



House Passes Continuing Resolution, Senate Expected to Follow

On Tuesday, Nov. 19, the House passed a [continuing resolution](#) (CR) to extend federal funding, including for the Title V Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant, at FY19 levels through Dec. 20, 2019. The Senate is expected to pass this legislation before the current CR runs out at midnight on Nov. 21. The President is expected to sign the stop-gap funding legislation into law to avoid a government shutdown and give Congress an additional month to reach agreement on the 12 appropriations bills that fund the federal government. The one-month CR would also extend through Dec. 20 funding for several health programs whose authorization has expired, including community health centers, National Health Service Corps, special diabetes programs, and the personal responsibility education program, among others.

House Energy and Commerce Committee Considers Maternal Health, Youth Tobacco Control Bills

This afternoon, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce considered two bills focused on improving maternal health and another bill to reduce youth tobacco use. Committee passage is a critical step for these three bipartisan bills focused on improving the health and well-being of MCH populations and as of writing the Committee was expected to advance all three bills. Brief summaries of each bill are included below and additional details are available in the [committee memorandum](#) for the hearing.

- **Maternal Health Quality Improvement Act of 2019 (H.R. 4995)** – Led by Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) and Rep. Larry Bucshon (R-Ind.), would authorize funding for the following programs and activities: the Alliance for Maternal Health Innovation; training on implicit bias for maternal health care providers; perinatal quality collaboratives; integrated services for pregnancy and postpartum women (pregnancy medical homes); rural obstetric networks; and rural maternal and obstetric care training.

- ***Helping Medicaid Offer Maternity Services (MOMS) Act of 2019 (H.R. 4996)*** – Led by Rep. Robin Kelly (D-Ill.) and Rep. Michael Burgess (R-Texas), this bill would give states the option to extend the length of continuous postpartum eligibility for Medicaid to 12 months and provides a five percent increase to a state’s federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for the first year a state adopts the option.
- ***Reversing the Youth Tobacco Epidemic Act of 2019 (H.R. 2339)*** – Led by Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-N.J.) and Rep. Donna Shalala (D-Fla.), this bill would increase the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to 21 and prohibit all flavored tobacco products, including menthol, among other tobacco control provisions.

As always, don't hesitate to contact Amy Haddad ahaddad@amchp.org or Alyson Northrup anorthrup@amchp.org with any questions!