



Health Policy Briefing

July 30, 2018

House Completes Votes on Health Care Legislation, Adjourns for August Recess

The House of Representatives passed four bipartisan health care workforce bills last week: H.R. 3728, the *Educating Medical Professionals and Optimizing Workforce Efficiency Readiness (EMPOWER) Act*, H.R. 5385, the *Dr. Benjy Frances Brooks Children’s Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2018*, H.R. 1676, the *Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA)*, and H.R. 959, the *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017*. Each was passed by voice vote.

H.R. 6138, the *ASC Payment Transparency Act of 2018* was also passed by voice vote. The bill would require that ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) be represented on the advisory panel of providers that is consulted for Medicare outpatient payment reviews. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) would also be required to cite the specific criteria it used if the agency decides to exclude a procedure from its list of approved procedures for this setting.

Additionally, the House voted to permanently repeal the Affordable Care Act’s (ACA) 2.3 percent tax on medical devices. H.R. 184, the *Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2017*, passed by a vote of 283-132 with support from 226 Republicans and 57 Democrats. Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) was the only Republican lawmaker to oppose the bill; he believes that tax cuts should be paired with spending cuts of equal amount. It is estimated that repeal of the medical device tax, which has already been delayed twice, would cost \$19 billion over the next decade. Critics of the tax now turn their focus to the Senate, where they are two to four votes short of enough support to pass repeal legislation. Both Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) are supportive of repeal.

The House also passed legislation intended to address rising health insurance premiums and to encourage the use of health savings accounts (HSAs). The measures consolidate several bills advanced by the Ways and Means Committee. The *Restoring Access to Medication and Modernizing Health Savings*

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Accounts Act passed by a vote of 277-142, with the support of 46 Democrats. H.R. 6199 would allow nonprescription drugs, menstrual care products, and fitness expenses to be considered qualified medical expenses for the purposes of HSA reimbursement. It would also allow a high-deductible health plan to cover as much as \$250 of non-preventive care for an individual before the deductible is met, which would allow insurers to cover services such as telehealth, diabetic testing strips, and primary care visits. The bill would cost \$19.95 billion over the next ten years. The *Increasing Access to Lower Premium Plans and Expanding Health Savings Accounts Act* passed by a vote of 242-176, with the support of 12 Democrats. H.R. 6311 suspends the health insurance tax, which has already been suspended for 2019, through the year 2021. It would also increase the use of HSAs and the HSA contribution limit, as well as the number of enrollees eligible to purchase catastrophic insurance coverage. The Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that it will cost \$48.94 billion over the next decade. Neither bill included offsets.

Several bills dealing with veterans' health care were also passed, including the *Long-Term Care Veterans Choice Act* (H.R. 5693). The legislation, which was passed via voice vote, would allow the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to enter into contracts and agreements for the placement of veterans in non-Department medical foster homes for certain veterans who are unable to live independently.

Finally, the *National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act* (H.R. 2345) passed the House by a vote of 379-1. The bill requires the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to coordinate with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and to consult with the VA to examine: (1) the feasibility of designating a three-digit dialing code for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system; and (2) the effectiveness of the current National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-TALK), including how well it addresses the needs of veterans.

The House adjourned for its five-week August recess but the Senate remains in session. This week, the chamber is expected to vote on an appropriations minibus (H.R. 6147) covering Interior-Environment, Financial Services, Agriculture-FDA, Transportation-HUD, as well as the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conference report (H.R. 5515), legislation to extend the national flood insurance program that expires on July 31 (S. 1182), and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) legislation.

Senators Push for Rx Advertising Amendment to FDA Funding Bill

Sens. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) and Dick Durbin (D-Ill.) have introduced an amendment to the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) funding bill that would provide the agency with up to \$1 million to regulate pharmaceutical advertisements. According to Grassley, the amendment "would shine the transparency light on prescription drug prices." The Trump administration recommended requiring a drug's list price to be included in advertisements as a part of its drug pricing blueprint.

Senate to Combine Defense, HHS Appropriations

Appropriators in the Senate are working to combine the two largest fiscal year (FY) 2019 funding bills – Department of Defense and Labor-HHS-Education - into a single package that would cover approximately two-thirds of federal discretionary spending. Appropriations Chairman Richard Shelby (R-Ala.) believes that the White House will support the legislation. The President has previously warned that he would not sign another 12-bill omnibus measure; the administration has yet to say outright whether it backs the Defense-HHS pairing. The House of Representatives has already passed its own defense spending bill. The Senate could take up the House measure, amend it to include its own Defense-HHS package, and then work with House appropriators in conference on a final package for both chambers to vote on.

