



## Health Policy Briefing

February 16, 2021

### House Panels Complete Individual Portions of the American Rescue Plan

House committees have completed their work in translating President Joe Biden's *American Rescue Plan* into legislative text. The individual pieces of legislation will be included as a part of the \$1.9 trillion coronavirus relief package that is expected to be voted on by the House of Representatives during the week of February 22, after the House Budget Committee assembles the individual measures into a single reconciliation bill and all the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) scores are available. Democratic leadership have promised to enact the package prior to the March 14 expiration of enhanced unemployment benefits.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee approved their legislation on Friday by a vote of 30-25. The bill includes more than \$46 billion for COVID-19 national testing efforts and \$20 billion to improve vaccine distribution. The measure includes funding to incentivize states to expand their Medicaid programs, would permit new mothers to stay on the program for up to a year, and eliminate a cap on Medicaid drug rebates beginning in 2023. The measure also includes funding to support research and the public health workforce. The Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) cost estimate for the reconciliation recommendations of the Energy and Commerce Committee can be found [here](#).

The House Ways and Means Committee measure was passed by a 24-18 party-line vote on Thursday. It contains a provision to subsidize 85% of insurance premiums for individuals currently eligible for COBRA, and provide employers with a payroll tax credit to help

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extend COBRA coverage. The legislation also aims to cap the cost of coverage in the individual health insurance market through increasing Affordable Care Act (ACA) tax credits for 2021 and 2022. ACA plans would be free for people making up to 150% of the federal poverty level and for people collecting unemployment insurance. People making up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level would be eligible to receive subsidies; their premiums would be capped at 8.5% of their income. The bill also includes additional direct payments of \$1,400 to individuals and an extension of temporary federal unemployment benefits. The CBO cost estimate for this committee's reconciliation recommendations can be found [here](#).

The House Veterans' Affairs Committee approved legislation along a 17-2 party line vote containing \$13.5 billion for veterans health care services in response to the increased number of individuals seeking care previously delayed because of the pandemic. The bill includes \$272 million for processing backlogged benefits claims, \$750 million for state home facilities, \$100 million for upgrades to VA information technology, and \$400 million for veteran retraining programs. The CBO cost estimate can be found [here](#).

The House Oversight and Reform Committee also completed its work on its component of the package last week, and the CBO cost estimate for that package can be found [here](#). The bill contains \$350 billion in aid for state and local governments, split between states receiving 60% of funding and localities receiving 40% of funding. The money would be distributed within 60 days to locations based on revenue lost as a result of the pandemic.

The legislation reported by the House Small Business Committee, with the CBO cost estimate [here](#), would increase funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) by \$7.25 billion. The committee's legislation would also create a new program to support the restaurant industry and includes additional funding for the Targeted Economic Injury Disaster Loan Advance program.

The House Education and Labor bill (CBO cost estimate [here](#)), passed by a 27-21 party line vote, would raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour, though it remains to be seen whether this provision will qualify for the reconciliation process under the Senate's Byrd rule. The bill also includes funding to reopen schools and expand access to health insurance.

The House Transportation and Infrastructure (CBO cost estimate [here](#)) and Agriculture committees (CBO cost estimate [here](#)) also advanced their components of the administration's COVID relief proposal. The Transportation Committee voted 39-25 in support of a bill containing more than \$40 billion in aid, while the Agriculture Committee approved by a vote of 25-23 a \$16 billion bill aimed at food purchases, nutrition aid, and supply chain assistance.

### ***Senate Acquits Donald Trump in Second Impeachment Trial***

**F**ormer President Donald Trump was acquitted over the weekend in his second impeachment trial. Fifty-seven senators voted to convict Trump for the role he played in the incitement of a riot at the Capitol on January 6, and 43 senators voted to acquit. No witnesses were called to testify during the trial, but written testimony from Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-Wash.) was admitted into evidence in place of calling her as a witness. Seven GOP senators – Sens. Mitt Romney (Utah), Susan Collins (Maine), Lisa Murkowski (Alaska), Ben Sasse (Neb.), Bill Cassidy (La.), Richard Burr (N.C.), and Pat Toomey (Pa.) – joined Democrats in voting the former president guilty of “incitement of insurrection.” Two-thirds of the Senate were necessary to convict, leaving the vote 10 members short.

