

Morgan Lewis

# ***FAST BREAK:*** **HEALTHCARE REFORM**

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# Healthcare Reform Background

- 2010 – Affordable Care Act (a/k/a ObamaCare)
  - Law created insurance exchanges, individual mandate, and insurer MLR
  - Expanded state Medicaid programs through significant federal funding
  - Also included many program changes, including healthcare fraud and abuse controls
- 2012 – Supreme Court upholds individual mandate as constitutional but strikes down Medicaid expansion
- 2011-2017 – House routinely votes on and passes measure to repeal and replace ACA

# Healthcare Reform – What's Happened This Year?

- March 2017 – American Health Care Act introduced in House, passed through Committees, and amended, but is ultimately pulled from Floor after failing to gain support of moderate Republicans
- April, May 2017 – After several additional amendments, including the establishment of a pre-existing condition high risk pool fund of \$8 billion, the AHCA narrowly passes the House 217-213
- June, July 2017 – Senate proposes own bill – Better Care Reconciliation Act – which faces continual delays as Senate Republicans reject the bill

# Healthcare Reform – What’s Happened This Year?

- July 2017 – “Skinny Bill” – the Health Care Freedom Act – which would only repeal and not replace the relevant provisions of the ACA is introduced but fails to pass in the Senate after three Republicans vote against the bill
- August, September 2017 – Recognizing growing potential for instability in insurance marketplace in 2018, bipartisan groups in both House and Senate offer ideas to make immediate fixes to existing law and hold bipartisan hearings with state officials and insurers
- September 2017 – The Graham-Cassidy bill to repeal and replace the ACA is released, but is not voted upon due to public opposition from several Republican Senators

# Healthcare Reform – Issues

- Medicaid
  - Block grants
  - Medicaid expansion
  - Work/drug testing requirements
- Individual mandate
- Insurance exchanges and insurer premium subsidies
  - Affordability for middle-class Americans
  - # of people of insured
  - Single payor?
  - Pre-existing conditions
- Impact of technology on healthcare?

# Healthcare Reform – Impact on Industry

- Insurers, health care providers, and manufacturers all expressing concern about current state of healthcare reform
- Focus on reimbursement, but also on stabilization of marketplace
- More insured patients – good for healthcare industry

# Thanks!



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Timothy P. Lynch directs all activities, including the strategic and operational functions, of the Washington Strategic Government Relations and Counseling Practice. He monitors legislative and political trends and developments, as well as managing lobbying registration and reporting, visits to government officials, and relationships with trade associations. In addition, Morgan Lewis's clients seek his advice on government relations and public policy issues.

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*"Fast Break: False Claims After Escobar"*

Featuring John Cosgriff

➤ Thursday October 26, 3:00 PM (EST)