

LCAO Health Committee Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2018

- Briefly discussed the healthcare provisions of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018, including extenders (repeal of the Medicare therapy caps, extension of MIPPA low-income outreach and education funding, CHIP and Community Health Center Funding), changes to coverage in the Part D donut hole, and changes that were part of the CHRONIC Care Act.
- Update on Omnibus bill—negotiations ongoing. May include adjustments to Part D donut hole changes that were part of BPP. Watching SHIP funding as well as pushing for inclusion of BENES Act and Medicaid Money Follows the Person.
 - Bipartisan [EMPOWER Care Act \(S. 2227\)](#) (Cantrell-Portman) introduced in December would extend MFP for 5 years; identical House bill expected soon (Dingell, Guthrie)
 - Groups are encouraged to support [national call-in day](#) Wednesday 3/7 and [#FundMFP social media day](#) Thursday 3/8
- Administration budget proposal—discussed responding to Medicare and Drug Pricing recommendations. Don't expect them to gain much traction this year, but agreement that we should thinking about what we might say about positive steps we would like to see taken on these topics. A health section is not needed at this time for an LCAO letter responding to the President's budget.
- Update on Medicaid Waivers—Dave Machledt (NHLP) and Judy Solomon (CBPP) provided an overview of what's in the recently approved Kentucky and Indiana waivers that is especially harmful to older adults and caregivers. The biggest concerns are elimination of retroactive coverage, work requirements, lockouts, cost-sharing, elimination of non-emergency medical transportation.
 - See [CBPP's new issue brief](#) on work requirements and older adults.
 - LCAO Health Committee will alert groups about comment opportunities on future waivers. CBPP and Georgetown CCF convenes a waiver task force that provides sign-on comments that can also be used as templates. NHLP is also looking for potential plaintiffs in litigation challenging the legality of these waivers. We will also look for sign-on opportunities responding to specific state waiver requests.
- Discussed Hill Strategy & Follow-up on Meeting with House Minority W&M and E&C Staff; Committee will continue thinking about legislation that could potentially get through this year and bigger picture proposals to consider for the next Congress. One idea for this year is consumer provisions that weren't included in the CHRONIC Care Act.
- Proposed Rules
 - [2019 Call Letter](#) (comments due 3/5)
 - [Association Health Plans](#) (Comments Due 3/6)—sign-on letter and template comments from the National Partnership for Women & Families; AARP also preparing comments
 - [Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care](#) (Comments due 3/27)
 - [Short-term Limited-Duration Insurance](#) (Comments due 4/23); AARP preparing comments
- Other
 - The Community Services Committee has prepared an LCAO sign-on letter to the Senate opposing HR 620, which would rollback ADA provisions
 - Brian Lindbergh drafted an LCAO sign-on letter in support of the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act (Collins – S. 2076). Will circulate for sign-ons this week.
 - Our next meeting will be March 27th at 3:30 pm