## ***Biden Administration Personnel Update***

Elizabeth Fowler appears to be on the top of the short list of individuals under consideration to lead the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). Fowler previously served in the Obama administration as a special assistant on health care and economic policy at the National Economic Council, as deputy director for policy at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' (CMS) Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight (CIIO) and was chief health counsel to former Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus. In these capacities, she was responsible for both drafting and implementing the ACA. She has since worked at the Commonwealth Fund as executive vice president for programs and at Johnson & Johnson as its vice president for global health policy.

The Senate confirmed Denis McDonough as Secretary of Veterans Affairs last week by a vote of 87-7. The President's nominee for Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Xavier Becerra is still awaiting his confirmation hearings before the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. The hearings are expected to take place the week of February 22, though planning reportedly remains fluid. Other key health posts – including Surgeon General nominee Vivek Murthy and HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Rachel Levine – appear to be on hold until Becerra is confirmed.

## ***COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force Announced***

President Joe Biden [announced](#) the members of the administration's COVID-19 Health Equity Task Force last week. Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, associate professor of medicine and epidemiology at the Yale School of Medicine, Associate Dean for Health Equity Research, and founding director of Yale's Equity Research and Innovation Center, will chair the 12-member panel. The Task Force will work to provide recommendations for addressing health inequities caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and for preventing such inequities in the future. The Task Force's first meeting is scheduled for February 26.

## ***Lawmakers Urge Administration to Increase Access to MAT***

Sens. Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Reps. Paul Tonko (D-N.Y.) and Anthony Gonzalez (R-Ohio) have sent a [letter](#) to President Joe Biden asking the administration to work with Congress to increase access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for substance abuse disorder. The lawmakers ask the White House to eliminate the buprenorphine waiver – also known as the X-waiver – requirement which they argue limits access to addiction treatment providers. They invite the administration to support the *Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act* to accomplish this goal.

## ***Clyburn to Continue Probes into Trump Administration Actions***

House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis Chair Jim Clyburn (D-S.C.) sent a letter to White House Chief of Staff [Ron Klain](#) and acting U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary [Norris Cochran](#) to announce that his panel will renew its investigation into political meddling by the Trump administration during its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Rep. Clyburn requests the new administration's assistance in obtaining documents and information to help improve the nation's response to the ongoing public health crisis. In response, Ranking Member Steve Scalise (R-La.) called for a probe into President Joe Biden's conflicting statements with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding school re-openings.

### ***Bipartisan Lawmakers Push Bill to Increase Research Funding***

A bipartisan, bicameral group of lawmakers have introduced legislation that would authorize funding to restart research and clinical trials that have been derailed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ***Research Investment to Spark the Economy (RISE) Act*** (H.R. 869) would provide \$26 billion in emergency relief for federal science agencies to repair damage caused by the coronavirus to the research ecosystem. At least \$10 billion would be allocated to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for research recovery. The legislation was introduced by Sens. Ed Markey (D-Mass.) and Thom Tillis (R-N.C.) and Reps. Diana DeGette (D-Colo.) and Fred Upton (R-Mich.).

### ***Texas Representative Dies Following COVID Diagnosis***

Rep. Ron Wright (R-Texas), who was first elected to Congress in 2019, passed away last week after a battle with cancer and COVID-19. Wright was a member of the Foreign Affairs and Education and Labor committees. He is the first sitting member of Congress to have died after testing positive for COVID-19. His seat will be filled in a special election.

### ***CBO Releases Latest Budget Forecast***

The CBO has released its latest budget forecast, predicting a wider budget deficit in 2021 due to the latest COVID stimulus package, followed by smaller budget gaps over the next decade due to stronger economic growth. CBO projects a \$2.26 trillion deficit in the fiscal year ending in September 2021, an increase over its September 2020 projection of \$1.81 trillion. The cumulative budget gap from 2021 to 2030 is expected to be \$345 billion smaller than previously estimated. The deficit forecast is based on an estimated government revenue of \$3.51 trillion, an increase of \$250 billion over the previous CBO outlook. The forecast deficit would total 10.3% of gross domestic product (GDP) in fiscal 2021 and 4.6% next year, compared with 14.9% in 2020. Debt will increase to about 107% of GDP in 2031; the previous CBO projection released in September saw that figure at a higher level in 2030.

