins, Brian [D-NY-26]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means*

H.R.2657 — *To prohibit Federal funds from being used to develop, implement, support, or endorse vaccine passports; Sponsor: Rep. Joyce, John [R-PA-13]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

H.R.2661 — *To prioritize educating and training for existing and new environmental health professionals; Sponsor: Rep. Lawrence, Brenda L. [D-MI-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Education and Labor*

S.1234 — *A bill to support States in their work to end preventable morbidity and mortality in maternity care by using evidence-based quality improvement to protect the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the postpartum period and to reduce neonatal and infant mortality, to eliminate racial disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

S.1240 — *A bill to expand and enhance the Manufacturing USA Program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]; Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation*

S.1260 — *A bill to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]; Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation*

H.Res.335 — *Expressing support for the designation of May as Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Awareness Month to increase the knowledge of this little-known, potentially fatal, genetic disease; Sponsor: Rep. Ruppertsberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

H.Res.337 — Congratulating the Department of Veterans Affairs on 75 years of psychology training and expansion of access to mental health care for veterans by expressing support for the designation of April 19 through April 23, 2021, as “VA Psychology Recognition Week”; Sponsor: Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]; Committees: House - Oversight and Reform

H.Res.338 — Recognizing that infertility is a widespread problem that affects populations of diverse ages, races, ethnicities, and genders; Sponsor: Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Debbie [D-FL-23]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2687 — To increase the minimum levels of financial responsibility for transporting property, and to index future increases to changes in inflation relating to medical care; Sponsor: Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. “Chuy” [D-IL-4]; Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

H.R.2688 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently allow a tax deduction for the mining, reclaiming, or recycling of critical minerals and metals from the United States, and to support the development of domestic supply chains for rare earth elements and other critical materials essential to United States technology, manufacturing, energy, healthcare and advanced medical devices, broadband infrastructure, transportation, and national defense; Sponsor: Rep. Gooden, Lance [R-TX-5]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Natural Resources

H.R.2701 — To provide grants for the conduct of demonstration projects designed to provide education and training for eligible individuals to enter and follow a career pathway in the field of pregnancy or childbirth, under the health profession opportunity grant program under section 2008 of the Social Security Act; Sponsor: Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.2706 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require drug manufacturers to pay a Medicare part B rebate for certain drugs if the price of such drugs increases faster than inflation; Sponsor: Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

S.1277 — A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the Lethal Means Safety and Suicide Prevention training course of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]; Committees: Senate - Veterans’ Affairs

S.1279 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an option for any citizen or permanent resident of the United States age 50 to 64 to buy into Medicare; Sponsor: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]; Committees: Senate - Finance

S.1280 — A bill to improve the reproductive assistance provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to certain members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their spouses or partners, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]; Committees: Senate - Veterans’ Affairs

S.1281 — A bill to update the blood donation public awareness campaign of the Department of Health and Human Services to include public awareness on plasma donation; Sponsor: Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1285 — A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Judiciary

S.1286 — A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for the modification, transfer, and termination of a registration to manufacture, distribute, or dispense controlled substances or list I chemicals, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Judiciary

S.1287 — A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require manufacturers of certain single-dose vial drugs payable under part B of the Medicare program to provide refunds with respect to amounts of such drugs discarded, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]; Committees: Senate – Finance

S.1292 — A bill to develop a non-opioid pain management directive indicating to health care professionals and emergency medical services personnel that an individual with respect to whom a form has been executed must not be administered an opioid or offered a prescription for an opioid, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1296 — A bill to require a pilot program on activities under the Transition Assistance Program for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs

H.Res.341 — Urging the promotion of equity in the distribution and allocation of COVID-19 vaccines among Hispanic, Black, Asian-American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and Native American communities; Sponsor: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.2720 — To provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Budd, Ted [R-NC-13]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs; Homeland Security; Education and Labor; Oversight and Reform

H.R.2731 — To establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]; Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology; Energy and Commerce

H.R.2734 — To improve the reproductive assistance provided by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to certain members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and their spouses or partners, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs; Armed Services

