

**YWCA IS ON
A MISSION**

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YWCA USA Bi-Weekly Policy Update

April 28, 2017

The pace in D.C. has picked back up again as Members of Congress returned from their two-week recess and the Trump Administration approaches the 100-day mark in office. Thank you to the local associations who engaged with legislators during the recess. Please share stories of your visits with us at advocacy@ywca.org!

Congress Moves on Problematic Comp Time Legislation

Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL-2) and Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) have reintroduced the Working Families Flexibility Act ([H.R. 1180](#) / [S.801](#)) which would allow employers to offer comp time instead of time-and-a-half pay to non-exempt workers who work more than 40 hours a week. The legislation purports to be a replacement for sick leave, but does not guarantee leave when workers need it, and permits employers to pay out comp time in cash up to 30 days after an employee requests it, and even when an employee does not request it if an employee has more than 80 hours banked. The legislation, as written, gives employers more power over employees and their wages and does not give workers the stability and flexibility they require at work.

YWCA has taken the position of opposing this bill and has signed onto [a letter](#) lead by the National Partnership for Women and Families which points out the significant flaws in the legislation. The House Education and Workforce Committee voted the bill out of committee on April 26, and the full House is expected to vote on the bill as early as next week.

ACT NOW! Remind your Members of Congress to support stable, flexible, predictable leave policies such as the [FAMILY Act](#) and [Health Families Act](#). Urge them to oppose the [Working Families Flexibility Act](#)!

[The Working Families Flexibility Act Will Hurt Women and Families](#) [Huffington Post]

Trump Administration Hits 100-Day Mark on April 29

As the Administration heads towards its 100-day mark on April 29, the White House released **new executive orders** this week, one specifically focused on reviewing regulations and guidance issued by the Department of Education to identify areas where the agency may modify or repeal prior activity. The White House also released a broad set of principles for his tax plan that includes expanding the

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value of the [Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit](#). The Administration is also considering making it refundable, and several other child care tax provisions. As our colleagues at the National Women's Law Center have pointed out in their analysis of the proposal, the overall problem remains: without a significant investment in direct assistance, these proposals will still fail to meet the needs of working families that struggle to pay their bills monthly, and they do nothing to improve child care quality or provider pay.

Progress on Administration [nominations and appointments](#) has been slower than in previous presidencies. To date, the White House has only put forth 86 nominations for the 556 positions that require Senate approval. To date, the Senate has confirmed 23 of those nominations. Within key agencies, many offices are being led by acting directors, typically career service employees who at some point will be replaced by political appointees. Of note for YWCAs, new leadership has not yet been confirmed for key offices within the Department of Health and Human Services (Administration for Children and Families, Early Childhood Development Office, Office of Childcare, Office of Head Start, and Family and Youth Services Bureau), the Department of Justice (Office on Violence Against Women), and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Community Development Block Grant).

[Tracking how many key positions Trump has filled so far](#) [The Washington Post]

[New White House site touts successes of Trump's first 100 days](#) [The Hill]

Repealing the ACA/Obamacare Remains at the Forefront

Your advocacy to preserve the core components of the ACA (Obamacare) is making a difference! Despite rumblings over the past week from legislators and the Administration that the House would vote on an amended bill (the American Health Care Act/AHCA) to repeal the ACA today, a proposal to provide states with an option to set aside protections for people with preexisting conditions has been checked, at least for the moment. While the threat of an immediate vote appears to have passed, efforts by the Administration and Congressional leaders in the House to repeal the ACA continue. Please continue calling and writing your representatives – and share our action alert with your staff and your supporters!

[House delays Obamacare vote, denying Trump 100-day win](#) [Politico]

[Pre-existing conditions drive moderates' concern over repeal bill](#) [Politico]

FY2017 Budget Continuing Resolution Still in Flux

With the immediate threat of a House vote on the AHCA set aside, Congress is expected to pass a 1-week continuing resolution for funding the remainder of FY2017. This will allow time for continued negotiations. Keep up the hard work on social media and in your advocacy to [make the case](#) for the funding streams YWCAs rely on to make a difference in communities across the nation!

Executive Order on Funding to Sanctuary Cities Temporarily Halted

A federal judge this week issued a temporary injunction, blocking the Administration's efforts to enforce a threat to take away funds from sanctuary cities. Santa Clara County, the city of San Francisco and other California jurisdictions argued that it is unconstitutional to take away federal funding from cities that do not cooperate with some federal immigration enforcement efforts. The judge's order does not block the government from enforcing conditions on federal grants or from creating a definition of sanctuary cities, but the government will not be able to block federal funds from going to those cities. [Congratulations to YWCA Silicon Valley](#) for their involvement in the case and continued leadership on this important issue!

[Judge blocks part of Trump's sanctuary cities executive order](#) [CNN]

New Resource: Advocacy Collaborative Sharing Space!

YWCA USA has developed an Advocacy Collaborative Sharing Space meant to foster an environment in which local associations can learn from one another. Please share your advocacy agendas, public statements your association have made on various advocacy issues, and any tools and resources you have found helpful to your advocacy work.

Login Information:

- URL: <https://intranetywcausa.sharefile.com/login.aspx>
- Username: advocacyshare@ywca.org
- Password: PPAShare2017

Stand Against Racism 2017: Happening Now!

Stand Against Racism: Women of Color Leading Change, April 27-30, 2017 is happening right now!

Don't forget to tweet about your Stand Against Racism events using the hashtag

#StandAgainstRacism. [Act](#) by calling on your Members of Congress to support policies to improve the leadership pipeline for women of color.

Sign up to receive YWCA USA Action Alerts

YWCA USA has launched its new action alert tool! [Sign up](#) here to make sure you receive all the latest calls to action on pressing public policy issues.

Don't Forget to Act!

Please see the Action Alerts in YWCA USA's new [Action Center](#) to encourage your legislators on many of our policy priorities! Action alerts are currently posted encouraging legislators to support the End Racial and Religious Profiling Act (ERRPA), the FAMILY Act, the Healthy Families Act, and to protect access to quality, affordable health care.

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