### ***White House Moves to Reverse Medicaid Work Requirements, Prior Authorization Regulation***

The White House has begun to unwind Medicaid work requirements approved under the Trump administration. Acting administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Elizabeth Richter sent letters to Arkansas, Georgia, Ohio, Nebraska, Indiana, Arizona, Wisconsin, South Carolina, and Utah last week informing them that the agency has commenced a process to determine whether to withdraw the waivers under which the work rules were approved. CMS also sent separate letters to rescind a letter from former Administrator Seema Verma asking states to sign on to an agreement that would provide for a nine-month process if the agency would decide to terminate, amend, or withdraw a Medicaid waiver in the future. The Biden administration has argued that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly increased the risk that work requirements in the Medicaid program will lead to unintended loss of coverage for many individuals.

The administration has also removed a Trump-era rule aimed at reducing regulations surrounding prior authorization in the Medicare program from the CMS website. The final rule, which was announced on January 15 but was never published in the Federal Register, fell under the regulatory freeze enacted when President Joe Biden took office.

## ***Latest Information on How to Handle Provider Relief Fund Payments For Second Draw Paycheck Protection Program Loans***

The Small Business Administration's (SBA) Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) second draw loans are only available to entities that can demonstrate a 25% reduction in revenue. The SBA's [Interim Final Rule](#) (IFR) notes that the key calculation related to revenue loss is a comparison of gross receipts, defined broadly to include "all revenue in whatever form received or accrued . . . from whatever source." Thus, funds from the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) program would likely be revenue received from a source and may be used to calculate eligibility for second draw loans. The SBA's only explicit exception is first draw PPP loans, which do not "count" for purposes of showing the required revenue loss for a second draw PPP loan. By contrast, the PRF funds are not explicitly exempted. Given that tax documentation is likely required for this determination and that the PRF funds are taxable, that revenue will likely be evident as part of the application process. While it is possible that SBA might exclude PRF funds at a later time via guidance or IFR, for now it would be cautious to count these funds for purposes of calculating the 25% revenue loss required to qualify for a second draw PPP loan.

## ***ACA Marketplace Enrollment Open Through May 15***

Monday marked the first day of the special enrollment period opened by President Joe Biden to sign up for health insurance coverage at HealthCare.gov. The special enrollment period is aimed at expanding access to affordable health care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The marketplace will remain open through May 15.

## ***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](#)
- [Health Care Workers on the Front Lines](#)
- [Hospice and Palliative Care](#)
- [Nursing Resources](#)
- [Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- [Physician Provisions](#)
- [Re-Opening America](#)
- [Small Business Resources](#)
- [Small Business - Paycheck Protection Program](#)
- [Small Business – PPP FAQ](#)
- [State Resources](#)
- [Tax Provisions](#)
- [Telehealth Overview](#)
- [Testing](#)
- [Vaccines](#)

## Upcoming Congressional Committee Activity

*House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology hearing “Connecting America: Broadband Solutions to Pandemic Problems;” 11:00 a.m., Virtual; February 17*

*House Appropriations Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies CDC Briefing on COVID-19; 11:00 a.m., Virtual; February 18*

*House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies hearing on the Department of Veterans Affairs COVID-19 Response; 1:00 p.m., Virtual; February 19*

*House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations hearing with COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers; time TBD; Virtual; February 23*

*House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies hearing on Access to Fertility Services for Veterans; 9:30 a.m., Virtual; February 23*

## Recently Introduced Health Legislation

*H.Res.107 — Supporting the goals and ideals of “National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day”; Sponsor: Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.868 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants to institutions of higher education to develop programs and materials to educate students who have a substance use disorder on treatment options for such disorder, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.869 — To authorize appropriations to offset costs resulting from reductions in research productivity in connection with the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]; Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology; Agriculture; Armed Services; Education and Labor; Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure*

