COUNCIL FOR AFFORDABLE
HEALTH COVERAGE

IMPACT **REPORT**

Driving the Political Narrative to Accomplish Policy Goals

CAHC uses an aggressive, but thoughtful strategy to drive our positions to the forefront of the national conversation on healthcare. With a reputation for being problem solvers and experts in our field, CAHC has been featured in high-profile national publications, trade press, and regional coverage. CAHC routinely conducts voter focus groups, surveys, and polling to test and advance messages that resonate with policymakers and the media. Through this double-prong approach, we identify emerging issues, shape policy, and create opportunities to achieve greater affordability in the U.S. healthcare system.

WALL STREET JOURNAL

On Health Policy, Donald Trump Beats Joe Biden Hands Down

Joel White published an opinion piece that examines the differences between the Democratic and Republican philosophies in their approach to governing through the lens of healthcare.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Biden Moves to Expand Health Coverage in Pandemic Economy

"If your coverage just got a lot less affordable because you've lost your job and lost your income, the last thing we should be doing is taking away an option that offers an affordable choice," Joel White said, adding that some consumers "don't want all the bells and whistles; they might be 60 years old and don't want maternal health coverage."

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Democrats' Long-Sought Plan for Lowering Drug Costs Is at Hand

"Ten drugs would qualify for negotiation in 2026, with more added in subsequent years. The bill outlines criteria by which the drugs would be chosen, but the ultimate decision would rest with the health secretary — a provision that Joel White, health policy consultant, warned would lead to 'an incredible lobbying campaign' to get drugs on the list or keep them off it."

NEWSWEEK

Florida Could Put Canadian Drugs on Shelves 90 Days After Federal Import Approval

Joel White challenges Governor DeSantis's plan to import drugs from Canada, saying it "brings a false promise to Americans that it will result in lower cost."

POLITICO

How Democrats' Drug Price Negotiations Would Work

"Joel White, president of the Council for Affordable Health Coverage, argued that incentive to develop treatments for conditions like cancer and heart disease will decrease." "White argued that companies will also hike their launch prices in response to the legislation."

BLOOMBERG GOVERNMENT

Ways and Means Takes Up Drug Pricing Debate

"Joel White, president of the Council for Affordable Health Coverage, said business groups that support drug pricing legislation don't represent the interests of the business community. 'You wouldn't go to the drywall hangers to ask if the building is going to fall down. You'd go to the CEO.'"

BLOOMBERG GOVERNMENT

Infrastructure Gang Targets Pharma to Pay for Roads, Bridges

"A lot of this stuff is just a piggybank at this point: it's more about the dollar signs versus the actual policy," said Joel White.

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BLOOMBERG LAW

Labor Official Defends Embattled Surprise Billing Rule

CAHC's webinar featuring Ali Khawar, assistant secretary of the DOL's Employee Benefits Security Administration, made news when Khawar defended a proposed rule pegging surprise billing payments to contract rates that has spawned lawsuits and complaints that it will result in inadequate payments to health-care providers.

CQ ROLLCALL

New Study Finds High ROI for Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance

CAHC, a member of Protecting Americans' Coverage Together (PACT), participated in an event with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce focused on the value and importance of employer-sponsored health insurance.

INSIDE HEALTH POLICY

Linking Drug Exclusivity to Value

CAHC's Price of Good Health Summit garnered press coverage when Rep. Jodey Arrington (R-TX) and Rep. Scott Peters (D-CA) announced they would be interested in working together on legislation that would vary drug exclusivity periods based on the value of drugs to society.

FIERCE HEALTHCARE

Bipartisan House Bill Aims to Boost Value-Based Purchasing Drug Agreements in Medicaid

"'VBPs are a critical tool to make sure we only pay for prescription drugs that work,' said Joel White, president of the advocacy group Council for Affordable Health Coverage, which aims to cut healthcare costs and counts several payers, drug manufacturers and pharmacy chains among its membership."

HEALTH AFFAIRS

Reforms Are Needed to Rein In Health Spending, But Reference Pricing Isn't Worth The Risk

In a joint op-ed, CAHC's Joel White outlines how a legislative push to introduce international reference pricing on prescription drugs would gravely impact future innovation and patient outcomes.

REALCLEAR HEALTH

Businesses are United Against the Attack on Drug Innovation

Joel White authored an op-ed countering the false narrative that business groups supported the drug pricing provisions in the Build Back Better Act. It goes on to explain how the legislation would negatively impact prescription drug prices for Americans who have employer-sponsored health coverage.

REALCLEAR HEALTH

CMS Decision on Alzheimer's Drug Is a Harbinger of Things to Come

CAHC's Joel White wrote about how CMS's decision not to have Medicare cover the Alzheimer's drug, Aduhelm, could influence future innovation in the drug space.

