

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: Anna Palmer Jake Sherman Daniel Lippman
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Subject: Playbook Power Briefing, presented by Better Medicare Alliance: TRUMP and MACRON meet in PARIS -- THE NEW SENATE HEALTH CARE BILL -- DON JR. invited to testify before Senate -- CBO says Trump budget ask doesn't balance out

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Today's Playbook Power Briefing presented by Better Medicare Alliance

By JAKE SHERMAN (sherman@politico.com; [@JakeSherman](https://twitter.com/JakeSherman)), ANNA PALMER (anna@politico.com; [@apalmerdc](https://twitter.com/apalmerdc)), DANIEL LIPPMAN (daniel@politico.com; [@dlippman](https://twitter.com/dlippman)), ZACH MONTELLARO (zmontellaro@politico.com; [@ZachMontellaro](https://twitter.com/ZachMontellaro))

PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP and **FRENCH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MACRON** gave joint statements after a series of meetings and photo opportunities. Macron said Trump's visit was "both a symbol and very important that the president of the United States could be with us tomorrow" for Bastille Day and thanked Trump for visiting.

-- **Macron, giving his statement in French**, said the pair talked about implementing "free and fair trade" and pledged to tackle international security challenges, including "fighting against propaganda" online and continuing "the fight against terrorism." Macron briefly addressed climate change, saying "I think it is important that we can continue to talk about it" and that he remains committed to the Paris accords.

TRUMP thanked Macron and commented that the buildings he saw on his tour included "some of the most incredible buildings anywhere in the world." He said the relationship between the two nations are "very good" and talked about the war on terror. He praised Macron for his "chant" of "less bureaucracy" and said "we can use it too." Trump said, "The friendship between our two nations -- and ourselves, I might add -- is unbreakable. Our occasional disagreements are nothing compared to the immortal bonds of culture, destiny, and liberty that unite us."

-- **@maggieNYT**: "France helped us secure our independence, a lot of people forget," Trump says."

IN RESPONSE to a question from a French journalist, Trump said "something could happen with respect to the Paris accord." He also reiterated his past statement that "if it doesn't, that'll be okay too."

-- **TRUMP**, responding to a question on Russia, said that his "son is a wonderful young man" and that "most people would have taken that meeting. It's called opposition research. ... That's very standard in politics."

-- **OPPOSITION RESEARCH** from someone who is an agent of another government is

not standard, from people we've spoken to.

TRUMP also praised Macron and Chinese President Xi Jinping in response to other questions.

TRUMP AND MACRON also earlier held bilateral meetings and had a pool spray in Macron's office. More on the office spray, from NYT's Maggie Haberman, one of the day's poolers: "POTUS asked your pooler why she didn't use what he has said last night [on Air Force One]. Your pooler reminded him last night was off the record. POTUS asked if I had heard him say it could be on-record; your pooler replied truthfully no (co-poolers also were not under impression it was on-record, since Sarah Sanders had declared it off record).

"Macron and Trump posed for another picture, and shook hands again (Gary Cohn reminded them to shake hands before they sat down). ... The grip by both was less feral than the initial handshake weeks ago. POTUS unclasped hands first."

BANNON'S GUY? -- YAHOO'S JON WARD and OLIVER KNOX: "[T]he admiration for Macron inside the White House goes beyond symbolism. [Steve] Bannon told Yahoo News that while Macron ran as a 'globalist,' he has made a number of nationalist gestures, all in the name of positioning France as the preeminent nation in Europe.

