

April 20, 2023

ACT NOW: Congress Is Considering Hospital Cuts; Tell Them to Reject Proposals that Could Jeopardize Patients' Access to Care

House subcommittee hearings next week will focus on a number of issues that affect hospitals and health systems

Several House subcommittees April 26 will hold hearings on a variety of issues that affect hospitals and health systems, including transparency, site-neutral payment policies, tax-exempt status, workforce shortages and the Provider Relief Fund. One of the hearings at the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health is a legislative hearing that will [discuss a number of proposals](#) released yesterday, including ones on site-neutral payments, the 340B Drug Pricing Program, price transparency and physician-owned hospitals, among other issues.

Additional details about the hearings follow, as well as resources that can assist your advocacy efforts with your lawmakers.

TAKE ACTION TODAY

If you have a representative on the House subcommittees holding hearings next week, please reach out to them prior to the hearings to ensure they understand the financial challenges facing your hospital or health system, the impact of these challenges on your community, and the dire need for congressional support — not policies that would jeopardize access to patient care, further threaten the financial stability of the field or add burden to an already overwhelmed workforce.

Even if you do not have a representative on one of the committees meeting next week, it is important that your lawmaker hear from you on these issues. Ongoing education of Congress is a vital step in securing additional support for the field and preventing damaging legislation that may affect hospitals and health systems' ability to continue to provide services to their communities.

Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health Legislative Hearing

The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health April 26 at 10 a.m. ET is holding a [legislative hearing](#) on “Lowering Unaffordable Costs: Legislative Solutions to Increase Transparency and Competition in Health Care.” View the subcommittee members [here](#).

The hearing is a follow-up to a hearing the subcommittee held last month on this topic. The April 26 hearing will discuss 16 bills and discussion drafts that were unveiled

yesterday as part of the notice for this hearing. The proposals cover topics including site-neutral payment policies, the 340B program, price transparency, Medicaid disproportionate share hospital reductions, physician-owned hospitals, pharmacy benefit managers, among others. AHA is reviewing the proposals.

Ways and Means Subcommittee to Discuss Tax-exempt Status

The House Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Oversight April 26 is holding a [hearing](#) at 2 p.m. ET on tax-exempt hospitals and the community benefit standard. View the subcommittee members [here](#).

Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Lowering Health Care Costs

The House Committee on Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, Pensions April 26 will host a [hearing](#) at 10:15 a.m. ET to discuss “Reducing Health Care Costs for working Americans and Their Families.” View the subcommittee members [here](#).

House Appropriations Subcommittee on Provider Relief Fund and Workforce Shortages

The House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies April 26 is holding a [hearing](#) at 10 a.m. ET on “Provider Relief Fund and Healthcare Worker Shortages.” View the subcommittee members [here](#).

AHA RESOURCES

The AHA Advocacy [Action Center](#) has a number of resources that can assist you in your conversations with your representative. It’s important to share examples from your own hospital or health system as those will resonate the most with your lawmaker.

AHA Member Resources on Committee Hot Topics

- [Transparency and Competition](#)
- [Site-neutral Payment Proposals](#)
- [340B Drug Pricing Program](#)
- [Physician-owned Hospitals](#)
- [Tax-exempt Organizations](#)
- [Provider Relief Fund](#)
- [Costs of Caring](#)

FURTHER QUESTIONS

If you have further questions, please contact AHA at 800-424-4301.