



Hot off the Press:

Lots of Talk About a COVID-19 Pandemic Package: But is it all politics and is there enough time to strike a deal and pass it before the election. Speaker Pelosi has said she wants a bill in the neighborhood of \$2.2 trillion and the President has now said he supports even more than that. Majority Leader McConnell is not interested and says that his Republican colleagues would not support a package anywhere near this level. The question centers on whether the President could convince enough Senate Republicans to pass a bill if the White House and Pelosi come to an agreement. Senate Democrats have blocked the much smaller proposals McConnell has brought up for votes, including a standalone bill to authorize a second round of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) forgivable loans to small businesses – this round for \$258 billion.

On the Regulatory Front

GAO - Observations on the Effects of the Home Care Rule:

https://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-21-72?utm_campaign=usgao_email&utm_content=topic_health&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

SSA's covid-19 response: <https://www.ssa.gov/coronavirus/>

Online Trainings Available for Community Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults and People with Disabilities: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USACL/bulletins/2a6aae8>

Department of Labor Request for Information on moving Ticket to work out of SSA: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/09/29/2020-21533/request-for-information-on-proposed-transfer-of-ticket-to-work-program-from-the-social-security>

OMB Survey on transition to adulthood for people with disabilities: <https://touchpoints.app.cloud.gov/touchpoints/35913603/submit>

A Deeper Look (Articles of Interest)

Addressing Inequities Based on Disability Through a Medicare Dental Benefit – JIA Issue Brief:

<https://justiceinaging.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Adding-a-Dental-Benefit-to-Medicare-Disability.pdf?eType=EmailBlastContent&eId=7da8fef6-d472-41e7-91fa-d08a5f2cc5f1>

An Article From Two Long-time Friends and Advocates: *Producing a Just Culture of Safety and Quality in Nursing Homes*, By Anne Montgomery and Sarah Slocum
<https://sir.advancedleadership.harvard.edu/news/producing-just-culture-safety-and-quality-nursing-homes>

From Advancing States:

- **Issue Brief: *Nutrition Initiatives During COVID-19: Findings from State Aging and Disability Agencies*** – “This issue brief explores the adjustments that states have made to nutrition programs. The brief highlights examples of opportunities available and changes that states have made to ensure older adults and persons with disabilities have access to food during the pandemic.” <http://www.advancingstates.org/hcbs/article/nutrition-initiatives-during-covid-19-findings-state-aging-and-disability-agencies>
- **2018-2019 NCI-AD Report:** The National Core Indicators-Aging and Disabilities (NCI-AD) project released the 2018-19 NCI-AD National Report this week. This is the fourth national report from NCI-AD and includes analyzed data that came directly from older adults and people with physical disabilities who receive publicly funded long term services and supports.
<https://nci-ad.org/resources/reports/>

From CBPP:

- **Health Insurance Coverage Losses Since 2016 Widespread**
<https://www.cbpp.org/blog/health-insurance-coverage-losses-since-2016-widespread>
- **Suite of materials laying out the benefits of the ACA’s Medicaid expansion** and what’s at stake if the Supreme Court strikes it down.
 - **Blog post:** [ACA Repeal Lawsuit Threatens Medicaid Expansion Coverage for Millions](#)
 - **Paper:** [Medicaid Expansion Has Helped Narrow Racial Disparities in Health Coverage and Access to Care](#)
 - **Paper:** [Expanding Medicaid for Parents Improves Coverage and Health for Both Parents and Children](#)
 - **Blog post:** [Medicaid Expansion Improves Postpartum Coverage, Access to Care](#)
 - **Blog post:** [Uncompensated Care Costs Well Down in ACA Medicaid Expansion States](#)

- **Chart book:** [The Far-Reaching Benefits of the Affordable Care Act's Medicaid Expansion](#)

Just for Fun A Podcast I Found Interesting: *A Peculiar Way to Elect A President*: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/22/podcasts/the-daily/electoral-college-trump-clinton-gore-bush.html>

Stay safe, Brian

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