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Welcome to America's Physician Groups' "Healthcare on the Hill," where you can get the latest on healthcare happenings in our nation's capital--and with a special focus on the value-based care movement.

As our nation--and the world--continues to face the many challenge presented by COVID-19, we are working to ensure you have the very latest information on the virus and our rapidly changing healthcare landscape.

*Think someone else may enjoy "Healthcare on the Hill?" **Forward this email and have them click [here](#) to be added to our subscription list.** And remember, you can always visit our [website](#) for more news and resources.*

Valinda Rutledge
Senior Vice President of Federal Affairs
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Senate and House Will Not Reconvene Until May 4

Last week, the **Senate announced that it will convene in pro forma sessions only until Monday, May 4.** However, if any legislation needs to be acted on during this period that would require a vote, both the Senate and House will provide leaders as much notice as possible to return to DC.

Administration Releases Phase-In Approach for Reopening the Economy

The Trump administration has released a **three-phase approach** to ending stay-at-home orders and reopening the economy. Entitled [Opening Up America Again](#), the guidelines are based on up-to-date data and readiness and may be implemented at the discretion of governors' offices. States are recommended to meet gating criteria before beginning the three-phase process. You can view the state or region guidelines and the phase-in approach [here](#).

CMS Releases Guidance for Reopening Non-Emergent, Non-COVID-19 Healthcare Facilities

CMS has released [guidance](#) for facilities located in areas that have a low, or relatively low and stable incidence of COVID-19 on how best to provide care for patients needing non-emergent, non-COVID-19 healthcare. The first phase of the agency's plan is recommended for localities that have reached the gating criteria listed in the administration's Opening Up America Again proposal with low incidence or relatively low and stable incidence of COVID-19 cases.

APG Joins Coalition in Letter to NGA Emphasizing the Role of States in Utilizing Digital Healthcare During COVID-19 Pandemic

Last week, APG joined with 42 other stakeholders in a [letter](#) to the National Governors Association (NGA) and the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) **commenting on NGA's recommendations to governors on ways to improve coverage and access to telehealth services**. The letter stated support for the association's recognition of digital health technologies as important tools that may be utilized during the current public health emergency to improve patient outcomes while reducing costs.

Provider Relief Fund Attestation Portal Now Open

HHS officially **opened its [new portal](#) allowing providers to attest for their payments from the COVID-19 provider relief fund**. The fund was established as part of the [Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security \(CARES\) Act](#) and provides \$100 billion to providers for lost revenue and other expenses due to the COVID-19 pandemic based on 2019 Medicare fee-for-service reimbursements. The first \$30 billion disbursement has been released. Providers have **30 days** to agree to the terms and conditions after which they must repay the money received within 30 days if not agreed to.



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