

IN THE KNOW

Bulletins for Benefits & HR Professionals

August 6, 2020



President Trump Signs Drug Pricing Executive Orders Reinforcing the Administration's Priorities

“Although the drug pricing executive orders are unlikely to be implemented before the 2020 election, they reinforce the administration's priorities on drug pricing. As stakeholders plan for the years ahead, they should be mindful of their potential impact on their operations. This article provides an overview of the President's drug pricing executive orders and describes their scope and potential impact.” [Full Article](#)

K&L Gates



HHS Extends National Public Health Emergency Through October 23

“On Thursday, July 23, the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) announced that the Public Health Emergency (PHE) declaration for COVID-19 will be renewed for another 90 days through October 22. This public emergency declaration is important to health plan sponsors because it determines the period of time during which group health plans and insurers must pay for COVID-19 tests and related services without charging cost sharing, as well as provide extended timeframes related to COBRA, HIPAA, and claims filing deadlines.” [Full Article](#)

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In This Issue

Page 1

President Trump Signs Drug Pricing Executive Orders Reinforcing the Administration's Priorities

K&L Gates

HHS Extends National Public Health Emergency Through October 23

Manatt

Page 2

IRS Addresses Reconciliation and Recapture Rules for Tax Credits Under FFCRA and CARES Act

Thomson Reuters Practical Law

California Provides Details on Employer Reporting for the State Individual Mandate

State of California Franchise Tax Board

HHS Secretary's Report Calls for Congressional Action to Combat Surprise Billing and Promote Price Transparency

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [HHS]

IRS Addresses Reconciliation and Recapture Rules for Tax Credits Under FFCRA and CARES Act

“In issuing its temporary regulations, the IRS indicated that a refund, credit, or advance of any part of the credits to an employer that is more than the amount to which the employer is entitled is an erroneous refund for which the IRS will seek repayment through a recapture process.” [Full Article](#)

Thomson Reuters Practical Law



California Provides Details on Employer Reporting for the State Individual Mandate

“Information released by the State indicates that employers will be allowed to use the same forms the employer submits to the IRS (Forms 1094 and 1095 B/C) to satisfy the California employer reporting requirement. Of particular note is that employers that sponsor a fully-insured health plan can rely upon the insurer to submit the necessary Forms 1095-B to the State.” [Full Article](#)

State of California Franchise Tax Board



HHS Secretary's Report Calls for Congressional Action to Combat Surprise Billing and Promote Price Transparency

“Surprise medical billing is a widespread and costly problem in the United States. Research shows that 41 percent of insured adults nationwide were surprised by a medical bill in the past two years alone, and that two thirds of adults worry about their ability to afford an unexpected medical bill. Practices such as surprise billing leave many patients vulnerable to the financial burdens presented by a nationwide pandemic.” [Full Article](#)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [HHS]