



## CARE Act Reauthorization Watch

Volume 16, December 11, 2006

The Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act, HR 6143, passed the House and Senate and is now before the President for his signature. Depending on when Congress completes the FY2007 appropriations process, EMAs are expected to receive at least partial grant awards by March 1 and states and territories by April 1. The new law's impact on funding will depend on the outcome of the FY2007 appropriations process.

A summary of recent events and media coverage regarding reauthorization is outlined below.

### **Congressional Activities**

[House Report 109-695](#) that accompanied HR 6143 in its passage in the House was made available.

On September 28, Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA) issued a [press release](#) in opposition to HR 6143.

On September 29, in a [colloquy](#) with Senators Mike Enzi (R-WY) and Ted Kennedy (D-MA), Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) was assured that California will not experience a steep drop in funding in the fifth year of the reauthorization if events beyond California's control prohibited an accurate name-based HIV count.

On November 29, HELP Committee staff convened a meeting with stakeholders to provide information on what was possible in terms of passing a bill with the limited time available and to describe a compromise proposal presented to the Senators with holds on the bill. The proposal would authorize only the first three years of provisions in the pending "Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act." Only those provisions that occur in the first three years would be operative.

On December 1, in honor of World AIDS Day Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) issued a [press release](#) calling for passage of reauthorization legislation and removal of holds by the New York and New Jersey Senators. Other Senators issuing press releases in support of passage of legislation include Harry [Reid](#) (D-NV), Ted [Kennedy](#) (D-MA), and Barbara [Mikulski](#) (D-MD). California Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein issued a [press release](#) in support of a three-year authorization compromise. Senators Hillary [Clinton](#) (D-NY) and Robert [Menendez](#) (D-NJ) issued press releases calling for reauthorization

legislation that does not jeopardize current systems of care.

On December 4, HELP Committee staff released a revised [draft](#) of HR 6143 that would reauthorize the CARE Act for three years, sunset the program at the end of the authorization, require the development of a Severity of Need Index without an implementation requirement, and change the hold harmless provisions to guarantee 95 percent of FY2006 funding in FY2007 and 100 percent of FY2007 funding in FY2008 and FY2009 for the Title I formula and Title II base, including ADAP.

On December 5, Senator Kennedy issued a [press release](#) announcing that the “stalemate had been broken” allowing consideration of the legislation to move forward.

On December 5, Senators Clinton, Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ) and Menendez issued a [press release](#) announcing the removal of their holds on HR 6143.

On December 6, three-year authorization compromise [legislation](#) (HR 6143) passed the Senate by unanimous consent. Senators Kennedy, Orrin Hatch (R-UT), and Enzi all [spoke](#) on the Senate floor in support of its passage. After its approval Senators [Enzi](#), Richard [Burr](#) (R-NC), Tom [Coburn](#) (R-OK), Dianne [Feinstein](#) (D-CA), Bill [Frist](#) (R-TN), [Hatch](#), [Mikulski](#), Jeff [Sessions](#) (R-AL) issued press releases applauding its passage.

On December 6, the Maryland House delegation sent a [letter](#) to Speaker Denny Hastert (R-IL), Speaker-Elect Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), Energy and Commerce Chairman Joe Barton (R-TX) and Ranking Member John Dingell (D-MI) asking that they bring HR 6143 to the floor before adjournment.

On December 7, HIV/AIDS organizations and Members of Congress held a [press conference](#) urging the Republican Leadership to pass the reauthorization compromise legislation. Representatives in attendance included: Tammy Baldwin (D-WI); Madeleine Bordallo (D-Guam); Donna Christian-Christensen (D-VI); Edolphus Towns (D-NY); Loretta Sanchez (D-CA); Maxine [Waters](#) (D-CA); and Albert [Wynn](#) (D-MD). Organizations in attendance were: [AIDS Action](#), AIDS Alliance for Children Youth and Families, The AIDS Institute, Human Rights Campaign, National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors, National Minority AIDS Council, and National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS.

On December 9, in a carefully negotiated deal that included reauthorization of the National Institutes of Health, biodefense and pandemic preparedness legislation and redistribution of money for the State Children's Health Insurance Program, the House passed [HR 6143](#) in suspension of the rules. After its passage, Representatives Mary [Bono](#) (R-CA), [Pelosi](#), and [Wynn](#) issued press releases lauding its passage.

