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Capital Minute

Every other Thursday at 3pm ET, ACEP members will have the opportunity to hear updates and have their questions answered live by Laura Wooster, ACEP's Associate Executive Director of Public Affairs. [Click here](#) to register for the next live ACEP Capital Minute on Thursday, May 28th.

NEMPAC VIP Donor "Virtual Happy Hour" Series

The NEMPAC Board of Trustees is hosting a third VIP Donor "Virtual Happy Hour" on Thursday, May 28th with special guest Nathan Gonzales, Editor & Publisher of Inside Elections, Elections Analyst for CQ Roll Call, CNN Political Analyst, and Founder and Publisher of PoliticsinStereo.com. Participation is limited to the first 100 NEMPAC VIP donors who register. All VIP donors will receive an invitation by email. Not sure of your VIP status? [Click here](#) to contact us to check your donation status or [click here](#) to renew. [Click here](#) to view the schedule of upcoming NEMPAC events and other information.

House Select Subcommittee on Coronavirus Crisis Briefing with Frontline Heroes

On Thursday, May 21, the recently established House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis held a virtual briefing featuring essential and frontline workers, including ACEP member Megan Ranney, MD, MPH, FACEP, as one of the panelists. The purpose of the briefing was to highlight the wide variety of experiences from essential workers serving their communities, and to bring attention to the risks faced by health care workers like emergency physicians, nurses, and EMTs, as well as other essential workers such as custodians, grocery store workers, and public transportation workers.

Dr. Ranney and the other panelists noted the personal risks to their health and their families' health that are exacerbated by a lack of adequate PPE, as well as the emotional and mental health toll that the pandemic has taken on frontline workers. Another common refrain from the panelists was a lack of access to rapid testing, fair pay and compensation such as hazard pay, and paid leave protections.

In response to a question from Rep. Andy Kim (D-CA) as to whether the U.S. is prepared for a potential second wave of infection, Dr. Ranney warned the committee that we are not yet prepared given the lack of testing, PPE, scientific progress on fighting the virus, and inconsistent public health guidance.

The briefing can be viewed [here](#).

Due Process Bill Introduced in House

On May 15, Drs. Roger Marshall, MD (R-KS) and Raul Ruiz, MD (D-CA) introduced H.R. 6910, a bill that would ensure every emergency physician has medical staff due process protections. The legislation would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue regulations that would provide due process rights for physicians furnishing emergency medical services.

Specifically, the regulations would ensure physicians who are employed by or under contract with a hospital to furnish emergency medical services have a fair hearing and appellate review through appropriate medical staff mechanisms before any termination or restriction of their professional activities could be instituted. These protections could not be denied through third-party contracts.

To read ACEP's support letter from April 16, [click here](#).

Regs & Eggs Blog: Ongoing Efforts to Reduce Barriers to Opioid Use Disorder Treatment

This week is [EMS week](#), which gives all of us an opportunity to thank our frontline providers for their hard work and sacrifice as they have answered the call of duty during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our first responders and other emergency professionals, including emergency physicians like yourselves, have faced the unique challenge of treating patients using different protocols and procedures to ensure that everyone remains protected and safe. This extends to the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD), which if anything has only become more [prevalent](#) during the pandemic as anxiety and stress are at particularly high levels—potentially causing more relapses and new opioid users.

Read the [Regs & Eggs blog](#) to learn about what temporary regulatory changes have been made during the pandemic related to the treatment of patients with OUD and what barriers to OUD treatment ACEP wants permanently removed.

Provider Relief Fund Updates

HHS continues to make updates to the [Provider Relief Fund](#). This week, HHS [stated](#) that providers have until **June 3, 2020** to accept the Terms and Conditions and submit their revenue information to support receiving an additional payment from the Provider Relief Fund \$50 billion General Distribution. Providers who have cases pending before the department for adjudication regarding eligibility for general distribution funding will not be impacted by this closure. All cases needing individual adjudication will need to be received by HHS no later than June 3, 2020. HHS has also released an extensive set of [frequently asked questions](#) (FAQs), which is continually being updated. **ACEP strongly recommends that you periodically review these FAQs.**

ACEP is continually making updates to our [website](#) to make sure you are up-to-date on this program as well as on the other financial support options that are available to you during the pandemic.

You are receiving the Weekly Update emails as a member of the ACEP 911 Network. If you no longer want to receive this publication and do not want to be a member of the ACEP 911 Network, please click unsubscribe below.



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ACEP Public Affairs | 2121 K Street, NW Suite 325 | Washington, DC 20037

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