

## **Press Release**

## The Legislative Response to the Nation's Opioid Crisis

**ANDREW EVANS | JULY 9, 2018** 

As opioid abuse continue to claim thousands of lives, Congress is considering a number of proposals to help fight the epidemic. AAF's Deputy Director of Health Care Policy, Tara O'Neill Hayes, has combed through the proposals and outlines them in new research.

## An excerpt:

Congress is taking a multi-pronged approach to address this crisis and has been considering ways to fight the epidemic for several years. Congress passed two pieces of legislation in 2016 that provided some assistance for fighting the opioid crisis: the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) and the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act. While those laws provided some funding for grants, increased access to treatment options, and funding for drug abuse education and provider training, the epidemic has continued to worsen. Over the past several months, Congress has focused more attention on the crisis.

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