### **The Administration**

During the October 16 and 17 Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) meeting, a discussion on the status of reauthorization legislation took place. A reauthorization related resolution was [passed](#). The AIDS Institute provided [public comment](#) in support of passage of HR 6143.

During the November 13 and 14 CDC/HRSA Advisory Committee on HIV & STD Prevention and Treatment (CHAC) meeting, council members discussed the status of the pending legislation and the

funding consequences in the absence of the bill's passage. The AIDS Institute provided [public comment](#) in support of passage of the pending legislation.

On December 1, in honor of World AIDS Day the President issued a [press release](#) calling for passage of reauthorization legislation in the Senate.

On December 9, the President [thanked](#) Congress for reauthorizing the Ryan White legislation.

### **Updates**

On November 3, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation released a "[Side-by-Side](#) Comparison of Current Law and Reauthorization Proposals" and a revised [fact sheet](#) on the CARE Act.

### **Media Coverage**

On September 28, *The Press-Enterprise* published an [article](#) by Claire Vitucci entitled "Funding for patients with AIDS/HIV revised." On September 29, another [article](#) by Claire Vitucci was published under the same title.

On October 2, the *Herald Sun* published an [article](#) entitled "Triangle stands to lose new AIDS money."

On October 2, *The New Standard* published an [article](#) by Megan Tady entitled "Activists Decry Senate's Inaction on AIDS-care Funding."

On October 4, *CQ HealthBeat News* published an [article](#) by Laura Blinkhorn entitled "Groups Say Inadequate HIV/AIDS Funding under Bill Would Hurt Latinos."

On October 4, *CBS Broadcasting Inc.* published an [article](#) entitled "AIDS Patient Advocates Warn of Deep Budget Cuts."

On October 6, the *Queens Tribune* published an [article](#) by Iman Khan entitled "Queens AIDS Groups Fear Budget Cut."

On October 11, *The Star Ledger* published an [article](#) by Russell Ben-Ali entitled "Losing Federal AIDS Funds."

On October 12, *The Jersey Journal* published an [article](#) by Ali Winston entitled "Hudson's AIDS Care Funding Threatened by AIDS Bill."

On October 12, the *Bergen Record* published an [editorial](#) entitled "More Funding to Fight AIDS."

On October 13, *The Star Ledger* published an [article](#) entitled "Don't Skimp in AIDS Fight."

On October 23, *CQ Weekly* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "Changing Face of AIDS a Legislative Dilemma."

On October 31, *The Baltimore Sun* published an [article](#) by Jonathon Bor entitled "Baltimore Regions Fears Big Slash in AIDS Funds."

On November 2, *The Baltimore Sun* published an [editorial](#) entitled "Not an exclusive Club."

On November 12, *The San Francisco Chronicle* published an [article](#) by Sabin Russell entitled "Election Aftermath; America: What's at Stake; AIDS."

On November 13, the *U.S. Newswire* published an [article](#) entitled "National Black Chamber of Commerce Calls for Immediate Reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act."

On November 14, *The Tuscaloosa News* published an [article](#) by Ashley Harriman entitled "AIDS Activists Seek More Federal Money."

On November 15, the *Chicago Defender* published a [commentary](#) by Phil Wilson entitled "Time for a New Direction on AIDS."

On November 16, *The State* published an [article](#) by Czerne Reid entitled "S.C. seeks HIV/AIDS funding."

On December 4, *CQ Today* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "Inaction on Federal AIDS Programs Could Financially Hurt 17 States and D.C."

On December 5, *CQ Today* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "Compromise Will Allow AIDS Programs to be Reauthorized."

On December 5, the *Associated Press* published an [article](#) by Devlin Barrett entitled "Sen. Clinton strikes deal on AIDS bill, preserves more NY funding."

On December 6, *CQ Today* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "Reauthorization of Ryan White CARE Act entangled with Unrelated NIH Measure."

On December 6, the *San Jose Mercury News* published an [article](#) by Devlin Barrett entitled "AIDS bill deal ends urban-rural stalemate, Cal gets \$260 million."

