

## July 2022 Legislative Update

This month, NHMA is proud to have provided support to both healthcare providers and patients in the wake of the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. We are devastated by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision and demand that Congress promptly codifies federal abortion protections into law in order to protect underserved communities. For our full statement on the Dobbs ruling, please [visit our website](#).

NHMA also supported the [Bipartisan Safer Communities Act](#), which advanced through the House and Senate to President Biden's desk. This bill — which marks Congress' most significant step forward on gun violence prevention legislation in the last 30 years — includes support for state crisis intervention orders, protections for victims of domestic violence, clarity on the definition of "federally licensed firearms dealer," an enhanced review process for those under 21 years of age, penalties for "straw purchasing," support for community-based violence prevention initiatives, investments in children and family mental health services, and increased funding for school safety.

As a member of the [Partnership for Medicaid](#) — a nonpartisan, nationwide coalition of organizations representing clinicians, health care providers, safety-net health plans, and counties — we applaud the Medicaid provisions of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. We recognize the severity of the mental and behavioral health crisis occurring across the nation, and in particular among our nation's children and youth. We welcome this opportunity to advance vital federal Medicaid policy solutions that begin to address this crisis.

We are also pleased with the Medicare Administrative Contractors (MACs) decision to remove Tezpire, a first in class treatment for severe asthma which was approved to be administered by a physician once a month via injection, from the SAD list and remain covered under Medicare Part B.

NHMA is pleased to join the AAMC and the Latino Justice's Amici Briefs for the upcoming Supreme Court hearing in favor of the continuation of Affirmative Action.

Finally, NHMA enthusiastically supports the CDC's recommendation that all children 6 months through 5 years of age should receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Parents and caregivers can now get their children 6 months through 5 years of age vaccinated with the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines to better protect them from COVID-19. All children, including children who have already had COVID-19, should get vaccinated.