"Populist nationalist is the right side of history," Bannon said in a phone interview, and asserted that the only question is whether the leftist version of nationalism championed by Jeremy Corbyn in Britain and Sen. Bernie Sanders in the U.S. wins the day - or something closer to Trump and Bannon's version. Bannon said Macron, a centrist, is closer to Trump's philosophy than he is to the progressive version because he does not want the state to run the economy." <https://yhoo.it/2vgqiCl>

THE NEW HEALTH CARE BILL -- "Senate Republicans release new Obamacare repeal bill," by Burgess Everett, Jen Haberkorn and Sarah Karlin-Smith: "Senate Republicans released a new draft of their bill to repeal Obamacare Thursday, which tentatively includes a controversial amendment from Ted Cruz. The change is aimed at building enough GOP support to open debate on the bill next week, but it's not clear the votes will be there. Some senators aren't even sure the bill will get a vote next week given opposition from a cross-section of Republicans. 'I don't even know that it's going to get to a vote,' said GOP Sen. John McCain of Arizona.

"Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell unveiled the plan on Thursday morning at a closed-door, GOP members-only meeting before posting the text online. Unlike their previous bill, which faced stiff resistance across the conference, it would maintain some Obamacare taxes on the wealthy, provide new financial support to help low-income people purchase health insurance, allow people to pay for insurance with pre-tax money and spend billions more to fight opioid addiction. The amendment from Cruz (R-Texas) could be altered or removed later, sources said. The amendment would allow the sale of cheap, deregulated insurance plans as long as Obamacare-compliant plans are still

sold. ...

"Some Republican senators now believe it will be a victory to even open debate on the legislation passed by the House, one senator familiar with the negotiations said. If that procedural vote is successful, a freewheeling amendment process will begin. At some point, McConnell will introduce a substitute that will represent the Senate's draft bill. It may be different than what is introduced on Thursday and could be subject to amendment on the Senate floor next week. The bill, in other words, will be a work-in-progress until the final vote." <http://politi.co/2ungFW2> ... **The full 172 pages**
<http://politi.co/2un4vwj>

-- @burgessev: Cruz: "if this is the bill, I will support it"

-- @arogDC: "Portman is a no on motion to proceed on revised Senate health care bill, says he's in the same position as he's been and reviewing language"

***** **A message from BMA: HEALTH CARE POLICY ALERT:** We can all agree that high need, high cost patients deserve the right care. And with Medicare Advantage, seniors and people with disabilities are getting the high-value care they need through flexible benefits and specialized care. Learn more:
<http://www.bettermedicarealliance.org/special-needs-plans> *****

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW -- "Revised Senate repeal bill keeps Obamacare taxes, adds funding for poor and opioid epidemic," by Paul Demko: "Senate Republicans' latest health bill keeps some Obamacare taxes on the wealthy and directs more than \$100 billion in new spending to help low-income Americans buy coverage and combat the opioid epidemic.

A revised Obamacare repeal plan also includes a proposal, designed to mollify conservatives, that would allow insurers that sell plans meeting Obamacare's coverage requirements to also sell skimpier, less expensive plans that don't comply with the law.

"The new proposal seeks to thread the needle between conservatives and moderates after the Senate's original repeal package sparked opposition from all corners of the GOP caucus. Republicans hope to vote on the new bill next week. It would keep Obamacare's net investment income tax and an additional Medicare Health Insurance Tax, and it would no longer scrap a tax break for high-earning health insurance executives.

"The latest draft, however, doesn't make any significant changes to the Medicaid overhaul proposed in the original plan, which would cut nearly \$800 billion from the entitlement by rolling back Obamacare's expansion of the program and capping payments for each enrollee." <http://politi.co/2un4RmK>

GOOD POINT BY JMART, that we wanted to echo and amplify: "Landmark healthcare vote days away, zero public salesmanship or pressure by Trump in any state (and VP is in Ky, home of a sure-fire 'no')"

WITH THE HEALTH CARE VOTE JUST A FEW DAYS AWAY, President Donald Trump told Pat Robertson he'll be mad if the Senate doesn't pass the bill. But we aren't seeing an all-out push from the White House to get the legislation passed. VP Mike Pence has been up on the Hill -- but he always is. Reince Priebus is in Paris. Anyone hear from Tom Price? Jared and Ivanka are en route to Sun Valley.

