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Thursday, July 21, 2022

## Today's headlines:

- [Axne, Feenstra sign letter supporting 340B program](#)
- [Iowa HHS fills key leadership positions](#)
- [Learn the basics of REH participation and payments](#)
- [IHA PAC members up contributions](#)
- [Paylocity makes HR systems more efficient](#)

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### Axne, Feenstra sign letter supporting 340B program

Members of the U.S. House signed a bipartisan [“Dear Colleague” letter to the Department of Health and Human Services](#). The letter asks HHS to take additional enforcement actions against drug companies that limit 340B drug pricing through contract pharmacies.

IHA and Iowa hospital leaders asked Iowa’s congressional delegation to sign the letter. [IHA thanks Reps. Cindy Axne \(D-1\)](#) and Randy Feenstra (R-4) for signing the letter with 179 other representatives.

An earlier congressional letter to HHS helped initiate enforcement actions against the first six drug companies that imposed 340B restrictions. The new letter urges imposing significant fines on all drug companies that refuse to follow the law.

#### IPPS letters

Members of the U.S. House and Senate are collecting signatures for “Dear Colleague” letters seeking critical changes to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ hospital inpatient prospective payment system proposed rule for fiscal year 2023 to reflect the cost of providing hospital care more accurately to patients. Iowa hospital leaders also urged their members of Congress to sign these letters.

[Reps. Brad Schneider \(D-Ill.\) and Carol Miller \(R-W.Va.\) are spearheading the House letter](#), and [Sens. Bob Menendez \(D-N.J.\) and Kevin Cramer \(R-N.D.\) are leading the Senate letter](#). The deadline for signatures for the Senate letter is today and the deadline for the House letter is Friday.

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### Iowa HHS fills key leadership positions

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services [announced it hired Dr. Robert Kruse and Sarah Reisetter for critical leadership roles](#). Dr. Kruse will join the agency as the state medical director. The role has been open since October 2021 when Dr. Caitlin Pedati left the department. Reisetter was named deputy director and chief of the department’s newly formed Division of Compliance.

Kruse is the medical director of occupational health with MercyOne in Des Moines and previously was an assistant professor at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School Department of Family Medicine and Community Health. Reisetter has been deputy director of the Department of Public Health since August 2016.

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services was established July 1 when the state's former public health and human services departments merged.

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### Learn the basics of REH participation and payments

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services published its proposed conditions of participation for a critical access hospital to convert to a rural emergency hospital. CMS also proposed payment policies for the new rural emergency hospital designation. To help hospitals understand the proposed rules, IHA will host a [Basics of Proposed Rural Emergency Hospital Conditions of Participation and Payment webinar](#).

Nancy Ruzicka, a consultant for state and federal rules, regulations and guidelines, will discuss the basic requirements to become a rural emergency hospital and the payment mechanisms. She also will discuss differences between the two hospital designations and what Iowa hospitals will need to implement the change.

Hospital CEOs, chief medical officers, chief nursing officers and quality improvement staff are encouraged to attend.

[The webinar is scheduled from 10-11 a.m., Tuesday, Aug. 2. Email Tori Hanson](#) at IHA with questions.

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### IHA PAC members up contributions

The IHA PAC is gaining traction [toward its goal of \\$125,000](#). Several hospital leaders stepped up since the July 7 report and increased their club-level contributions since 2021 or are new contributors. Hospital leadership is important to the success of the IHA PAC and the committee is thankful to these [new Ben Franklin Club \(\\$1,000+\)](#) and [Champions Club-level donors \(\\$2,500+\)](#):

- Cindy Carstens, CEO, [Stewart Memorial Community Hospital](#).
- Joni Christensen, chief accounting officer, [Clarinda Regional Health Center](#).
- Joyce McDanel, vice president of human resources and education, [UnityPoint Health-Iowa Methodist Medical Center](#).
- Ron Kloewer, CEO, [Montgomery County Memorial Hospital](#).
- Chris Nelson, trustee, [MercyOne Des Moines Medical Center](#).
- Chuck Nordyke, CEO, [Clarinda Regional Health Center](#).
- Robert Ritz, CEO, [MercyOne](#).

[Learn more about IHA's advocacy efforts online](#)

*Contributions or gifts to the IHA PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for tax purposes. Contributions are voluntary and have no impact on job status, performance review, compensation or employment. Giving guidance is merely a suggestion. Any amount given or the decision not to give will not advantage or disadvantage you. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the names, mailing addresses, occupations and names of employers of those whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year (January-December). Contributions will be screened, and contributions received from outside the restricted class will be returned.*

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## Iowa Hospital Association ASSOCIATE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Paylocity makes HR systems more efficient

IHA's new associate member goes beyond payroll processing. [Paylocity](#) offers an all-in-one platform for health care organizations' human resources needs. Paylocity's platform helps human resource departments be more efficient by helping create a more-positive employee experience.

Paylocity offers solutions for:

- Benefits.
- Employee experience.
- Human resources.
- Payroll.
- Talent recruitment.
- Workforce management.

To learn more about Paylocity's services, contact [Matt Roberts](#) at 515-218-0587 and visit their vendor booth at this year's Annual Meeting.

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### NewsStand

#### Iowa news

- [Polk County Health Department warns of climbing COVID-19 cases](#)
- [Self-reporting positive COVID-19 home tests](#)
- [Iowa co-ops use federal loans to help hospital handle record births](#)

#### National news

- [Where health tech should focus next](#)
- [Millions of kids qualify for Medicaid. Biden funds outreach to boost enrollment](#)
- [Nasal vaccines may stop COVID-19 infections. Will we get them soon?](#)

Click [HERE](#) to read daily NewsStand postings.

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## Online education

- [Basics of Proposed Rural Emergency Hospital Conditions of Participation and Payment](#): Tuesday, Aug. 2
- [2022 IHA Employment Law Four-Part Virtual Series](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [Creating Successes: IHA's Summer Series for Health Care Leaders](#): Tuesday, Aug. 16
- [2022 IHA Governance Webinar Series](#): Tuesday, Sept. 13 - Tuesday, Nov. 15

## In-person meetings

- [IHERF Swinging for Scholars Golf Outing](#): Thursday, Sept. 1
- [Iowa Society for Healthcare Engineering Fall Conference](#): Thursday, Sept. 15 - Friday, Sept. 16

## Visit IHA's Digital on Demand store for webinars, podcasts and more

Members are encouraged to visit IHA's Digital on Demand store to catch up on webinars or informational videos they may have missed.

The IHA Digital on Demand store offers:

- [Demonstration and training videos](#) for DataGen, DATABANK and Dimensions dashboards.
- [CEO podcasts](#).
- Previously recorded [webinars and presentations](#) including project presentations from the Advanced Leadership Academy.
- [Trustee resources](#).

Click [HERE](#) to visit the IHA Digital on Demand store.

## Hospital jobs site connects hospitals with qualified candidates

Are you looking for qualified health care professionals for your Iowa hospital? [HospitalCareers.com](#) can help. This website connects thousands of nurses, providers and other hospital jobseekers with Iowa hospitals each year and is a main resource for jobseekers looking for work in health care.



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