The 117th Congress and Biden Administration – Health Care Legislative and Regulatory Outlook

Alix Burns

President, Bay Bridge Strategies

Andrew McKechnie

Partner, Peck Madigan Jones

Moderator:

Jennifer Mathieu Director of Governmental Relations, AMCP



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Speakers



Alix Burns

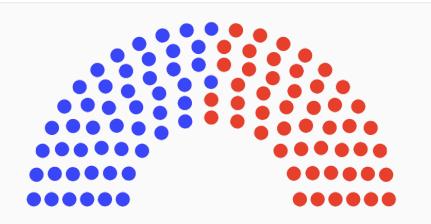
President, Bay Bridge Strategies

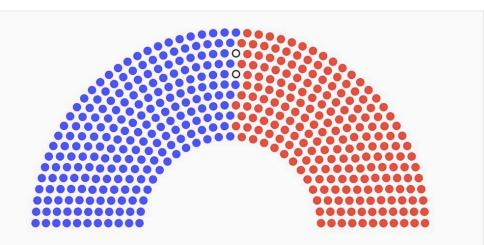


Andrew McKechnie

Partner, Peck Madigan Jones







U.S. Senate 50 Ds – 50 Rs

(VP Harris to serve as tiebreaking 51st vote) House of Representatives 222 Ds – 211 Rs

(2 vacancies, LA-02 and LA-05)





Outlook for the Biden Administration



- ✓ Early healthcare focus will be almost entirely dedicated to COVID response -- will include legislative and regulatory initiatives around vaccines, therapeutics, testing, and supply chain/stockpiling
 - Has already released \$1.9T proposal and issued multiple executive orders
- Regulatory efforts in much of 2021 could focus on reversing Trump Administration policies related to ACA, Medicaid, etc.
 - Has already begun with current regulatory freeze
- ✓ While healthcare will be a key area of focus, other priorities immigration, climate, international relations will take up significant bandwidth
- ✓ In addition to COVID, we expect top healthcare priorities will be drug pricing, ACA expansion/public option, and health disparities/social determinants





Key Members of Biden's COVID Team



Dr. Anthony Fauci Chief Medical Advisor to the President on COVID-19 & NIAID Director



Jeff Zients COVID-19 Response Coordinator & Counselor to the President



Andy Slavitt Senior Advisor to the COVID-19 Response Coordinator



Dr. Marcella Nunez-Smith, MD, MHS COVID-19 Advisory Board Co-Chair & COVID-19 Equity Force Task Chair



Dr. Vivek Murthy, MD, MBA COVID-19 Advisory Board Co-Chair & U.S. Surgeon General



Dr. David Kessler, MD COVID-19 Advisory Board Co-Chair, Chief Science Officer for COVID-19 at WH and HHS, & head of vaccine effort



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Key Members of Biden's Health Team



Xavier Becerra Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS)



Andrea Palm Deputy Secretary at HHS



Christen Linke Young Deputy Director of the Domestic Policy Council for Health and Veterans Affairs



Dr. Francis Collins Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)



Dr. Rochelle Walensky Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



Neera Tanden Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB)







Outlook for the 117th Congress



- ✓ Georgia victories have opened up new options to Democrats, e.g. gavels, CRA, reconciliation
- ✓ Bipartisanship will likely be in short supply, so we expect Democrats to attempt to pass legislation through reconciliation (just 51 votes in the Senate)
- ✓ Biden, Schumer and Pelosi will need to balance fringe expectations, while respecting the moderate middle, e.g. the Squad vs the "Gang of 16"
- ✓ Healthcare will be a top priority, but will be competing with other issues, e.g. infrastructure, taxes, others
- ✓ 2022 politics will matter on day 1 for both parties





Key Members of Congress



Frank Pallone (D-NJ) House Energy & Commerce Committee Chairman



Anna Eshoo (D-CA) House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee Chairwoman



Richard Neal (D-MA) House Ways & Means Committee Chairman



Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) House Oversight Committee Chairwoman



Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) House Appropriations Committee and LHHS Subcommittee Chairwoman



Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) House Energy & Commerce Committee Ranking Member



Brett Guthrie (R-KY) House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee Ranking Member



Kevin Brady (R-TX) House Ways & Means Committee Ranking Member



James Comer (R-KY) House Oversight Committee Ranking Member



Tom Cole (R-OK) House Appropriations LHHS Subcommittee Ranking Member





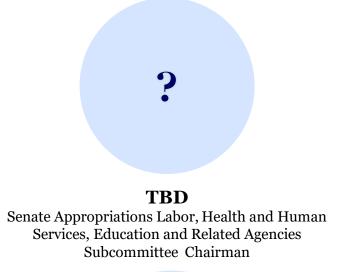
Key Members of Congress



Ron Wyden (D-OR) Senate Finance Committee Chairman



Patty Murray (D-WA) Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Chairwoman





Mike Crapo (R-ID) Senate Finance Committee Ranking Member



Richard Burr (R-NC) * Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Ranking Member **TBD** Senate Appropriations Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee Ranking Member

* (final leadership undecided)







- Drug manufacturers have some goodwill in the bank coming off of the development of the vaccine, but unclear how long that will last
 - Changes to Medicare Part B and D reimbursement (Grassley-Wyden, H.R. 3) are likely to be a major source of "offsets" for other priorities, e.g. ACA expansion.
- Biden Administration and Congress will need to figure out how to handle the "rebate rule" set to begin in 2022
- ✓ Democratic control of White House and Congress will likely present a more favorable environment for providers to push back on prior authorization and other utilization management tools
- ✓ Expect most legislative and regulatory efforts will be viewed through the lens of health disparities
- ✓ Don't forget about California v Azar
- ✓ Looking around the corner...FDA authorization needs to happen by Sept. 2022 and Medicare Trust Fund goes broke in 2024





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