-- "**Graham, Cassidy unveil details of alternative health care plan**," by CNN's Dana Bash: "With the prospects for passing the current Senate Republican health care bill still in jeopardy, Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-South Carolina, and Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-Louisiana, are working with their GOP colleagues on an alternative approach to replacing Obamacare: keeping much of the federal taxes in place and sending that money to the states to control. Graham and Cassidy, who have been working closely with former Sen. Rick Santorum, argue that one of the main reasons that Republicans are having such a hard time agreeing is because they are working from the Obamacare template -- particularly federal control of health insurance.

"Graham told CNN that he believes their new idea would address the problems found in the original bill. First, it would maintain taxes on wealthy Americans put in place by Obamacare, taxes intended to help pay for insurance subsidies. That revenue, which they estimate to be about \$500 billion, would be sent to the states ... The Obamacare tax levied on medical device makers would be repealed, as would the financial penalty for individuals who don't comply with the mandate to have insurance and for employers to provide affordable coverage. Graham and Santorum say that would amount to about \$220 billion in revenue cuts. Graham and Santorum argue those tax penalties not only funded the Affordable Care Act mandate conservatives despise, but they also ended up hitting working people." <http://cnn.it/2uVxd4c>

BUT BUT BUT -- "Despite doomsday rhetoric, Obamacare markets are stabilizing," by Paul Demko: "Reports of [Obamacare's] demise appear to be premature. For the first time ever this year, insurers selling plans in Obamacare's markets appear to be on a path toward profitability. And despite the drumbeat of headlines about fleeing insurers, only about 25,000 Obamacare customers live in communities facing the prospect of having no insurer next year. Insurers in the Obamacare marketplaces spent 75 percent of premiums on medical claims in this year's first quarter, an indication the market is stabilizing and insurers are regaining profitability, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation study released this week. By comparison, in the prior two years, insurers spent more than 85 percent of premiums on medical costs during the same period, which translated into huge losses. 'We're not seeing any evidence of a death spiral or a market collapse,' said Cynthia Cox, Kaiser's associate director of health reform and private insurance. 'Rather, what it looks like is insurers are on track to have their best year since the [Affordable Care Act] began.'" <http://politi.co/2vgA47m>

CBO VS. WHITE HOUSE, CONTINUED -- "Trump budget request doesn't balance, CBO says," by AP's Andy Taylor: "Thursday's [CBO] report says that Trump's budget, if

followed to the letter, would result in a \$720 billion deficit at the end of 10 years instead of the slight surplus promised. CBO said Trump's budget would reduce the deficit by a total of \$3.3 trillion over 10 years instead of the \$5.6 trillion deficit cut promised by the White House. The nonpartisan scorekeeper estimated that deficits in each of the coming 10 years will exceed the \$585 billion in red ink posted last year." <http://bit.ly/2umXVpu>

TWEET DU JOUR -- @VP: "Back at Capitol w/ @SpeakerRyan & @cathymcmorris & said hello to visitors. @POTUS & I are working for a stronger US for all Americans." *Pic* <http://bit.ly/2tjr2VO>

ON RUSSIA -- "Pence did not meet with Russians during campaign, spokesman says," by Matt Nussbaum <http://politi.co/2umQZJ1>

THE DOUGH -- TEAM RYAN the speaker's joint fundraising account, raised \$10.5 million in the second quarter, including \$494,400 from Robert and Diana Mercer. *Other big donors:* Nike's Phil Knight (\$100,000), Sam Zell (\$100,000), Jimmy Haslam (\$75,000), Daniel Loeb (\$50,000), Sheldon and Miriam Adelson (\$67,800) ... **PAUL RYAN's** campaign committee raised \$3.4 million in the second quarter of 2017, per an FEC report. He has \$11 million on hand ... **THE RYAN MCCARTHY VICTORY** account -- a joint-fundraising account -- pulled in \$385,100. Sixteen of the 20 donations were from Goldman Sachs employees. Seven of the checks were for \$44,300.