*H.R.871 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a temporary increase in FMAP for medical assistance under State Medicaid plans which begin to expend amounts for newly eligible mandatory individuals; Sponsor: Rep. Fletcher, Lizzie [D-TX-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.876 — To direct the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide certain information to Department of Veterans Affairs medical center staff and homelessness service providers regarding the Coordinated Entry program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Gonzalez, Anthony [R-OH-16]; Committees: House - Veterans’ Affairs*

*H.R.881 — To require the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service to submit to Congress an annual report on the effects of gun violence on public health; Sponsor: Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.884 — To direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a national aviation preparedness plan for communicable disease outbreaks, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]; Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure*

*H.R.887 — To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to enhance medical device communications and ensure device cleanliness; Sponsor: Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

**H.R.892 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit application of pre-existing condition exclusions and to guarantee availability of health insurance coverage in the individual and group market, contingent on the enactment of legislation repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Education and Labor**

**H.R.898 — To require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide coverage without any cost sharing for certain items and services furnished during any portion of such emergency period, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Education and Labor**

**H.R.900 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program of death and hospitalization benefits for essential workers who die as a result of COVID-19 or related complications, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Speier, Jackie [D-CA-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means**

**H.R.905 — To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the health care professionals, first responders, scientists, researchers, all essential workers, and individuals who provided care and services during the coronavirus pandemic; Sponsor: Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1]; Committees: House - Financial Services**

**H.R.908 — To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide for Federal Exchange outreach and educational activities; Sponsor: Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce**

**H.R.909 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, to establish a program to award grants to eligible entities to address maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders with respect to pregnant and postpartum individuals, with a focus on racial and ethnic minority groups, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce**

**H.R.910 — To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct reviews of certain budget requests of the President for the medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs; Sponsor: Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs**

**H.R.912 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make certain improvements relating to mental health and suicide prevention outreach to minority veterans and American Indian and Alaska Native veterans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs**

**H.R.914 — To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish dental care in the same manner as any other medical service, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs**

**H.R.918 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for vaccines and treatment for COVID-19 for uninsured individuals without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Cardenas, Tony [D-CA-29]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce**

**H.R.925 — To amend the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) to authorize funding for maternal mortality review committees to promote representative community engagement, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Davids, Sharice [D-KS-3]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Natural Resources**

*H.R.936 — To direct the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assist States and local governments with the distribution and tracking of vaccines for COVID-19, to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national program to oversee the collection and maintenance of all Federal and State data on vaccinations of individuals in the United States for COVID-19 to achieve mass vaccination saturation immunity, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Jackson Lee, Sheila [D-TX-18]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Transportation and Infrastructure*

*H.R.937 — To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to integrate telehealth models in maternity care services, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.941 — To reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.943 — To address social determinants of maternal health with respect to pregnant and postpartum individuals, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McBath, Lucy [D-GA-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Financial Services; Transportation and Infrastructure; Agriculture; Education and Labor*

*H.R.944 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a loan repayment program to encourage specialty medicine physicians to serve in rural communities experiencing a shortage of specialty medicine physicians, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.945 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance to States to educate providers, managed care entities, and other insurers about the value and process of delivering respectful maternal health care through diverse and multidisciplinary care provider models, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.948 — To improve maternal health outcomes for incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Pressley, Ayanna [D-MA-7]; Committees: House - Judiciary; Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.949 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for additional funding for teaching health centers graduate medical education; Sponsor: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.950 — To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish and implement a Perinatal Care Alternative Payment Model Demonstration Project, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.951 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national campaign to increase awareness of the importance of maternal vaccinations for the health of pregnant and postpartum individuals and their children, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.952 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to suspend for 2020 the recapture of overpayment of advanced premium tax credit; Sponsor: Rep. Sherrill, Mikie [D-NJ-11]; Committees: House - Ways and Means*

*H.R.953 — To provide for the establishment of a COVID-19 containment and mitigation for essential workers program for assisting small businesses and employee representatives of essential workers to reopen or operate consistent with guidance and practices intended to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Spanberger, Abigail Davis [D-VA-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.957 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a grant program to protect vulnerable mothers and babies from climate change risks, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.958 — To codify maternity care coordination programs at the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs*

