



ITCA Update

April 14, 2025

This week's update reports on activities occurring in Washington DC directly related to our mission and purpose. Congress is on a two-week recess until April 27th after passing the budget resolution in both the House and the Senate. The Administration has already issued over one hundred executive orders in the first three months of the administration and one of these will be highlighted in this update.

Budget Resolution Before Congress adjourned for the two-week spring recess, the House passed a new budget resolution by a vote of 216-214. This budget resolution now serves as the framework for a reconciliation bill later this year designed to implement the administration's plans for tax cuts, about \$1.5 trillion spending cuts, increased military spending, as well as energy policy and border security provisions. The House Energy and Commerce Committee has been tasked with finding \$880 billion in overall budget cuts over 10 years. The challenge is to pass the necessary cuts to fund this plan. Based on the savings needed and the total size of programs under that committee's jurisdiction, the most obvious place to make the cuts is Medicaid. Medicaid provides health care coverage to more than seventy million people, including 40% of all children.

Right before the recess, the Senate also passed the budget resolution by a close vote of 51-48 after an all-night marathon. Several bipartisan amendments were considered addressing possible Medicaid cuts. None of these passed but the votes were very close. One amendment from Senators Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Josh Hawley (R-MO) would have eliminated the House's Energy and Commerce Committee's instructions to save \$880 billion and another amendment from Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) would have prevented Medicaid cuts that could lead to hospital closures or higher uncompensated care.

The Speaker of the House and the President have suggested the necessary savings can be achieved through waste, fraud and abuse and cuts to other areas. Many advocates say these savings cannot be achieved without significant cuts to Medicaid benefits. Widespread advocacy efforts are planned throughout the recess to stop cuts to

Medicaid. Leadership in the House and Senate plan to focus this committee budget work during May and June. The goal is to finish this work by the end of July.

HELP Committee Hearing Planned The Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions (HELP) Committee Chair Bill Cassidy (R-LA) and Ranking Member Bernie Sanders (I-VT) have invited HHS Secretary Kennedy to testify before the Committee about the restructuring in the federal agency. The hearing was set for last week, but it has been postponed without a new date being set yet.

House Resolution to Get Plan for Education Reorganization The House Education and Workforce Committee voted along party lines on a resolution, H. Res. 237 sponsored by Ranking Member Bobby Scott (D-VA). The resolution requests the administration's reorganization plans for and documents related to closures, staffing cuts, and downsizing activities within the Department of Education. The resolution also requests information on how the Administration plans to meet its obligations under various education laws, including IDEA, if the Department were to close. The vote on the resolution was not technically a "no," but it sends the resolution to the House floor with a recommendation against passage. The resolution is located at: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-resolution/237/text?s=6&r=1&q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22H.Res.+237%22%7D>

Executive Order on Deregulation A new executive order, "Directing the Repeal of Unlawful Regulations" has been issued. It can be found at: [Directing the Repeal of Unlawful Regulations – The White House](#). This order, in collaboration with a previous order, requires federal agency heads, in compliance with Supreme Court decisions, to determine unlawful regulations, and finalize new rules without notice and comment, when that process would be "impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest." Specifically, the order requires agency heads to:

1. After a 60-day review period ordered in Executive Order 14219, to identify unlawful and potentially unlawful regulations, and take steps to repeal such regulations, or portions of any regulation, that clearly exceed the agency's statutory authority or is otherwise unlawful; and
2. Within 30 days of the conclusion of the review period under Executive Order 14219 to identify unlawful and potentially unlawful regulations, agencies shall submit to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs a one-page summary of each regulation that was initially identified under the Executive Order, but which has not been targeted for repeal, explaining the basis for the decision not to repeal that regulation.