



Special Bulletin

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

HOUSE LEADERS UNVEIL SPENDING PACKAGE

Bill does not contain HOPD corrections

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) late last night unveiled a \$1.1 trillion spending [package](#) to fund the government for the remainder of fiscal year 2016. The bill does not contain [corrections](#) to the Bipartisan Budget Act signed into law Nov. 2 to allow off-campus provider-based hospital outpatient departments already under development to qualify as grandfathered facilities. We will continue to seek a legislative vehicle for these corrections.

The bill does incorporate the Cybersecurity Act of 2015, which generally establishes mechanisms for cybersecurity threat information sharing between the public and private sectors, outlines how the federal government will approach cybersecurity, and offers liability protections to entities that voluntarily share and receive cyber threat information. It requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to submit a report to Congress on the preparedness of the department and the field to respond to cybersecurity threats and directs HHS to work with the private sector and other federal agencies to establish voluntary, consensus-based best practices for reducing cybersecurity risk in health care.

Government funding is set to expire at 11:59 p.m. tonight. In order to give House members time to review the package before voting and the Senate time to complete their work, Congress will pass another short-term spending bill to keep the government operating through Dec. 22 and avert a shutdown.