

May 27, 2016

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## NEXT WEEK IN WASHINGTON...

\* Both the House and the Senate are in recess in honor of Memorial Day. Both chambers return in the week of June 6.

### 1. HOUSE VOTES FOR CONFERENCE WITH SENATE ON ZIKA, OTHER SPENDING

The House voted 233 to 180 Thursday, May 26 to conference with the Senate over differences in the two chambers' versions a fiscal year 2017 spending bill (HR 2577) which includes funding to address the Zika virus. The Senate will also need to agree to go to conference on an omnibus package consisting of the *Zika Response Appropriations Act* (HR 5243), the FY2017 Military Construction-VA measure (HR 4973) and legislation to amend the *Clean Water Act* to deal with Zika (HR 897). The AAFP joined other medical organizations on a [letter](#) calling on the leaders of Congress to immediately pass legislation that would provide the greatest possible amount of funding for research, prevention, control and treatment of Zika.

### 2. HOUSE COMMITTEE VOTES TO INCREASE PDMP FUNDING IN FY2017

The House Appropriations Committee on Tuesday, May 24 approved the draft FY2017 Commerce, Justice, Science (CJS) Appropriations bill. The draft includes \$103 million for programs to reduce opioid abuse as authorized by the House-passed *Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Reduction Act* (HR 5046). The funding will support drug courts; Residential Substance Abuse Treatment and the Mentally Ill Offender programs. It also provides \$14 million for the State prescription drug monitoring grant program (PDMP), an increase of \$1 million.

### 3. MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS THE VALUE OF PRIMARY CARE

On May 26, Senators Bill Cassidy (R-LA) and Chris Murphy (D-CT), sponsored an [event](#) titled, *Senate Summit on Mental Health: A Call to Action for Comprehensive Mental Health Reform* to discuss strategies to improve patient access and mental health treatment. The Senators are leading sponsors of the *Mental Health Reform Act* ([S 2680](#)), which was approved in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee on March 16, to reform the Substance