

10/23/2020

Good Morning REDC,

Below you'll find an update from this week's policy. Also, I wanted to highlight two important items:

1. EDC released its findings and statements based on the GAO Report. <https://bit.ly/37wOvuc>
 - a. This includes an analysis of what the report incorrectly stated was available care: https://drive.google.com/file/d/16bJ4FLGKhDCImo_QSM3A477DU5Myzx8y/view
 - b. Big takeaways:
 - i. DoD doesn't screen for eating disorders during service
 - ii. DoD doesn't train their medical personnel to identify eating disorders using the industry standard of care
 - iii. DoD only contracts with 35% of available care in the US (14% is out-of-network), meaning only 21% of available care is in-network for servicemembers and their families.
 - iv. Lastly, their provider lists had significant errors-with 1/4th not actually treating eating disorders.
2. EDC released its Congressional Scorecard last week in case you missed it. Feel free to share! [EDC's 116th Congress Congressional Scorecard](#)
3. Additionally the DOD Inspector General released a report on significant issues with military mental health care, noting that 53% of military members and families that were referred for mental health care never received it...and the DOD didn't know why. I'll be having a call with the APA as they are working closely on this. https://media.defense.gov/2020/Aug/12/2002475605/-1/-1/1/DODIG-2020-112_REDACTED.PDF

SERVE Act:

- First NDAA conference meeting is starting next week, the still having the goal of forging a compromise and voting on the bill the first week of December

- HASC Chairman noted the negotiations haven't gone as quickly as they were hoping for, but they are eyeing Monday for their first meeting
- The four leaders on SASC and HASC noted that they will 100% pass this before the end of the year
- Things that are holding up the work:
 - Scrubbing the names of Confederate leaders from Army Bases
 - Blocking troop withdrawals from Germany and Afghanistan
 - Prohibiting new nuclear testing

ACA Watch

- I. Open enrollment begins November 1
 - a. Approximately 22 health plans are jumping into the ACA markets in 2021
 - b. The median premium change across all plans is modest at 1.1%
 - i. Rate changes for 2021 plans range from a 42% decrease to a 25.6% increase, however half fall between a 3.5% decrease and 4.6% increase.
 - ii. Kaiser Family Foundation has a nice chart breaking down insurer rate changes by state [here](#). Additionally CMS has an issue brief with more information [here](#).
 - c. 4 states have at least a 10% drop in premiums for their benchmark plans (plans used to calculate premium subsidies for enrollees who qualify).
 - d. Deductibles will keep rising as the median deductible for the lowest-tier bronze plans will reach almost \$7,000, an increase of \$240.
 - e. The percentage of Healthcare.gov enrollees with access to only one insurers continues to decrease from 29% in 2018 to 4% in 2021.
 - i. More than $\frac{3}{4}$ of enrollees will have access to at least 3 issuers in 2021.

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