MEDCITY NEWS

"No Surprises" Enforcement Left to States, Big Questions Left Unanswered in HHS Rule

"'Instead of putting off [NSA] implementation, the Biden Administration should act quickly to issue clear regulations so that patients can stop being surprised by unexpected bills,'" said Joel White, who is also president of the Council for Affordable Health Coverage. 'Failing to act quickly creates uncertainty — plans, providers and patients are all waiting.'"

PITTSBURGH POST-GAZETTE

Medicare Wants Too Much Control. That Means You May Not Get the Medicines You Need

Joel White authored an op-ed outlining the damaging impact the Senate Democrats' drug pricing legislation in the Inflation Reduction Act would have on Medicare Part D.

WBAL NEWSRADIO

The Inflation Reduction Act, What Does It Mean for Americans

Joel White was interviewed about the Inflation Reduction Act and its impact on healthcare and drug prices.

ALASKA JOURNAL OF COMMERCE

Don't Repeat Europe's Vaccine Catastrophe

Joel White wrote a guest column cautioning Congress from following Europe's failed price control policies, as the country struggled to vaccinate Americans against COVID-19.

Bringing the Right People Together
at the Right Time

CAHC regularly convenes influencers and policymakers at events tailored to bring greater focus on our core issues and build momentum behind our advocacy efforts. From our closed-door, invite-only roundtables with high-profile guests to our blockbuster events that include press, policymakers, and the public, we bring the right people together at the right time to advance our mission and achieve our goals.

The Price of Good Health

CAHC's flagship event – The Price of Good Health – continues to attract top rate speakers, including government officials, giving members a platform to tout their companies' leadership in key policy issues. We continue to hold this annual event to roll out new ideas, advocate for our priorities and elevate visibility of our members.

Keynotes included:

- Former CEO of Aetna, Marc Bertolini
- U.S. Secretary of Health & Human Services Alex Azar
- FTC Commissioner Christine S. Wilson
- Congressional Budget Office Director Philip Swagel
- Department of Labor Assistant Secretary Ali Khawar
- Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle

Recent targeted, timely events include:

- Breifings on Drug Price Controls: Understanding the Risks and Tradeoffs
- Webinar on Unmet Medical Needs and Gene Therapies
- Webinar presenting Polling Data on Voters' Views of Healthcare Policies
- Webinar on the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act

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Cutting-Edge Research
and One-of-a-Kind Publications

CAHC's policy expertise in-house allows creation of custom reports to advance new and creative solutions, and raise the profile of issues – all developed specifically to advance our efforts.

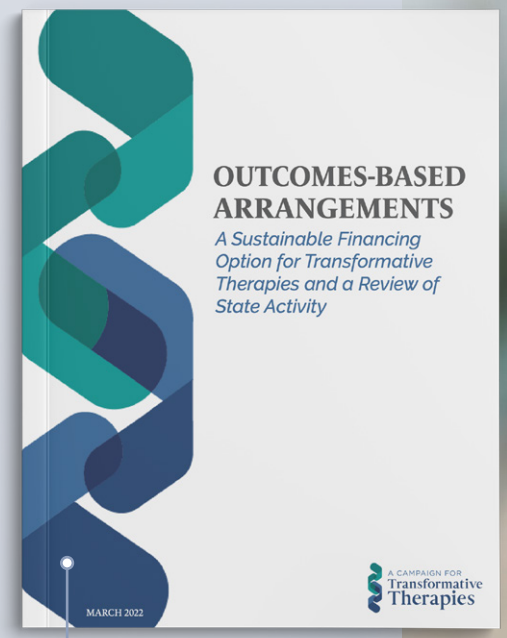
Recent examples include:

White Paper:
Outcomes-Based Arrangements: A Sustainable Financing Option for Transformative Therapies and a Review of State Activity

Report Card:
2021 Health Insurance Exchanges: Evaluating the Online Comparison-Shopping Experience

Expertise:
Challenging HHS and FDA Actions on Importation of Prescription Drugs from Canada and Other Countries

CAHC joined a law suit against the Trump and Biden Administrations against the ill-conceived importation of drugs scheme. We will continue to fight this terrible idea in the courts.



- **March 2022**
  Outcomes-Based Arrangements Paper

- **October 2021**
  Health Insurance Exchanges Report

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Success Through a New Initiative:
The Campaign for Transformative Therapies - Improving Access

A CAMPAIGN FOR
Transformative
Therapies

The Campaign for Transformational Therapies (CTT) encourages value-based arrangements for gene therapies in federal health programs (i.e. Medicare and Medicaid) as a key solution to ensure patientscan access these innovative cures. By bringing together leading payer, manufacturer, patient, consumer, provider and health care industry leaders, the Campaign is committed to advocating for specific legislative and regulatory solutions that can be brought to the attention of Congress and the Administration.

CTT activities include:

- Published a white paper on value-based payment arrangements and lessons learned from state Medicaid programs.
- Influenced the CMS Final Rule allowing value-based payment arrangements in private and public programs.
- Developed and found sponsors for the MVP Act (H.R. 7389), which makes improvements to the CMS Final VBP Rule.

