

American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update - Friday, July 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

- 9:30am: President Trump departs White House en route to Florida for roundtables, fundraisers
- 12:30pm: Trump arrives at Southern Command; receives a briefing on SOUTHCOM counternarcotics operations at 12:35
 - Trump delivers remarks at 1:40pm
- 2:10pm: Trump arrives at Iglesia Doral Jesus Worship Center to participate in roundtable with supporters
- Trump departs for Miami at 3:20pm; then travels to Hillsboro Beach to attend private fundraiser at 5:30pm
- 9:45pm: Trump arrives back at White House

CONGRESS

- House, Senate out this week and next

Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: Trump to Sign Orders on Prescription Drugs:** White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, in an interview with Lou Dobbs on Fox Business Network, said Trump is planning to sign three executive orders on drug pricing. Meadows said he was talking with Trump about the orders yesterday, without providing more details. His remark came as Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) is planning to push for a vote on a drug pricing measure (S. 2543), following Gilead Sciences' announcement that it's pricing a treatment of remdesivir at \$2,340.
- **The Hill: Fauci Says Hard-Hit States Should Be 'Pausing' The Reopening Process:** Anthony Fauci, the nation's top infectious disease expert, said Thursday that hard-hit states should not be moving forward with reopening, but stopped short of calling for full shutdowns. "I would think we need to get the states pausing in their opening process, looking at what did not work well and try to mitigate that," Fauci, a member of the White House coronavirus task force, told The Hill's Steve Clemons. "I don't think we need to go back to an extreme of shutting down."
- **Bloomberg Government: Vaccine Manufacturers to Testify:** The House Energy and Commerce Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee will hold a hearing July 21 with Covid-19 vaccine manufacturers, according to a statement. Officials from AstraZeneca, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Moderna and Pfizer will testify at the hearing.

- **Politico: Congress' Next Fight: Reopening Schools:** Congress' push to deliver its next coronavirus relief package is facing a massive new hurdle: the national fight over reopening America's schools. President Donald Trump's demands for in-person education this fall — despite a resurgence of Covid-19 cases in dozens of states — has emerged as another partisan flashpoint in Washington, with both parties split over the path to restoring normal life in the U.S. with the coronavirus still largely unrestrained.
- **The New York Times: Drug Giants Create Fund To Bolster Struggling Antibiotic Start-Ups:** Twenty of the world's largest pharmaceutical companies on Thursday announced the creation of a \$1 billion fund to buoy financially strapped biotech start-ups that are developing new antibiotics to treat the mounting number of drug-resistant infections responsible for hundreds of thousands of deaths each year.
- **Bloomberg Government: Appropriators Set Top-Line Levels:** The House Appropriations Committee has set top-line spending levels for all 12 of its fiscal 2021 government funding bills. The panel advanced the spending allocations on a 29-21 vote. The set provides for \$1.3 trillion in discretionary spending, although House Democrats have also included \$247.4 billion in extra emergency money in response to the pandemic and for veterans' health care. House appropriators aim to finish all 12 markups before next Wednesday, Chairwoman Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.) said.
- **Bloomberg Government: Moderna in Pact to Help Supply Vaccines:** Moderna joined with Laboratorios Farmaceuticos Rovi to help supply its Covid-19 shot, one of the leading vaccine candidates for the disease, as drug companies race to produce any successful inoculation as soon as possible. The Spain-based pharmaceutical company will provide vial filling and packaging capacity to Moderna, according to a statement yesterday, as Moderna prepares to produce hundreds of millions of doses for markets outside the U.S. starting in 2021.