BEYOND THE BELTWAY -- "Illinois braces for most expensive election in U.S. history," by Natasha Korecki and Alex Isenstadt: "The Illinois governor's race is on pace to be the most expensive statewide election in U.S. history, a spending bonanza expected to cost more than a quarter-billion dollars next year. Some Illinois and Washington party officials think the contest might run well in excess of \$300 million, blowing away the current record-holder for statewide office - the \$280 million California governor's race between former eBay executive Meg Whitman and Jerry Brown in 2010. Consider this: The various campaigns on both sides have already raised upward of \$90 million - and the general election is still 16 months away." <http://politi.co/2tiQz1u>

-- **BETO O'ROURKE's** Texas senatorial campaign raised \$2.1 million in the second quarter with over 46,000 individual donations (average contribution: \$44) and 81 percent of the money coming from within Texas. **Video of Beto** <http://bit.ly/2udvKc5>

-- **JASON KANDER's** group grows: Voting rights group iVote, founded by Ellen Kurz and former Obama field director Jeremy Bird, will now be a "special project" of Let America Vote, started by former Missouri Sec. of State and U.S. Senate candidate Jason Kander. iVote says it plans to use its IE to focus on 2018 secretary of state races in Iowa, Michigan, Nevada, New Mexico and Ohio and continue its push for automatic voter registration in states like Nevada. <http://politi.co/2sUmW79>

SUNDAY SO FAR -- NBC'S "MEET THE PRESS": Senate Majority Whip John Cornyn (R-Texas) will be on NBC's "Meet the Press" this Sunday.

ABOUT DON JR. -- MOLLY BALL in The Atlantic -- **"The Troublemaker"**: "Many years ago, when his eldest son was still a boy, Donald Trump was interviewed by Barbara Walters, along with his family. Which child, she asked the real-estate mogul, did he consider the troublemaker in the family? Trump didn't hesitate for a moment. 'Don,' he shot back, according to the story Don himself-Donald Trump Jr., now a 39-year-old businessman-likes to tell. Don Jr. told me the story with a grin when I interviewed him for a profile last year. 'I was the wild one of the three,' he said of his siblings. 'I always made good grades and did well, but I had a lot of fun.'

"Brash, strong-willed, risk-taking: These qualities made Don Jr. the most visible of the Trump children during the campaign. But this week's revelations-the June 2016 email exchange, published Tuesday, in which Don, presented with potential campaign assistance from a supportive Russian government, replied, 'I love it'-cast those same qualities in a different light. Once again, Don Jr. is his father's troublemaker, but this time the trouble is much more than fun and games. On Wednesday, I texted Don and asked how he was doing. 'Fantastic,' he wrote back-followed by the 'laughing crying' emoji. He declined to comment further." <http://theatltn.tc/2vgSYuW>

-- **"Donald Trump Jr. invited to testify before Congress as early as next week,"** by Austin Wright and John Bresnahan: "President Donald Trump's eldest son has been invited to testify as early as next week before the Senate Judiciary Committee amid a growing scandal over a meeting he attended last year with a Russian lawyer. Senate Judiciary Chairman Chuck Grassley told reporters Thursday he was sending Donald Trump Jr. a letter asking him to testify - and that he was willing to subpoena him if necessary." <http://politi.co/2uncrxB>

-- **"How Donald Trump Jr. Got Stuck In His Father's Shadow,"** by Trump biographer Gwenda Blair in POLITICO Magazine <http://politi.co/2vgB8bk>

HAPPENING TONIGHT -- Former Presidents George W. Bush and Bill Clinton will participate in a conversation on leadership that's moderated by David Rubenstein at the George W. Bush Presidential Center. **Livestream at 6 p.m.** <http://bit.ly/2unbVQj>

