

**EDITION:** January 18, 2017

## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS & PUBLIC POLICY

*Your weekly dose of health care policy*

### TRUMP TRANSITION

Earlier today, the Senate Health, Education and Pensions (HELP) Committee held its [confirmation hearing](#) on Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary nominee Representative Tom Price (R-GA). The hearing covered topics including the repeal and replace of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), drug pricing, implementation of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA) and other changes to health programs. The HELP Committee is not required to vote on the HHS nominee, but the Senate Finance Committee will consider his nomination and vote in a

### MACRA HIGHLIGHTS

CMS has released an [ACO Track 1+ Fact Sheet](#) detailing the model and answering questions for its implementation beginning in 2018.

### UPCOMING HEALTH CARE ACTIVITIES

**House Ways and Means  
Committee**  
1/24 at 2:00pm - Oversight

hearing next Tuesday.

## CONGRESSIONAL

### **Budget Resolution to Repeal ACA Passed by House**

Last Friday, the House of Representatives passed the Senate Budget Resolution by a vote of 227 - 198. The budget resolution is the first step in the process to repeal the ACA. Congressional Committees now have until January 27 to draft repeal legislation. Negotiations continue on what a repeal package may look like and whether or not a replacement package will be passed along with it, or further detailed in the future.

## FEDERAL

### **Medicaid Pass-Through Payment Final Rule Released**

Yesterday the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized its rule on the [Use of New or Increased Pass-Through Payments in Medicaid Managed Care Delivery Systems](#). This rule finalizes changes to the pass-through payment transition periods and the maximum amount of pass-through payments permitted annually during the transition periods under Medicaid managed care contract(s) and rate certification(s). The final rule is effective beginning March 20, 2017.

### **CMS Announces new APM Participants**

Today, CMS [announced new participants](#) in four of its Advance Payment Models (APMs) for the 2017 performance year. The announcement included 59,000 clinicians participating in the Medicare Shared Savings Program (Shared Savings Program), [Next Generation Accountable Care Organization \(ACO\) Model](#),

Subcommittee hearing titled; "[Examining the Effectiveness of the Individual Mandate under the Affordable Care Act](#)".

### **Senate Finance Committee**

1/24 at 10:00am - Full Committee to [Consider the Anticipated Nomination of The Honorable Tom Price to be Secretary of Health and Human Services](#).

### **WEEKLY FUN FACT**

Which President was the only to “affirm” rather than “swear” his oath of office, as permitted in the Constitution? This and other Inauguration Facts found [here!](#)

Comprehensive End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Care  
Model (CEC) and Comprehensive Primary Care Plus  
(CPC+) Model.

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**HOOPER, LUNDY & BOOKMAN, P.C.**

**Government Relations and Public Policy**

401 9th Street NW, Suite 550 Washington, DC 20004 | Telephone 202.580.7700

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