*H.R.959 — To end preventable maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity in the United States and close disparities in maternal health outcomes, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Underwood, Lauren [D-IL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Financial Services; Transportation and Infrastructure; Education and Labor; Judiciary; Natural Resources; Agriculture; Veterans' Affairs*

*S.J.Res.7 — A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Minor Consent for Vaccinations Amendment Act of 2020; Sponsor: Sen. Lee, Mike [R-UT]; Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*

*S.274 — A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for vaccines and treatment for COVID-19 for uninsured individuals without the imposition of cost sharing requirements, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]; Committees: Senate - Finance*

*S.275 — A bill to allow individuals to choose to opt out of the Medicare part A benefit; Sponsor: Sen. Cruz, Ted [R-TX]; Committees: Senate - Finance*

*S.281 — A bill to authorize the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention; Sponsor: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.286 — A bill to conduct or support further comprehensive research for the creation of a universal coronavirus vaccine; Sponsor: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.287 — A bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance to States to educate providers, managed care entities, and other insurers about the value and process of delivering respectful maternal health care through diverse and multidisciplinary care provider models, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.288 — A bill to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.289 — A bill to authorize appropriations for offsetting the costs related to reductions in research productivity resulting from the coronavirus pandemic; Sponsor: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.290 — A bill to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to require the President to designate an employee of the National Security Council to be responsible for pandemic prevention and response, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs*

*S.296 — A bill to limit funding for the World Health Organization, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]; Committees: Senate - Foreign Relations*

*S.298 — A bill to require the Government Accountability Office to study the role pharmaceutical benefit managers play in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.302 — A bill to establish a program to support county and municipal government entities in reducing the spread of COVID-19 through standardized testing and evaluation measures, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*

*S.304 — A bill to provide targeted funding for States and other eligible entities through the Social Services Block Grant program to address the increased burden that maintaining the health and hygiene of infants and toddlers, medically complex children, and low-income adults or adults with disabilities who rely on adult incontinence materials and supplies place on families in need, the resultant adverse health effects on children and families, and the limited child care options available for infants and toddlers who lack sufficient diapers and diapering supplies, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]; Committees: Senate - Finance*

*H.Res.116 — Recognizing the benefits of vitamin D intake for preventing respiratory infection and COVID-19 complications, and to encourage the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration to issue guidance on vitamin D intake for elderly and immunocompromised individuals during the coronavirus pandemic; Sponsor: Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.975 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require coverage under Medicare PDPs and MA-PD plans, without the imposition of cost sharing or utilization management requirements, of drugs intended to treat COVID-19 during certain emergencies; Sponsor: Rep. Casten, Sean [D-IL-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Foreign Affairs*

*H.R.976 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to expand, enhance, and improve applicable public health data systems used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]; Committees: House - Oversight and Reform; Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.979 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to submit to Congress a weekly report on COVID-19 vaccine distribution, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Craig, Angie [D-MN-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.986 — To provide support for a robust global response to the COVID-19 pandemic; Sponsor: Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. “Chuy” [D-IL-4]; Committees: House - Financial Services*

*H.R.1000 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for infection control support to skilled nursing facilities through contracts with quality improvement organizations; Sponsor: Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]; Committees: House - Ways and Means; Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.1001 — To amend the Community Mental Health Service Block Grant to authorize a set-aside for crisis care services, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.1002 — To amend the Controlled Substances Act to authorize the debarment of certain registrants, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Judiciary*

*H.R.1014 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a pilot program to furnish hyperbaric oxygen therapy to a veteran who has a traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder; Sponsor: Rep. Murphy, Gregory [R-NC-3]; Committees: House - Veterans’ Affairs*

*H.R.1024 — To establish the Office of COVID-19 Supply Chain Resiliency, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schneider, Bradley Scott [D-IL-10]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.1025 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to renew the application of the Medicare payment rate floor to primary care services furnished under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*

*H.R.1026 — To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require dispensers of certain opioids and opiates to affix on the container or package thereof a clear, concise warning that the opioid or opiate can cause dependence, addiction, and overdose, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Stanton, Greg [D-AZ-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Judiciary*