

June 10, 2016

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NEXT WEEK IN WASHINGTON...

- * On Tuesday, June 14, the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations will hold a hearing on the public health responses to antibiotic resistance.
- * On Wednesday, June 15, the Energy and Commerce Committee has scheduled deliberations on several measures, including the *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act* (HR 2646).

1. ZIKA RESPONSE LEGISLATION MOVES FORWARD

The Senate agreed by voice vote on Wednesday, June 8 to join the House in negotiations over final legislation to address the government’s Zika virus response. This vote is the latest incremental step toward reconciling House and Senate versions. The key differences between the \$622 million House Zika bill (HR 5243) and a \$1.1 billion Senate measure included in a broader appropriations bill (HR 2577) concern the level of funding, the fiscal years covered by the funding provisions and the question of whether they require offsetting spending cuts.

2. BIPARTISAN SENATE COMMITTEE CLEARS HHS SPENDING BILL

On June 9, the Senate Committee on Appropriations approved the bipartisan appropriations bill (HR 3040) for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies. The bill does not include new language restricting HHS’ authority to administer the *Affordable Care Act*.

AAFP’s federal priorities contained in the bill include:

- *Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)* – The bill would provide an appropriation AHRQ of \$324 million, a \$10 million cut from the current level, and \$40 million below the President’s budget request.
- *Title VII Health Professions* – The bill would maintain current funding (\$39 million) for Title VII Primary Care Training and Enhancement and \$30 million for the Title VII Area