

08/19/2021

Hello REDC Members,

Here is your weekly update!

I. Telehealth

- The Biden administration is investing more than \$19 million to strengthen telehealth services in rural and underserved communities.
- Investments are being distributed to 36 award recipients through the Health Resources and Services Administration at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- The grants will fund online mentoring, training, technical assistance, and access expansions.

II. NDAA & SERVE Act Status

- The House and Senate are still in August recess so we've put a pause on new pitches for SERVE.
 - Rep. Steny Hoyer has announced the House will return early from recess next Monday to take up infrastructure and reconciliation.
- We are still working hard to get SERVE Act amendment into the House Full Armed Services Committee Markups on Sept. 1st.
- The Full Committee amendment strategy has been composed of the following steps:
 - See if we can cut the mandatory spending even further, limiting it to active-duty TRICARE beneficiaries.
 - Pressuring Chairman Adam Smith (D-WA-9) in Seattle area and Ranking Member Mike Rogers (R-AL-3) from Eastern Alabama.
 - Securing a Republican from HASC to co-lead w/Moulton a HASC amendment for the Sept. 1st Full Committee markup, since Katko isn't on Committee.
 - **This coming week, before the markup, pressure HASC Members to co-sponsor the amendment and vote in favor of it.**
 - **Heavy Grasstops and Grassroots push**
 - If you have any relationships, know any non-eating disorders organizations, or business leaders in the following Congressional districts, please let us know so we can collaborate to put more pressure on the members:
 - **Bacon (R-NE-2) SERVE Act Co-Sponsor:** This is NE Nebraska with the main city being Papillion.
 - **Hartzler (R-MO-4) SERVE Act Co-Sponsor:** This is Western Missouri, the district just south of Kansas City, MO and KS.
 - **Turner (R-OH-10):** This is Dayton area (SW Ohio).

- **McClain (R-[MI-10](#))**: This is just north of Detroit.
- **Stefanik (R-[NY-21](#))**: This is the NE tip of New York.
- **Gallagher (R-[WI-08](#))**: This is the NE end of Wisconsin.
- **Ranking Member Mike Rogers (R-[AL-3](#))** This is Eastern Alabama.
- There continues to be controversy in the House and Senate over inclusions and exclusions from the NDAA.
 - House Appropriations Committee member Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI) proposed a bill to cut \$10 billion off of the NDAA and instead direct it towards COVID vaccine distribution to vulnerable countries.
 - We also expect there to be last-minute amendments reacting to recent events in Afghanistan.
 - Our team is monitoring these ongoing developments and how they might impact (positively or negatively) our SERVE pressure.

Best Regards,
Center Road Solutions Team