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Driving the Policy Agenda in Congress

CAHC draws on our team's extensive political and policy experience to solve problems and achieve meaningful change – by passing needed legislation and fighting against bad ideas in Congress. We constantly work to strengthen our longstanding relationships and build new bridges with key officials and staff as we join forces to solve pressing healthcare problems and make healthcare more affordable.

Smart Content and Dynamic Issue Coverage

CAHC leverages real-time information to move nimbly as we drive the political and policy conversation of our priority issues.

Standing up for Job-Based Coverage

While 90 percent of Americans have health coverage, millions more lack access and choice to a plan they want and can afford. CAHC supports more choices and competition to ensure all consumers can enroll in and pay for a plan that meets their needs. We will continue to fight misguided policies that erode and undermine employer coverage, like a single-payer system.

- **Key CAHC priority signed into law:** CAHC championed reinforcing job-based insurance, including enactment of a federal COBRA subsidy to those who lost their jobs during the pandemic, which was signed into law in 2021.

- CAHC actively engaged with top-tier and industry-focused media outlets. Our efforts were successful with CAHC being quoted in multiple articles defending job-based health coverage.

- CAHC developed a legislative package of solutions to help small businesses attract and retain employees through dynamic and affordable health coverage options. We will continue to develop and advocate for these solutions in Congress.

- CAHC conducted and released research that found Americans support realistic policies that build upon popular job-based coverage for small businesses.

- CAHC joined key employer organizations like the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Business Roundtable, and National Association of Manufacturers in the Protecting Americans' Coverage Together (PACT) campaign, a key voice against government-run health care.

Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs

Competitive markets do more to lower drug costs and improve access to care than government price controls. Our solutions address well-known challenges and get more generics, biosimilars, and brands to market quicker to lower prices while promoting choice, improved coverage, and value.

- Drafted and introduced the MVP Act, which enables value-based payment arrangements for prescription drugs.
- Through targeted press outreach, op-eds, radio interviews, and a multi-platform social media campaign, CAHC became a trusted source for commonsense drug pricing solutions.
- Fought to add an out-of-pocket cap in Medicare Part D, which was signed into law in 2022.
- Routinely engaged policymakers, staff and influencers to educate on key priorities inroundtable discussions, 1-on-1 meetings, and other educational events.
- Developed publications and educational resources, including myths versus facts, to help our audience easily digest complex information.

Lower the Cost of Health Services

Costs associated with doctors and hospitals make up 65 percent or more of the healthcare dollar. Growth in costs is putting affordable health coverage out of reach for too many. Addressing costs in these areas is a prerequisite for lowering premiums.

- CAHC worked to lower hospital and physician costs by leading the fight against surprise billing. Surprise billing was banned and passed as law in 2020 (Public Law No. 116-260).
- CAHC has made the case for restoring competition to monopoly hospital markets by strengthening antitrust enforcement, expanding the supply of services via telehealth, and paying the same amount for the same services regardless of setting.

Engaging Agencies to Inform and Improve Regulations

CAHC offers end-to-end agency coverage – from intelligence about agency actions coming down the pike through regulatory comments and permanent rules – drawing on our direct contacts at high levels to break through the noise as we work to inform and improve regulations both new and old.

- CAHC continues to engage relevant agencies on the most pressing issues. Conversations have reached the highest levels of HHS (including the Secretary's office and department heads throughout the agency) as well as other key regulators such as the FTC.

- CAHC has issued more than 15 comment letters in 2022:
  - Drug pricing legislative proposals
  - Public Option
  - Cures 2.0
  - ACA policies like Enhanced Direct Enrollment
  - COBRA subsidy implementation
  - No Surprises
  - Family Glitch

- We continue to diversify our contacts among both career staff and political appointees to ensure appropriate coverage of our issues.

CAHC Goes Above and Beyond
to Serve Our Members

CAHC is not your average coalition. Our team works around the clock to ensure our members receive the most up-to-date intelligence on our core issues and we always make ourselves available to members for independent conversations or issue follow-up. Unique coalition offerings and opportunities through CAHC include:

- Weekly 30-minute calls with curated intel specifically designed to inform our members on the latest breaking news, the current status and forecast of our most pressing issues, and how the overall political landscape at any given time impacts our work
- Ongoing opportunities to join Congressional meetings arranged by CAHC staff
- Invitations to closed-door roundtables and member-only meetings to enhance connections between members and policymakers
- Breaking news updates when rules are dropped or legislation is introduced that impacts our membership
- Access to our staff to clarify emerging or advancing policies, provide background on relevant political situations and happenings, and other information that helps our members stay on top of a rapidly shifting environment
- Monthly meetings with guest speakers

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We join forces to solve pressing healthcare problems and make healthcare more affordable.

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440 First Street NW, Suite 430
Washington, DC 20001
202.808.8855 cahc.net