Wilkie Confirmed as VA Secretary

The Senate confirmed Robert Wilkie to be secretary of Veterans Affairs last week by a vote of 86-9. Wilkie previously served as assistant secretary of defense under President George W. Bush, and more recently as a Pentagon undersecretary for defense in the current administration. During his confirmation process, Wilkie assured lawmakers that he opposed efforts to privatize the agency. Wilkie's predecessor David Shulkin had faced internal disagreements regarding the role of private care for veterans. Nevertheless, Wilkie is the first secretary to have senators vote against him since the Cabinet-level position was created in 1989. Democratic Sens. Cory Booker (N.J.), Dianne Feinstein (Calif.), Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.), Kamala Harris (Calif.), Ed Markey (Mass.), Jeff Merkley (Ore.), Elizabeth Warren (Mass.), Ron Wyden (Ore.) and independent Sen. Bernie Sanders (Vt.) voted against the nomination.

HELP Advances Four Health Bills

The Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee advanced legislation that would ban gag clauses preventing pharmacists from telling patients when they could save money by purchasing their prescriptions with cash instead of insurance. Such clauses are sometimes used by pharmacy benefit managers (PMBs) who manage prescription benefits for insurers and employers. The *Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act* (S. 2554) is intended to help address the rising cost of prescription drugs for consumers. The Committee also passed three additional pieces of health care related legislation. The *Congenital Heart Futures Act* (H.R. 1222) would reauthorize research and data collection to better understand congenital heart disease. The *Sickle Cell Disease Research, Surveillance, Prevention, and Treatment Act* (S. 2465) would encourage the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to study heritable blood disorders like sickle cell disease to determine how many people are effected by such conditions and implement strategies to prevent, manage, and treat such diseases and their complications. The *Action for Dental Health Act* (S. 3016) would support state, dental associations, and community-based oral health programs that help prevent dental disease, and expand efforts to care for underserved patients.

Jordan Announces Bid for Speaker

Rep. Jim Jordan (R-Ohio) announced his bid to replace Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), who plans to retire from Congress after this year. Jordan is the co-founder of the conservative Freedom Caucus and a strong defender of President Trump's agenda on Capitol Hill. While support from the chamber's conservative coalition will not be enough for Jordan to secure the 218 votes needed to become the next Speaker, assuming Republicans maintain control of the House after the November midterm elections, his candidacy could be used to leverage the votes of the Freedom Caucus' 30 members. Either House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.), who has the support of Ryan, or House Majority Whip Steve Scalise (R-La.) are expected to be the next GOP leader.

Walden Requests FTC Review of PBM Mergers

Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee Greg Walden (R-Ore.) has **requested** that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) review recent mergers by pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs). The letter asks the agency to conduct a retrospective review of how such mergers have impacted the drug prices paid by consumers. Walden questions whether PBM companies have encouraged higher pharmaceutical list prices at the expense of patient co-pays. The letter was also signed by Oversight Subcommittee Chairman Gregg Harper (R-Miss.) and Health Subcommittee Chairman Michael Burgess (R-Texas).

Timing of Senate Opioid Package in Question

The Senate may not have time to vote on a legislative package to address the opioid crisis before Labor Day, as originally intended. An opioid bill was one priority for Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), which led to his decision to cancel the chamber's August recess. But the Senate is now focused on the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court and funding the federal government before the end of the fiscal year, and has yet to reach an agreement on which measures to include in a bipartisan response to the opioid epidemic. Any Senate-passed plan would have to be reconciled with the House legislation that was passed in June. The House package (H.R. 6) was comprised of over 50 individual, largely bipartisan, bills. The Senate is considering four bills from the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, Finance Committee, Commerce Committee, and Judiciary Committee. HELP Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) is in charge of combining the bills and working with Senate leadership to bring a package to the floor. Alexander is currently in the process of negotiating a limited number of amendments to be offered during floor debate.

HHS to Issue RFI on Anti-Kickback Statute

During an address at the Heritage Foundation last week, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Alex Azar announced plans to issue a request for information on the anti-kickback statute, which prohibits payments for recommending products or services to patients covered by Medicare or Medicaid. According to Azar, the law often obstructs the ability of providers to engage in coordinated care that can produce cost savings. HHS also plans to take action to revise the rules under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and regulations dealing with privacy and substance use records at 42 CFR Part 2.

New Data on Part D Spending Released

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) released new **data** last week showing that the government could have saved \$2.8 billion in 2016 if generics had been dispensed instead of brand name drugs. Their analysis found that Part D plans spent almost \$9 billion on brand name drugs when therapeutically equivalent generics were available. The agency asserts that price reductions associated with generic competition have generated significant savings for the Part D program and its beneficiaries, but concludes that incompletely aligned incentives for generic substitution left nearly \$3 billion in savings uncaptured.

