

# American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update – Friday, October 2, 2020

The following information comes from directly from news sources including Bloomberg Government, Kaiser Health News, and other news sources.

## Schedules: White House and Congress

### WHITE HOUSE

- President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump test positive for coronavirus
- 12:15pm: Trump hosts call on Covid-19 support to vulnerable seniors
  - After confirmation of Trump's positive test, White House updated his daily schedule to remove roundtable planned at Trump International Hotel in Washington, D.C. and campaign rally in Sanford Fla.

### CONGRESS

- House meets at 9am:
  - Will vote on H. Res. 1153, which would condemn unwanted, unnecessary medical procedures on individuals without their full consent; and H. Res. 1154, which would condemn QAnon and reject the conspiracy theories it promotes
- The chamber passed a \$2.2 trillion Democrat-only fiscal stimulus package Thursday night after talks between Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Treasury Sec. Steven Mnuchin failed to yield a bipartisan deal
- Senate next convenes Monday

## Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: U.S. Stimulus Talks in Limbo:** U.S. stimulus talks remain in limbo after the House passed a Democrat-only \$2.2 trillion package that did nothing to bridge the gap with Republicans. The 214-207 vote, which garnered no GOP support, followed the most concerted talks between the top negotiators since early August. Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) told reporters last night that she would review documents that Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin had sent her to determine where to go next.
  - And Trump's stunning announcement that he and the First Lady had tested positive for Covid-19 is certain to generate even more uncertainty.
  - Pelosi and Mnuchin held multiple phone calls yesterday after meeting in person at the Capitol on Wednesday, amid rising pressure from a wave of job-cut announcements by large companies. "We are going back and forth with our paper," Pelosi said yesterday, underscoring the importance of the language used in any deal. The talks have so far failed to resolve what's been a difference of hundreds of billions of dollars between the two sides. Sharp disagreements also remain on components of coronavirus relief, with the Trump administration rejecting the scale of aid Democrats want for state and local authorities, and Pelosi demanding the end of tax breaks she says are devoted to the wealthy.
- **Reuters: How Mike Pence Could Temporarily Assume Control If Trump Becomes Incapacitated:** Like two U.S. presidents before him, Donald Trump could temporarily

hand over power to his vice president should he become incapacitated, for example while undergoing a medical procedure as treatment for the coronavirus. Under Section 3 of the U.S. Constitution's 25th Amendment, adopted in 1967 following the 1963 assassination of President John Kennedy, Trump could declare in writing his inability to discharge his duties.

- **Bloomberg Government: Democrats Unveil Bill to Expedite Covid Test Results:** Reps. Suzan DelBene (D-Wash.), Mikie Sherrill (D-N.J.), and Terri Sewell (D-Ala.) yesterday unveiled a bill that would encourage “diagnostic laboratories to maximize testing volume and turnaround Covid-19 test results faster,” they said in a statement. “Delivering results faster improves the diagnostic value of the result and can mitigate the spread of the virus,” it said.
- **The New York Times: Trump Tests Positive For The Coronavirus:** President Trump revealed early Friday morning that he and the first lady, Melania Trump, had tested positive for the coronavirus, throwing the nation's leadership into uncertainty and escalating the crisis posed by a pandemic that has already killed more than 207,000 Americans and devastated the economy. Mr. Trump, who for months has played down the seriousness of the virus and hours earlier on Thursday night told an audience that “the end of the pandemic is in sight,” will quarantine in the White House for an unspecified period of time, forcing him to withdraw at least temporarily from the campaign trail only 32 days before the election on Nov. 3.