On December 7, the *San Francisco Chronicle* published an [article](#) by Edward Epstein entitled "Congress Renews Ryan White AIDSCare Funding, Programs Here and in NY, NJ, Saved From Deep Cuts."

On December 7, *CQ Today* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "Backers of Ryan White Bill Zero in on Barton."

On December 7, *PharmaLive* published an [article](#) entitled "AIDS Groups Join Members of Congress to Demand Passage of Legislation to Reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act."

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On December 8, the *Montgomery Advertiser* published an [article](#) by Crystal Bonvillian entitled "State May Get Millions to Fight AIDS."

On December 9, the *Associated Press* published an [article](#) by Erica Werner entitled "Congress Sends AIDS Care Bill to President."

On December 9, *CQ Today* published an [article](#) by Alex Wayne entitled "AIDS Programs, NIH Reorganization and Bioterrorism Bills Set to Become Law."

On December 11, the *New York Blade* published an [article](#) by Kerry Eleveld entitled "Ryan White Deal May Avert AIDS Funding Cut."

### **Community Activities**

On September 30, AIDS Action Council issued a [press release](#) expressing disappointment that Congress was unable to pass HR 6143 before adjourning.

On September 30, the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) issued a [press release](#) expressing disappointment at the Senates failure to pass HR 6143. On October 17, a [press release](#) was issued calling on Congress to pass the bill in the lame duck session and appropriate \$100 million in FY2007 for the program. AHF issued another [press release](#) on November 2 and [another](#) on November 6 repeating a call for funding and passage of the bill.

On October 3, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation issued a [press release](#) calling for fixes to HR 6143 before Congress passes the bill.

On October 10, the Latino Commission on AIDS issued a [press release](#) announcing that Ms. Universe had sent a letter to Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY) in support of her position on HR 6143.

On November 13, the Communities Advocating Emergency AIDS Relief (CAEAR) Coalition sent a [letter](#) to appropriators requesting an \$18.8 million increase in Title I funding for the five new EMAs that would be created under the pending reauthorization legislation.

On November 13, 65 organizations sent a [letter](#) to Senate Majority Leader Frist and Minority Leader Reid urging the passage of HR 6143.

On November 20, AIDS Project Los Angeles issued a [statement](#) calling for a delay in consideration of reauthorization legislation until the next Congress and stressed the importance of appropriately funding the CARE Act.

On November 26, the New York AIDS Coalition issued a [press release](#) calling for a delay in consideration of the bill until the 110th Congress.

On November 27, Gay Men's Health Crisis issued a [press release](#) calling for a delay in consideration of the bill until the 110th Congress.

On November 30, The AIDS Institute (TAI) sent a [letter](#) to the New York and New Jersey Senators urging them to accept the three-year authorization compromise. On December 1, TAI issued a [press release](#) in support of the three-year compromise.

On December 1, 104 organizations sent a [letter](#) to Senate Majority Leader Frist and Minority Leader Reid urging the passage of the three-year authorization compromise.

On December 1, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators issued an [emergency resolution](#) urging immediate passage of reauthorization legislation.

On December 1, the National Minority Health Month issued a [press release](#) urging immediate passage of the three year authorization compromise in the Senate.

On December 4, the Southern AIDS Coalition issued a [press release](#) in support of the three-year authorization compromise and a \$70 million increase for the Title II base.

On December 4, the National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Director sent a [letter](#) to Enzi and Kennedy endorsing the compromise legislation released on the same day.

On December 5, the CAEAR Coalition sent a [letter](#) to Enzi and Kennedy endorsing the compromise legislation.

On December 5, the National Association of People with AIDS issued a [press release](#) supporting the compromise legislation.

On December 5, the New York AIDS Coalition issued a [press release](#) calling for the passage of the compromise legislation.

On December 9, AIDS Alliance, the American Academy of Pediatricians and the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation issued a [press release](#) praising the Senate and House passage of reauthorization.

The Reauthorization Watch, produced by NASTAD, provides updates on activities related to the reauthorization of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act. Please see NASTAD's [website](#) for more information and resources related to the Ryan White program.

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