

Federal Update

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*CT, Covering Kids Coalition
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Community Catalyst

National, non-profit consumer advocacy organization founded in 1998 with the belief that affordable quality health care should be accessible to everyone.

Working in more than 40 states, Community Catalyst has built a consumer health advocacy movement from the ground up.

Our goal is to ensure consumers have an organized voice and a seat at the table wherever decisions about health and health care are made: in communities, courtrooms, statehouses and on Capitol Hill.



Key Federal Issues Related to Health

- 1. Gov't Shut Down Deal**
- 2. Marketplaces**
- 3. Public Charge/Lawsuits**
- 4. Medicaid and Waivers**
- 5. On the Horizon**

Gov't Shutdown Deal

- **Funded gov't through 2/15**
- **No funding for wall but vehicle for future border security/immigration package**
- **Back pay for workforce**

NBPP: Regulation for Marketplace Plans

- Premium factor increased
- Encourages MAT
- Proposes elimination of Navigator program
- Lowers user fee on insurers
- Encourages use of generic drugs

Public Charge & Lawsuits

- **Public Charge**
 - No updates – but emerging action in a number of states to protect immigrant residents
- **Texas v. Azar**
 - No updates – but emerging action by states to codify key consumer protections

Medicaid and Waivers

- **New waivers approved upholding work requirements**
 - Arizona
 - Maine reversed by new Governor
- **Medicaid rumors**
 - Waiver opportunities for block grant approaches
- **Medicaid innovation**
 - New opportunity around kids through CMMI, waiting on application guidance

On the Horizon Federally

- **Balanced Billing**

- Finalized rule allowing these plans

- **Opioid Package 2.0**

- Anticipate another round of funding and opportunity

- **Rx Proposals**

- Bills emerging to address high Rx costs – but most action will occur at state lvl

Questions?