H.R.2745 — To provide incentives for businesses to keep jobs in America, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Education and Labor; Oversight and Reform; Armed Services

H.R.2749 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to update the Lethal Means Safety and Suicide Prevention training course of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

S.Res.172 — A resolution declaring racism a public health crisis; Sponsor: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.Res.174 — A resolution designating April 2021 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month"; Sponsor: Sen. Stabenow, Debbie [D-MI]; Committees: Senate – Judiciary

S.Res.175 — A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week; Sponsor: Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

S.1301 — A bill to provide for the publication by the Secretary of Health and Human Services of physical activity recommendations for Americans; Sponsor: Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

- S.1306** — *A bill to provide for domestic sourcing of personal protective equipment, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]; Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*
- S.1307** — *A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enforce licensure and related requirements for health care professionals of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Moran, Jerry [R-KS]; Committees: Senate - Veterans' Affairs*
- S.1309** — *A bill to provide payments for home health services furnished via visual or audio telecommunications systems during an emergency period; Sponsor: Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]; Committees: Senate - Finance*
- S.1312** — *A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]; Committees: Senate - Finance*
- S.1315** — *A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items under the Medicare program; Sponsor: Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]; Committees: Senate - Finance*
- S.1323** — *A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish reference prices for prescription drugs for purposes of Federal health programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*
- S.1332** — *A bill to amend title V of the Public Health Service Act; Sponsor: Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*
- S.1333** — *A bill to address maternal mortality and morbidity; Sponsor: Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*
- S.1351** — *A bill to strengthen the security and integrity of the United States scientific and research enterprise; Sponsor: Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]; Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*
- S.1357** — *A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institutes of Health to make awards to outstanding scientists, including physician-scientists, to support researchers focusing on pediatric research, including basic, clinical, translational, or pediatric pharmacological research, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Ernst, Joni [R-IA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*
- H.Res.344** — *Declaring racism a public health crisis; Sponsor: Rep. Hayes, Jahana [D-CT-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Judiciary*
- H.J.Res.44** — *Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States regarding health care; Sponsor: Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]; Committees: House - Judiciary*
- H.R.3** — *To establish a fair price negotiation program, protect the Medicare program from excessive price increases, and establish an out-of-pocket maximum for Medicare part D enrollees, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Education and Labor; Oversight and Reform; Veterans' Affairs*
- H.R.2754** — *To authorize the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Trust Fund to fund research of the symptoms of COVID-19, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means*

H.R.2759 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services; Sponsor: Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.2767 — To clarify the eligibility for participation of peer support specialists in the furnishing of behavioral health integration services under the Medicare program; Sponsor: Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce

H.R.2772 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose an excise tax on sugary drinks, to dedicate the revenues from such tax to the prevention, treatment, and research of diet-related health conditions in disproportionately impacted populations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Education and Labor

H.R.2778 — To require a pilot program on activities under the Transition Assistance Program for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Gonzalez, Anthony [R-OH-16]; Committees: House - Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs

H.R.2799 — To amend the Small Business Act ensure duplicate loans are ineligible under the paycheck protection program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Perry, Scott [R-PA-10]; Committees: House - Small Business

H.R.2807 — To permit Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-recognized virtual diabetes prevention program suppliers to be included in the Medicare Diabetes Prevention Program Expanded Model conducted by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation under section 1115A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1315a); Sponsor: Rep. Rice, Tom [R-SC-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.2808 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements to Health Savings Accounts; Sponsor: Rep. Rosendale Sr., Matthew M. [R-MT-At Large]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

H.R.2812 — To amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities from using pre-dispute arbitration agreements with respect to residents of those facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Sanchez, Linda T. [D-CA-38]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce

H.R.2815 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a temporary payment increase under the Medicare program for certain biosimilar biological products to encourage the development and use of such products; Sponsor: Rep. Schrader, Kurt [D-OR-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means

H.R.2829 — To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish reference prices for prescription drugs for purposes of Federal health programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs; Oversight and Reform; Natural Resources