GAO Issues New Report on Integrity of Medicaid MCOs

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a new **report** last week recommending increased oversight of Medicaid managed care plan payments. The agency calls CMS to expedite guidance to state stakeholders related to Medicaid managed care program integrity. GAO also recommends that CMS eliminate impediments to collaborative audits in managed care conducted by audit contractors and states, and that CMS require states to report and document the amount of overpayments to providers and how they are accounted for in capitation rate-setting.

Upcoming Congressional Hearings and Markups

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health Field Hearing: VA Long-term Care: What's Working, What's Not, and How to Best Serve Our Aging Veterans; 10:00 a.m.; Ventura County Office of Education Salon B and C, 5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo, CA 93012; July 30

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee hearing "Reducing Health Care Costs: Decreasing Administrative Spending;" 10:00 a.m., 430 Dirksen Bldg.; July 31

Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing on pending legislation including: S.____, VA Hiring Enhancement Act; H.R. 5418, Veterans Affairs Medical-Surgical Purchasing Stabilization Act; S.____, to establish a suicide prevention grant program; S.____, Modernization of Medical Records Access for Veterans Act; and S. 514, No Hero Left Untreated Act; 2:30 p.m., 418 Russell Bldg.; August 1

Recently Introduced Health Legislation

H.R.6470 — Making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]; Committees: House - Appropriations

H.R.6478 — To enhance competition for prescription drugs by increasing the ability of the Department of Justice and Federal Trade Commission to enforce existing antitrust laws regarding biologic and biosimilar products, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Sarbanes, John P. [D-MD-3]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.1025 — Expressing support for policies that maintain a robust, fully-funded and staffed Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs and do not jeopardize care for veterans by moving essential resources to the private sector; Sponsor: Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.6479 — To amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to include short-term limited duration plans in the definition of individual health insurance coverage; Sponsor: Rep. Ruiz, Raul [D-CA-36]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6481 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, for the purpose of addressing public health crises, to require the manufacturers of covered products to develop, maintain, and update a plan to mitigate the effects of such products on public health, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6488 — To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to exempt from certain criminal penalties the offering and use of certain pharmaceutical manufacturer copayment coupons to waive or reduce cost-sharing otherwise applied under the Medicare prescription drug benefit; Sponsor: Rep. Barton, Joe [R-TX-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.6491 — To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require the Drug Enforcement Administration to report certain information on distribution of opioids to manufacturers and distributors to help identify, report, and stop suspicious orders of opioids and reduce diversion rates, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary

H.R.6495 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to enter into a 10-year arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct and update biennially a study on the effects of State legalized marijuana programs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Gabbard, Tulsi [D-HI-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary, Education and the Workforce

H.R.6496 — To amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to ensure that preexisting condition exclusions with respect to enrollment in health insurance coverage and group health plans continue to be prohibited; Sponsor: Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6498 — To improve mental health services; Sponsor: Rep. Roe, David P. [R-TN-1]; Committees: House - Education and the Workforce

H.Res.1026 — Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Medicare and Social Security provide an essential benefit for current enrollees and should be strengthened for future generations; Sponsor: Rep. Lesko, Debbie [R-AZ-8]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.6502 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a program to allow qualified group practices to furnish certain items and services at qualified skilled nursing facilities to individuals entitled to benefits under part A and enrolled under part B of the Medicare program to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Smith, Adrian [R-NE-3]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.6505 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate prices of prescription drugs furnished under part D of the Medicare program; Sponsor: Rep. Doggett, Lloyd [D-TX-35]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.6508 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the public disclosure of charges for certain hospital and ambulatory surgical center treatment episodes; Sponsor: Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6517 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to direct the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to establish and implement reforms to the criteria for liver allocation so that such allocation is not based on the donor candidate's place of residence or listing, except to the extent necessary to avoid wasting organs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Engel, Eliot L. [D-NY-16]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6524 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment of certain Medicaid providers and suppliers across State lines, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Kennedy, Joseph P., III [D-MA-4]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

S.3267 — A bill to establish a National Commission on Fibrotic Diseases; Sponsor: Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

H.Res.1033 — Recognizing the importance of access to comprehensive, high-quality, life-affirming medical care for women of all ages; Sponsor: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.Res.1038 — Recognizing July 28, 2018, as "World Hepatitis Day"; Sponsor: Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6539 — To require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program to increase efficiency in the recruitment and hiring by the Department of Veterans Affairs of health care workers that are undergoing separation from the Armed Forces, to create uniform credentialing standards for certain health care professionals of the Department, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs, Armed Services

