



Hot off the Press:

Senate Extends Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) until August 8: On June 30th, the Senate passed an extension of the PPP only hours before the expiration of the small business loan Paycheck Protection Program. The House followed suit and has sent the bill to the President. This keeps the application process for the PPP open so that unallocated funds could be used (\$130 billion). The bill was passed unanimously by both houses.

From the CCD LTSS Task Force: On June 25, the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means held a hearing, "Examining the Nursing Home COVID-19 crisis (video recording and testimony [here](#)). In addition to testimony on nursing home regulations, AARP and the LTC ombudsmen testified about the need to expand HCBS as an alternative to nursing homes. Also, CCD LTSS co-chairs submitted [this statement](#) for the hearing, focusing on the need for HCBS funding for alternatives to nursing homes and other institutions and that the problems being highlighted in the hearing are not just nursing home issues but are congregate care issues.

CCD Social Security Task Force and SNA send a letter regarding excessive waiting periods to receive disability benefits under SSDI for individuals with ALS and other diseases. Recent focus on the ALS Disability Insurance Access Act of 2019 (S. 578 and H.R. 1407) has focused attention on this issue:

[http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/FINAL CCD-Letter-re-Waiting-Periods 6-19-20.pdf](http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/FINAL%20CCD-Letter-re-Waiting-Periods%206-19-20.pdf)

CCD Receives Response from SSA on request that the agency establish e-mail addresses for representatives to send documents to the Program Service Centers (PSCs):

[http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/Enclosure-CCD-Letter-DC-Korbey July2020.pdf](http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/Enclosure-CCD-Letter-DC-Korbey%20July2020.pdf)

Vice President Joseph Biden addressed the American Association of People with Disabilities' REV UP Summit in June

Legislative Updates

The House of Representatives passed the **Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act (H.R. 1425)**. The bill addresses drug costs, Medicaid expansion, marketplace concerns, and reinsurance. The White House released this [statement](#) regarding a veto.

Telehealth Advocacy: 300 plus organizations are advocating that Congress do more on telehealth, including making some current flexibility rules permanently. Here is a [letter](#) explaining their position.

On the Regulatory front:

CMS updates guidance on three-day stay waiver: [Read more](#)

[A Deeper Look \(Articles of Interest\)](#)

CCD Employment and Training Task Force Statement of Principles for Re-Opening America and Responding to the Current Economic Crisis:
<http://www.c-c-d.org/fichiers/CCD-Re-Opening-Principles-Document-06-30-20-FINAL.pdf>

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities has issued two publications related to Medicaid:

- **(REPORT)** [Senate Bill Provides Added Federal Medicaid Assistance Tied to State Economic Conditions](#)
- **(BLOG)** [Raising Federal Share of Medicaid Costs Would Help Prevent Provider Cuts](#)

The University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration released the results of The Direct Support Workforce and COVID-19 National Survey. See attached PDF.

ADvancing States continues to update their [COVID-19 section](#) of their website:

Resources include:

- [ADvancing States Resources](#), including advocacy letters to Congress and ideas for addressing social isolation.
- A list of [CMS Waiver Approvals](#).
- [Federal guidance](#) from our partners, including ACL, CMS, and the CDC. This section now also includes a list of FEMA approved Major Disaster Declarations.
- A live version of the [CDC's Microsite](#) with background information for healthcare professionals and health departments.
- [State Materials](#) produced by health departments and agencies, including contact numbers for public information hotlines.
- [Business solutions](#) to help state agencies during COVID-19.

*This week's new materials are highlighted in yellow. Visit www.advancingstates.org/covid-19 to learn more.

HCBS Conference Adds Virtual Attendance Option: AD is planning to host the HCBS Conference live *and* in-person in Washington, D.C. on **December 8-11, 2020** at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. [Click here](#) to visit the HCBS Conference website.

Hope you and your families are well.

Brian

And the SNA Public Policy Team:

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