REMEMBER THIS? -- **"White House opioid commission to miss deadline for second time,"** by CBS News' Jacqueline Alemany: "President Trump's commission to fight the opioid epidemic will miss a deadline to file an interim report on the crisis for a second time, according to a notice set to be released Friday. ... The executive order set a deadline of 90 days, or June 27, for the commission to file an interim report outlining a federal strategy to combat the epidemic. The commission failed to issue the report before the initial deadline, announcing instead it would issue its interim assessment during a conference call on July 17. According to a notice scheduled to appear in the Federal Register on Friday, the commission is rescheduling the July 17 call until 31, missing the extended deadline." <http://cbsn.ws/2un9xsl>

NOBEL PEACE WINNER LIU XIAOBO DEAD AT 61 -- NYT's Chris Buckley: "Liu Xiaobo, the renegade Chinese intellectual who kept vigil on Tiananmen Square in 1989

to protect protesters from encroaching soldiers, promoted a pro-democracy charter that brought him an 11-year prison sentence and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize of 2010 while locked away, died on Thursday. He was 61. ... The Chinese government revealed he had liver cancer in late June only after it was virtually beyond treatment. Officially, Mr. Liu gained medical parole. But even as he faced death, he was kept silenced and under guard in a hospital, still a captive of the authoritarian controls that he had fought for decades." <http://nyti.ms/2vgr5DI>

-- **Katie Stallard (@skystallard)**: "Shenyang judicial website confirms Liu Xiaobo has died. The last Nobel Peace Prize winner to die in custody was in Nazi Germany in 1938."

COMING ATTRACTIONS -- **@jacobkornbluh** of Jewish Insider: "NEW in #KafeKnesset: **@jdgreenblatt45** says in meetings that U.S. plan & goal is to renew peace process 'in the fall'" <http://bit.ly/2uea9jX>

TWEET US! -- Want a signed Matt Wuerker cartoon? Tweet at us or post on Facebook using the hashtag #PlaybookLoyal. Each time you post with the hashtag will increase your chances of winning! Post as often as you can until tomorrow! So get to sharing and tell us why you're #PlaybookLoyal and include this link <http://politi.co/2IBIFIV>

REMEMBER THE DRESS CODE KERFUFFLE? -- **@AlexNBCNews**: "Wow... Speaker Ryan announces that his office is working with SAA office to modernize dress code rules in Speaker's Lobby" ... **@NancyPelosi**: "Glad to see @SpeakerRyan is updating the dress code for the House Floor. These unwritten rules are in desperate need of updates." ... **Story from Rachael Bade** <http://politi.co/2t7KrxO>

DESSERT -- "Here Are Your 2017 Emmy Nominations," from Vulture. **Westworld and SNL are tied with 22 nominations each** <http://bit.ly/2umZGTB>

MEDIAWATCH -- **CBS NEWS** announced a new partnership with the **BBC** that "allows both organizations to share video, editorial content, and additional newsgathering resources in New York, London, Washington and around the world. The relationship between CBS News and BBC News will also allow for efficient planning of newsgathering resources to increase the content of each broadcaster's coverage of world events." **The release** <http://cbsn.ws/2vgapf4>

-- **Dan Oshinsky**, the director of newsletters at BuzzFeed, is leaving to join The New Yorker as their director of newsletters next month, a newly created position.

OUT AND ABOUT -- **SPOTTED** at Third Way's annual summer party at Long View Gallery last night, which featured songs from DJ Soul Call Paul of Showtime fame: Sen. Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.), Reps. Brad Schneider (D-Ill.), Ruben Gallego (D-Ariz.), Tom Suozzi (D-N.Y.), Josh Gottheimer (D-N.J.), Hakeem Jeffries (D-N.Y.), Stephanie Murphy (D-Fla.) and Nanette Barragan (D-Calif.), former Sen. Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.), Ty Matsdorf, Elizabeth Falcone, Rachel Laser, Leah Chandler, Matt Bennett, and Jim

Kessler.