H.R.6549 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to limit estate recovery under Medicaid with respect to newly eligible individuals, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Nolan, Richard M. [D-MN-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6554 — To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require a person that possesses or intends to possess a tableting machine or encapsulating machine to obtain registration from the Attorney General, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Kustoff, David [R-TN-8]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary

H.R.6560 — To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States an option to cover a children's program of all-inclusive coordinated care (ChiPACC) under Medicaid program; Sponsor: Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6561 — To direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to finalize certain proposed provisions relating to the Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) under the Medicare and Medicaid programs; Sponsor: Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce

H.R.6562 — To support endemic orphan fungal disease research, incentivize Valley Fever vaccine development, discover new antifungal therapies and diagnostics, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McCarthy, Kevin [R-CA-23]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6563 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent growth rate cliff for out-of-pocket threshold under Medicare part D; Sponsor: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.6571 — To require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to improve the detection, prevention, and treatment of mental health issues among public safety officers, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Bera, Ami [D-CA-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Science, Space, and Technology

H.R.6572 — To amend title 38, United States Code, to include Federally qualified health centers and primary care associations in efforts to assist homeless veterans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs, Financial Services

H.R.6574 — To amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to determine, on behalf of Medicare beneficiaries, covered part D drug prices for certain covered part D drugs, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.6575 — To amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare Program; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means

H.R.6576 — To require drug manufacturers to disclose the prices of prescription drugs in any direct-to-consumer advertising and marketing to practitioners of a drug; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6577 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to shorten the exclusivity period for brand name biological products from 12 to 7 years; Sponsor: Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

H.R.6581 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to adopt certain strategies for preventive colorectal screenings for veterans, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Bergman, Jack [R-MI-1]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.6582 — To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish presumptions of service connection for illnesses associated with open burn pits, to direct the Comptroller of the United States to establish the Open Burn Pit Advisory Commission, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Bilirakis, Gus M. [R-FL-12]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs

H.R.6586 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to promote healthy eating and physical activity among children; Sponsor: Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]; Committees: House - Education and the Workforce

H.R.6587 — To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow deductions for amounts contributed to a health savings account by individuals enrolled in qualified health plans; Sponsor: Rep. Comstock, Barbara [R-VA-10]; Committees: House - Ways and Means

- H.R.6590 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program on children and the media within the National Institute of Health to study the health and developmental effects of technology on infants, children, and adolescents; Sponsor: Rep. Delaney, John K. [D-MD-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6593 — To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing and maintaining an automated and searchable system that tracks prescription drug prices in the United States, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Duncan, John J., Jr. [R-TN-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6597 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a loan repayment program for mental health professionals to relieve workforce shortages, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6600 — To amend the Controlled Substances Act to require that orders subject to review be submitted through a clearinghouse, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Lance, Leonard [R-NJ-7]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Judiciary*
- H.R.6601 — To amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve access to care for all Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries through models tested under the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Lewis, John [D-GA-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means*
- H.R.6604 — To provide for the establishment of a pilot program to provide grants to community mental health centers for the placement of social workers with law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. MacArthur, Thomas [R-NJ-3]; Committees: House - Judiciary*
- H.R.6608 — To provide for the development and dissemination of best practice guidelines for using data collected by prescription drug monitoring programs to identify drug diversion and abuse, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. McSally, Martha [R-AZ-2]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6611 — To amend the Public Health Service Act to expand and improve health care services by health centers and the National Health Service Corps for individuals with a developmental disability, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6613 — To amend title X of the Public Health Service Act to condition receipt of grants and contracts under such title on compliance with abortion prohibition; Sponsor: Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6615 — To reauthorize the Traumatic Brain Injury program; Sponsor: Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-9]; Committees: House - Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6619 — To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the application of Medicare secondary payer rules to certain workers' compensation settlement agreements and qualified Medicare set-aside provisions; Sponsor: Rep. Reichert, David G. [R-WA-8]; Committees: House - Ways and Means, Energy and Commerce*
- H.R.6637 — To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to study and report on the prevalence of cholangiocarcinoma in veterans of the Vietnam era, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Rep. Zeldin, Lee M. [R-NY-1]; Committees: House - Veterans' Affairs*
- S.3281 — A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require a person that possesses or intends to possess a tableting machine or encapsulating machine to obtain registration from the Attorney General, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Cassidy, Bill [R-LA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions*
- S.3282 — A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to require that orders subject to review be submitted through a clearinghouse, and for other purposes; Sponsor: Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]; Committees: Senate - Judiciary*

S.3286 — A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a program on children and the media within the National Institutes of Health to study the health and developmental effects of technology on infants, children, and adolescents; Sponsor: Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]; Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions