

*Please reach out to your VillageMD market leader with questions and concerns.*

## **On Capitol Hill:**

- The House plans to vote today on their \$3 Trillion dollar COVID-19 relief package, [The HEROES Act](#). The White House announced it will veto this bill as it includes funding for abortions. The Senate will likely make significant changes to this package in May or June. Highlights of The HEROES Act include:
  - Forgiveness on a portion of advanced payments and a lower interest rate on those payments.
  - More money to the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund:
    - \$175B to reimburse for health care related expenses or lost revenue attributable to the coronavirus, as well as to support testing and contact tracing to effectively monitor and suppress COVID-19
    - \$100B in grants for hospital and health care providers to be reimbursed health care related expenses or lost revenue directly attributable to the public health emergency resulting from coronavirus;
    - \$75 billion for testing, contact tracing, and other activities necessary to effectively monitor and suppress COVID-19
- The Trump Administration released a plan to [restructure the Strategic National Stockpile \(SNS\)](#), after it ran out of critical supplies in the first few weeks of the pandemic. The President signed an executive order to help encourage domestic medical supply production by offering loans through the International Development Finance Corp. The order gives the agency's chief executive, Adam Bohler, authority under the Defense Production Act for domestic production of "strategic resources" needed to respond to the disease, and "to strengthen any relevant domestic supply chains."
- The U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions [held](#) a hearing regarding back to work and back to school policies, with three witnesses and the Chairman in self quarantine.
- The CDC [issued guidance](#) to states on how they should reopen bars, restaurants and workplace, outlining a series of steps that should be taken to keep both workers and customers safe.
- Senators Cornyn and Feinstein [introduced](#) the "Stopping Doctor Shortages Act" to make some physicians eligible for federal student loan forgiveness.
- The Trump administration is [preparing](#) an executive order to require certain essential drugs and medical treatments for a variety of conditions be manufactured in the U.S.
- Senators Warner and Blumenthal [introduced](#) a bill that would give consumers the right to sue companies and government agencies if their private health data isn't protected during the pandemic.
- Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) is said to be considering using data on the rates hospitals negotiate with private insurers, including Medicare Advantage plans, to help set future Medicare fee-for-service payment rates for hospital procedures.