

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

Below is this week's government and legislative affairs update. All previous legislative guidance and other affiliate resources are stored via the [VillageMD Affiliated Practices COVID-19 Resource Center](#).

- President Trump [signed](#) into law Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act (PPPFA), in an attempt to address many concerns expressed by the small business community around the Paycheck Protection Program aimed at providing COVID-19 relief.
- Senate Majority Leader McConnell [said](#) he expects Senate Republicans will begin considering proposals for a "fourth and final" coronavirus response bill to address the needs of the country "in about a month."
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) [released](#) start dates for new CMMI models around Direct Contracting. Models will now begin in April 2021.
- Senators Grassley, Wyden, Pallone and Walden [asked](#) HHS to speed release of CARES grants to Medicaid providers.
- The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) [said](#) extending many of the newly waived restrictions on telehealth beyond the pandemic would require Congressional legislative changes, despite the president's executive order making regulatory waivers permanent.
- CMS said it will withhold some CARES Act funds from states that fail to follow oversight requirements on infection control, after the agency released public data [showing](#) 26,000 nursing home residents have died of COVID-19.
- HHS [signaled](#) additional CARES payments could be coming for some high-impact areas that missed the April 10 application deadline.