

# American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update – Wednesday, June 10, 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 has no public events scheduled
- 1pm: VP Mike Pence leads phone call with state and local leaders
- 2pm: Press Sec. Kayleigh McEnany holds briefing

### CONGRESS

- Senate meets at 10am; resumes consideration of H.R. 1957, the legislative vehicle for the Great Outdoors Act
  - House expected to meet June 25th, 26th pending committee action on policing legislation, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, No. 2 Democrat in chamber, said
- 10am: House Judiciary Committee hears from Philonise Floyd, brother of the late George Floyd, on police practices and law enforcement accountability

## Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: FDA Pushed to Move Quicker to Vet Tests:** House lawmakers are pushing the FDA to more quickly review the quality of almost 200 antibody tests on the market that are designed to show if someone has already been exposed to Covid-19. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-Ill.), chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee’s consumer policy panel, said he is worried some of the unreviewed tests are “junk tests” that the FDA is allowing to be sold. He also expressed concern that people believe falsely that a positive antibody test means they are immune to the virus.
- **The Wall Street Journal: Hasset See Another Stimulus Bill From Congress Before August Recess:** A top economic adviser to President Trump said the White House “would definitely support” another round of aid to shore up the economy as U.S. businesses begin to reopen amid the coronavirus pandemic. White House economic adviser Kevin Hassett said Tuesday the odds of a “Phase Four” stimulus package “are very, very high,” even if data on output and jobs continue to surpass expectations. On Friday, the Labor Department reported that U.S. employers added 2.5 million jobs in May and that the unemployment rate, which economists had expected to soar to 19.5%, instead fell to 13.3%.
- **Bloomberg Government: Fauci Says Covid Pandemic ‘Worst Nightmare,’ Far From Over:** The top U.S. infectious disease specialist called the coronavirus pandemic his “worst nightmare” and warned that the deadly outbreak is far from over. In just a few months, Covid-19 has devastated countries around the world, Anthony Fauci, director of the

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said yesterday in online comments to the Biotechnology Innovation Organization, an industry group. Societies, businesses and economies have all suffered as people have sequestered themselves to prevent the spread of the virus and inundation of health systems with severely ill patients. Now that some nations and states are emerging from lockdowns, there's still a risk that the virus will also return, Fauci said.

- The infection won't "burn itself out with mere public health measures," he said. "We're going to need a vaccine for the entire world, billions and billions of doses."

- **The Washington Post: Safety Net Providers Get \$25 Billion To Keep Them Going:** Federal health officials announced a new round of financial help Tuesday to ease the financial strains on safety-net health-care providers in the coronavirus pandemic, committing \$25 billion to hospitals and other providers of care for the nation's poorest patients. The Department of Health and Human Services plans to devote \$10 billion of that amount to about 750 hospitals that treat many patients on Medicaid or who are uninsured, officials said.