

Reimbursement Efforts Continue; Congress Intensifies Scrutiny of Organ Procurement and Transplant System

ASHI has continued its efforts advocating with like-minded stakeholders to avoid steep clinical laboratory reimbursement cuts from taking effect on January 1, 2026. ASHI appreciates that Congress acted to implement a 30-day delay of the cuts and next private payer data reporting period by including an extension in the legislation (H.R.5371) that reopened the federal government after the extended shutdown. While this reprieve is welcome, ASHI recognizes that additional action will be required by the end of January, whether that be an additional extension or passage of the permanent solution - Reforming and Enhancing Sustainable Updates to Laboratory Testing Services (RESULTS) Act (H.R. 5269/S.2761) – that ASHI strongly supports. We remain closely engaged and will continue our advocacy efforts to see this long-term solution providing stability and predictability for Medicare laboratory reimbursement enacted into law.

Several Congressional committees have continued to take an active role conducting oversight and investigations into the nation’s organ donation and transplant system. Specifically, House Energy and Commerce Committee leadership sent a letter to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) after the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced major efforts to improve safety, transparency, and efficiency within the organ procurement and transplantation system, including the decertification of an organ procurement organization (OPO). Additionally, the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Oversight held a December hearing on “Holding Tax-Exempt Organ Procurement Organizations Accountable” amidst the Committee’s broader investigation into OPOs and a whistleblower report concerning allegations relating to a New Jersey OPO. ASHI is monitoring this and related congressional activity pertaining to the organ transplant field.

As we enter a midterm election year, we anticipate the first half of 2026 to be very active on the policymaking front. ASHI will continue working tirelessly to ensure our members’ voices are represented and heard.