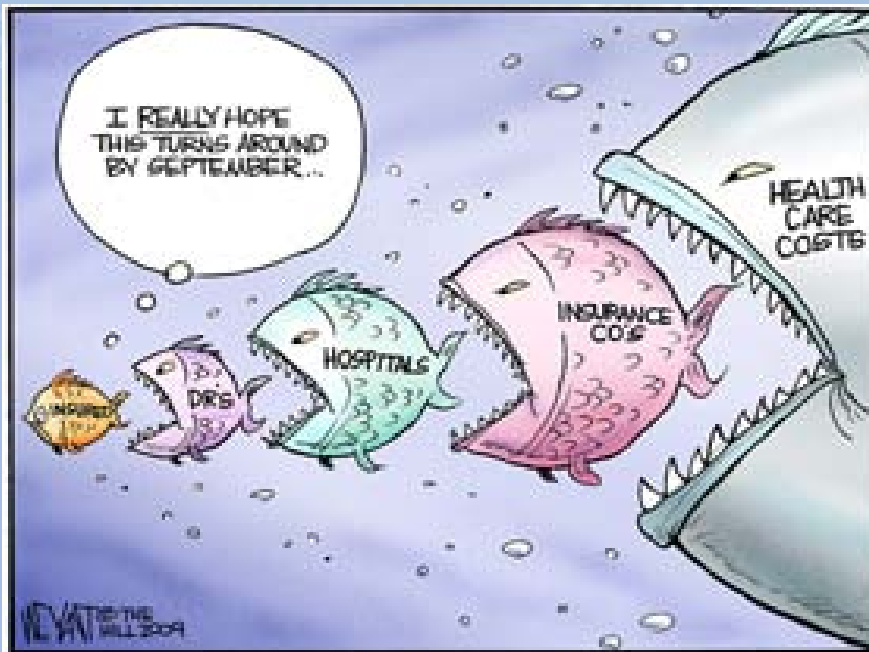


# Health Care Reform Update

**Charles Ingoglia, MSW**  
**Vice President, Public Policy**  
**National Council for Community Behavioral  
Healthcare**

**August 5, 2009**

## Quote of the Week



Weyant's World  
The Hill Newspaper  
August 4, 2009



# Today...

- House Committee on Energy and Commerce Reports HR 3200
- Next Steps

# In Previous Calls

- Discussed overall structure of the bills
  - **Medicaid expansion**
  - **Health insurance exchange/gateway**
    - **Minimum benefit package that includes MH and SUD services**

# Insurance Reforms

- Prohibiting Discrimination Based on Health Status/pre-existing conditions
- Community rating
- Guaranteed issue and renewal for insured plans
- Ensuring adequacy of provider networks
- Standards for Medical Loss Ratios
- No annual or lifetime limits

# House of Representatives

## America's Affordable Health Choices Act – HR 3200

Education and Labor Committee passed on July 17

Ways and Means Committee passed on July 17

Energy and Commerce passed on July 31

# Mental Health/Addiction Provisions in House Bill

- Discount pharmaceutical pricing (340B) expanded to mental health and addiction treatment organizations
- Licensed Professional Counselors and Marriage and Family Therapists covered in Medicare, Rural Health Clinics, and Federally Qualified Health Centers
- Promotes the coordination of health services (inc. MH) through medical homes and Accountable Care Organizations
- Awards grants to mental health professional training programs (amended to include substance abuse counseling and addiction medicine)

# Energy and Commerce Committee Amendments

Amendment offered by Reps. Eliot Engel (D-NY) and Doris Matsui (D-CA).

Creates “Federally-Qualified Behavioral Health Centers” to be certified by SAMHSA.

First step in the development of national standards and benefits for these entities.

# Energy and Commerce Committee amendments

Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) offered amendment that clarifies that Medicaid can pay for Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC) and includes definition of TFC based on S. 1217 – Medicaid Services Restoration Act of 2009

# Energy and Commerce Committee amendments

Rep. Chris Murphy (D-CT) that would temporarily suspend, rather than revoke, Medicaid benefits for individuals upon their release from public juvenile facilities. Amendment was agreed upon by voice vote.

And

States must provide as a state plan amendment to CMS each year, their provider rates for the coming year, and how they came to those rates. Thus, CMS, each year, would have the ability to enforce the current Medicaid law which requires that provider rates be sufficient to ensure that enough providers are available to provide the covered services.

# Amendment to the Training Program

- “(1) an accredited health professions school, including an accredited school or program of psychology, psychiatry, social work, marriage and family therapy, professional mental health and substance abuse counseling, or addiction medicine;
- “(2) an accredited public or nonprofit private hospital;
- “(3) a public or private nonprofit entity; or
- “(4) a consortium of 2 or more entities described in paragraphs (1) through (3).



# Senate Finance Committee

**Bill Expected to be released ...**

*I know you have heard this before...*



# *Opportunities and Challenges ....*

# Questions Remain

- **Timing...**
- **Reconciliation of 3 bills in House – done by the Rules Committee**
- **Regular order of Budget Reconciliation in Senate?**
- **Negotiation over size (House v. Senate)**

# August Recess

- **The Pressure is on**
  - **Opponents and supporters of healthcare reform will be making their voices heard**
  - **Members of Congress conducting “Town Hall” meetings**
  - **National Council has developed “Talking Points” to assist you.**

# Together We Will!

- **Keep Eye Out for Action Alerts, PPU**
- **Start Planning for Hill Day Next Year**
- **Become Part of our Key Contact Network:**
  1. **Three contacts with members of Congress**
  2. **Build relationships – share information; offer assistance; participate in campaign activities**

Contact me – [chucki@thenationalcouncil.org](mailto:chucki@thenationalcouncil.org)

# Future Webinars: Health Care Reform Update

All webinars are at 2 pm EST:

- August 19
- Sept. 9
- Sept. 22

Register online: [www.thenationalcouncil.org](http://www.thenationalcouncil.org)