-- **Nobuko Sasae**, spouse of Japanese Ambassador, who founded the Nobuko Forum to celebrate when women liberate their talents. strength and intellect held an event at the Japanese ambassador's residence last night. **SPOTTED:** Kate Goodall, Dr. Sachiko Kuno, Capricia Marshall, Coach Kathy Kemper, Gouri Mirpuri, Susan Blumenthal, Jane Cafritz, Tina Tchen, Rosemarie Pauli, Wendy Teramoto, Tracy Bernstein and Emily Lovell, Ambassador Julia Chang Bloch, Eric Branstad, Irene Hirano Inouye, Emily Heil and Annie Totah.

--**SPOTTED** last night at a screening on the Hill hosted by Rep. Derek Kilmer (D-Wash.) of the new Netflix film "Chasing Coral" (**trailer:** <http://bit.ly/2vh987k>) - the documentary about the huge die-off of coral reefs is made by the same director who did "Chasing Ice": Reps. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.), John Delaney (D-Md.), Beto O'Rourke (D-Texas), Kathleen Rice (D-N.Y.), Darren Soto (D-Fla.) and Donald Norcross (D-N.J.)

-- **Global Policy Link** hosted a reception for Joel Backaler, author of "China Goes West: Everything You Need to Know About Chinese Companies Going Global" (**\$33.82 on Amazon** <http://amzn.to/2vgjPaj>), at Woodward Table last night. **SPOTTED:** Jamian Ronca Spadavecchia, Marc Ross, Joshua Berlin, Bill Black, Steve Foerster, Ellen Huber, Kimberly Kowal, EJ Thomas and Allen Wolff.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD - Phil Mattingly, CNN congressional correspondent and a Bloomberg alum, and **Chelsea Mattingly**, senior business development manager at Bloomberg, welcomed Carter James Mattingly. **Pic** <http://politi.co/2vgUxsy> ... **Carter meeting his big brother T.J.** <http://bit.ly/2un3zli> ... **Instapic of the whole family** <http://bit.ly/2udq2qw>

WEEKEND WEDDING -- Internet civil-liberties lawyer **Mike Godwin** married hotel leasing manager **Sienghom "Jessy" Ches**. Godwin is a senior fellow at the R Street Institute who was the first staff lawyer for the Electronic Frontier Foundation. Pool report: "Godwin flew halfway around the world in 2015 for Freedom House (and later for R Street Institute) to help Cambodian activists develop an 'internet Bill of Rights' that could be used to frame the country's digital agenda. ... Ches, then working the front desk at Phnom Penh's Sunway hotel near the U.S. Embassy, helped Godwin make color copies in the hotel's business center, and the two struck up a conversation that led to many Facebook messages and emails. And, eventually, to Ches's applying for a visa to come to the United States." **Pic** <http://politi.co/2ugIFcT>

***** **A message from BMA: MEDICARE ADVANTAGE TAILORED CARE MEETS THE NEED OF HIGH COST, HIGH NEED CARE SENIORS:** 18.5 million seniors and people with disabilities choose Medicare Advantage for one reason: it gives them the affordable, robust, and individualized health care they need. And with health needs in this country becoming more complex, it's clear that innovative, holistic solutions are required.

Under Medicare Advantage, Special Needs Plans (SNPs) specializes care for the health care system's fastest growing and most costly and complex care beneficiaries - frail, disabled, and chronically-ill Medicare beneficiaries. SNPs tailor benefits, provider networks, and prescription drug coverage to best meet the needs of the beneficiaries they serve. In addition to providing Traditional Medicare benefits, SNPs also provide reduced cost sharing and enhanced benefits related social services, wellness and home care. SNPs are designed to address complex conditions by providing better access to specialized care for those who need it most. Learn more:

<http://www.bettermedicarealliance.org/special-needs-plans> *****

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