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to volunteer during a public health emergency or a natural disaster. H.R. 5239 would create targeted liability protections for medical care provided during federally-declared disasters, addressing gaps in federal and state laws that can leave volunteer providers exposed to medical liability lawsuits for care delivered in good faith. The AAO-HNS looks forward to working with Dr. Ruiz and Dr. Buschon on passage of this legislation.

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understand the importance of providing transparency and a greater understanding about how decisions are activities to date in 2021. To invest in the future of the specialty, click [here](#) summarizing ENT PAC

AAO-HNS Joins Coalition Commenting on No Surprises Act Regulation

On September 7, the Academy joined a coalition of surgical societies in submitting [comments](#) on the Interim t of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021), banning surprise medical bills. Among other policy changes, the Act bans surprise billing for emergency services, limits patient cost-sharing for out-of-network care at in-network provider rates, and bans other out-of-network charges without advance notice. The interim final rule defines the methodology for determining the qualifying payment amount (QPA), a key determinant of provider payments for out-of-network care and patient cost-sharing amounts. The AAO-HNS will continue its coalition advocacy efforts with the Tri-Agencies (U.S. Departments of Health and Human -sense protections for patients and the physicians who care for them.

HHS Announces \$25.5 Billion in Available COVID-19 Provider Funding

On September 10, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced \$25.5 billion in new funding for healthcare providers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding includes \$17 billion for the Provider Relief Fund (PRF) Phase 4, administered through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to be made available to providers with documented revenue loss and expenses associated with the public health emergency between July 1, 2020, and March 31, 2021. Click [here](#) to access the eligibility and application process for the PRF Phase 4.

FDA Postpones Required Review of Certain E-Cigarette Products

AAO-HNS Comments on CY 2022 HOPPS/ASC Proposed Rule

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