



MEMO

Date: September 2, 2021

To: External

From: Sick Cells

RE: August 2021 Policy Update

For Sick Cells, August was a time to begin wrapping up some early-year projects and launch our Q3 planning for our FY22 policy initiatives. Below you'll find what kept our staff occupied throughout the month.

1. **Sick Cells continued strategizing** on our [Congressional Hearing Request](#) after 10+ meetings with legislative offices. Stay tuned for our September update, which will announce next steps.
2. **NORD announced that [CA Senate Bill 247](#) passed** through the Assembly Committee on Appropriations at the end of August & passed the California Assembly in the first couple days of September. We continue to support NORD's work on this project and sign on as supporters for each new RDAC bill.
 - a. This bill would establish a Rare Disease Advisory Council in California. These councils are a great way for the SCD community to get involved in state-level policy.
 - b. To learn more about this initiative, visit NORD's [Project RDAC page](#).
3. **Sick Cells began planning for upcoming state Medicaid meetings.** Check back in September for updates on that month's meetings & notices on later meetings, as details often change. Email info@sickcells.org to get involved with our DURB/P&T Committee outreach.
 - a. September
 - i. [Minnesota](#)
 - ii. [Pennsylvania](#)
 - b. November
 - i. [Nebraska](#)
 - ii. [Wisconsin](#)
 - iii. [Maryland](#)
4. **Suggested Reading:** After doing our own deep dive into the [2020 NASEM report on SCD](#), Sick Cells is following along with Nancy Rene's [blog series on the NASEM report](#) as part on oneSCDvoice. This is a great way for those in the SCD community to learn more about this important resource.

See you in September!

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