



Legislative Updates as of 05/4/2026

Federal Policy Watch

Federal attention on healthcare policy, innovation, and agency oversight continues to evolve, even as Congress is in a scheduled district work period.

Recent developments highlight continued scrutiny of federal health agencies, sustained focus on drug pricing and reimbursement, and broader questions about how to balance innovation, affordability, access, and public trust.

A recent Senate [report](#) raised questions about federal agency processes related to vaccine safety evaluation and communication, signaling continued congressional interest in oversight of agencies such as FDA and CDC. While reflective of one committee's findings, the report underscores a broader trend toward increased transparency and accountability across the public health ecosystem.

Recent hearings, including a House Ways & Means session with health system executives, further highlighted congressional focus on healthcare affordability and pricing dynamics across the healthcare system.

Policymakers are also examining restrictions on the use of clinical trial data from foreign adversaries, particularly China, reflecting growing concern around supply chain security, research integrity, and global competition in drug development.

At the same time, bipartisan legislation - the **Clinical Trial Modernization Act** - was introduced to expand access to clinical trials, reduce participation barriers, and improve outreach to underrepresented populations. The bill includes support for community education, recruitment, and trial participation resources, including travel, transportation, meals, and digital health technologies.

Federal policy discussions remain centered on several key themes:

- Drug pricing reform and Medicare policy
- Federal research funding and commercialization pathways
- Regulatory efficiency across FDA and CMS
- Supply chain resilience and domestic manufacturing
- Clinical trial modernization and global competitiveness

What to Watch This Week

While Congress is not in session, policy activity continues behind the scenes. Key areas to monitor include:

- Ongoing development of **drug pricing and Medicare policy proposals**
- Continued focus on **federal appropriations and research funding**, including NIH and related agencies
- Advancing conversations around **biosecurity, public health preparedness, and domestic manufacturing**
- Stakeholder engagement and positioning ahead of the next legislative work period

Bottom Line

Federal policymakers are navigating a dual focus on **oversight and innovation**—increasing scrutiny of public health agencies and healthcare markets while maintaining support for research, development, and commercialization.

For the life sciences sector, this creates a dynamic policy environment with both **risk and opportunity**, reinforcing the importance of continued engagement to help shape balanced, forward-looking policy outcomes.

Upcoming Federal Hearings

Congress is in a scheduled district work period this week, and **no major federal hearings are expected**.

Why it matters:

While formal hearings are paused, policy work continues behind the scenes. Members of Congress are in their home districts meeting with constituents, making this an ideal time for companies and stakeholders to engage directly with their delegation and help inform federal policy priorities.

Georgia Life Sciences encourages members to take advantage of this window to connect with their elected officials and share perspectives on the issues shaping the industry.

In the News: Policy Signals to Watch

- Ongoing scrutiny of hospital pricing and health system practices following a recent House Ways & Means hearing on affordability
- Continued debate over the role of international clinical trial data, particularly from China, in U.S. drug development and regulatory review
- Introduction of the *Clinical Trial Modernization Act*, aimed at improving access and participation in clinical research
- FDA activity to advance real-time clinical trials, signaling continued efforts to modernize regulatory pathways
- Growing policy discussion around most favored nation (MFN) pricing as part of broader reconciliation negotiations

Upcoming Events

GLS Members Only: GBG Monthly Federal Funding Report Call

Don't miss the monthly GBG Report call, held every third Thursday at 12 PM ET. These sessions provide updates on the latest federal funding opportunities and insights to help companies navigate and secure non-dilutive capital. GLS partner G2G has helped raise over \$612M and brings deep expertise in supporting innovation and commercialization. Interested? Contact Stacey Bowlin at Sbowlin@galifesciences.org

Georgia Life Sciences is the leading advocate for the state's life sciences sector. Our team works on behalf of our members to advance policies that support innovation and growth—advocating for federal funding that drives research and enables the approval of new therapies; a fair reimbursement and pricing landscape to ensure patient access to life-saving medicines; continued investment in research and pandemic preparedness; strong intellectual property protections that reward innovation; a business-friendly tax environment that allows companies to thrive and grow; and expanded loan guarantees and grant programs to improve access to capital, including for agricultural and energy biotechnology.

Questions or feedback? Contact us at admin@galifesciences.org.