

**SUMMARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES RELATED CONGRESSIONAL LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Title	Bill #	Summary	Status
<i>Tsunami Warning, Education, and Research Act of 2015 [21st Century Cures Act]</i>	HR 34	<p>House Committee on Energy and Commerce-<a href="#">Section by Section Summary</a></p> <p>State Related Provision Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provides grants for State response to the opioid abuse crisis,</li> <li>▪ Funds research for medical countermeasures innovation,</li> <li>▪ Modifies the law limiting Medicaid reimbursement to States for durable medical equipment,</li> <li>▪ Improves the ability of States to identify health care providers who have been terminated from participating in Medicare or in another State’s Medicaid or CHIP program,</li> <li>▪ Requiring State Medicaid programs to publish a fee-for-service or primary care case management provider directory,</li> <li>▪ Permits non-elderly individuals with disabilities to establish their own special needs trust without having to file a petition with a court,</li> <li>▪ Eliminates federal matching funds for prescription drugs used for cosmetic purposes,</li> <li>▪ Gives states additional flexibility to use Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) block grant funding to provide community mental health services for adults with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance,</li> <li>▪ Requires States to ensure ongoing training for substance use disorder prevention and treatment professionals, and reauthorizes the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant until 2022,</li> <li>▪ Allows states to submit a joint application for mental health and substance abuse block grants,</li> <li>▪ Allows the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use to waive application deadlines and compliance requirements for States in the case of public health emergencies,</li> <li>▪ Reauthorizes and makes technical updates for grants for treatment and recovery for homeless individuals,</li> <li>▪ Reauthorizes and makes technical updates to develop and implement programs to divert individuals with mental illness from the criminal justice system to community based services,</li> <li>▪ Reauthorizes grants to support the integrated care models for primary care and behavioral health care services,</li> <li>▪ Reauthorizes and makes updates to grants for states to provide services to homeless individuals who suffer from serious mental illness, or co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorder,</li> <li>▪ Authorizes the secretary to award grants to States and local governments to strengthen community based crisis response systems or to develop, maintain, or enhance a database of</li> </ul>	<p>House agreed to amdmts. 1/30/2016.</p> <p>Adopted in the Senate 12/5/2016.</p>

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*Tsunami Warning, Education, and Research Act of 2015 [21st Century Cures Act] (continued)*

- beds at inpatient psychiatric facilities, crisis stabilization units, and residential community mental health and residential substance use disorder treatment facilities,
- Reauthorizes the Youth Suicide Early Intervention and Prevention Strategies grants to States,
  - Establishes suicide prevention and intervention program grants for individuals 25 years or older.
  - Reauthorizes the Mental Health Awareness Training Grants to States,
  - Reauthorizes Mental and Behavioral Health Education Training Grants,
  - Directs the secretary to clarify circumstances when a health care provider or covered entity may use or disclose protected health information related to the treatment of an adult with mental or substance use disorder,
  - Requires HHS to issue new guidance documents to assist health plans comply with existing mental health parity requirements,
    1. For any child placed in a “qualified residential treatment program,” this bill would require states to have additional case review procedures.
    2. Requires states to include in this plan the state’s established procedures to ensure children are not inappropriately placed in a non-family setting, due to an inappropriate diagnosis of mental illness, behavioral disorders, medically fragile conditions, or developmental disabilities.
    3. Provides a separate appropriation of \$8 million in FY2018 for HHS to make competitive grants to states or tribes to support recruitment and retention of high-quality foster families.
    4. Reauthorizing adoption and legal guardianship incentive programs.
  - 13 Delay the age-related expansion of eligibility for title IV–E adoption assistance that was enacted as part of the *Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008* (P.L. 110-351) for children with special needs who are two but not yet four until fiscal year (FY) 2020, and children with special needs without an asset test beginning FY 2021.

*Protecting Patient Access to Emergency Medications Act*

HR 4365

- Amends the Controlled Substances Act to ensure that paramedics and other emergency medical services (EMS) professionals are able to continue to administer controlled substances, such as pain narcotics and anti-seizure medications, pursuant to standing or verbal orders when authorized by State law.
- Specifies that EMS agencies are permitted to have one DEA registration, rather than having separate registrations for each EMS location, so long as certain requirements are met relating to the transportation and storage of controlled substances are met.

Adopted in the House  
11/14/2016.

<i>National Clinical Commission Act</i>	HR 1192	To amend the Public Health Service Act to foster more effective implementation and coordination of clinical care for people with pre-diabetes, diabetes, and the chronic diseases and conditions that result from diabetes.”	Adopted in the House 11/14/2016.
<i>Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2015</i>	HR 1209	“To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the designation of maternity care health professional shortage areas.”	Adopted in the House 11/14/2016.
Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2015	HR 2713	Reauthorizes the Nursing Workforce Development Programs by providing an authorization of appropriations at FY 2016 appropriated levels—\$268.2 million for each fiscal year 2017 through 2021.	Adopted in the House 11/14/2016.
Improving Access to Maternity Care Act	HR 1209	Requires the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to collect data to better place maternity health care professionals in existing primary care health professional shortage areas.	Adopted in the House 11/14/2016.
To ensure funding for the National Human Trafficking Hotline, and for other purposes.	HR 5422	Provides a technical change to Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 to ensure that the Department of Health and Human Services is able to continue to provide grants to support the operation of the National Human Trafficking Hotline.	Adopted in the House 11/29/2016.
Expanding Capacity for Health Outcomes Act or the ECHO Act	S 2873	Requires HHS, in collaboration with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to study technology-enabled collaborative learning and capacity building models and the ability of those models to improve patient care and provider education. (These models connect specialists to primary care providers through videoconferencing to facilitate case-based learning, dissemination of best practices, and evaluation of outcomes.)	Adopted in the Senate 11/29/2016.
Patient Access to Durable Medical Equipment Act of 2016	S 2736	The bill accelerates the applicability, from January 1, 2019, to October 1, 2018, of provisions of current law that limit federal Medicaid reimbursement to states for durable medical equipment to Medicare payment rates.	Adopted in the Senate 6/21/2016.