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Letter from the Editors

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Dear Reader:

On behalf of the Editorial Board and staff, we proudly present Volume 12, Issue 1 of the *Health Law & Policy Brief* (HLPB). HLPB is an online publication run by law students at American University Washington College of Law (WCL). Since its formation in 2007, HLPB has published articles on a wide array of cutting-edge topics in the areas of health law, disability law, and food and drug law. Such topics include international and domestic issues of health care compliance, fraud and abuse enforcement, health insurance payment and reimbursement issues, intellectual property issues, international human rights issues, FDA initiatives and policies, and a host of other matters. HLPB also maintains a blog on current health law issues which can be found on our website at www.healthlawpolicy.org. Furthermore, each year, HLPB organizes an original symposium on an emerging health law topic. At this year’s symposium in April 2018, distinguished speakers and moderators will discuss data privacy and security in healthcare.

This issue features a creative article by *Health Law & Policy Brief* alumna Raenetta Ellison. She recognizes that childhood obesity is a public health epidemic disproportionately affecting low-income families. She goes on to propose a mitigation plan for childhood obesity in the city of Baltimore, MD. The Curbside Cookhouse Program, Ellison’s own brainchild, would provide accessible nutrition education and cooking classes to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Households in the Baltimore community. Easily applicable to additional low-income communities, the Curbside Cookhouse program has the potential to reinvent the way communities approach obesity and nutrition.

Our second author, Margaret Reiney, analyzes the connection between two of today’s most discussed health law topics: opioids and telemedicine. Recognizing that the opioid epidemic has reached epic proportions, she proposes increasing treatment access through expanded use of telemedicine. Reiney considers the legal implications of a telemedicine expansion and proposes solutions for overcoming potential legal barriers. Her evaluation cleverly applies America’s growing technology infrastructure to one of the nation’s most pressing public health issues.

We would like to thank our authors for their hard work and cooperation in writing, researching, and editing two important articles that are increasingly relevant to today’s health law dialogue.

We would also like to thank HLPB’s articles editors and staff members who worked diligently on this issue, the blog, and our programming throughout the year. They are greatly appreciated and should be proud of their work.

For questions or information about the *Health Law & Policy Brief*, or for questions on how to subscribe to our electronic publication, please visit our website at www.healthlawpolicy.org.

Sincerely,

Justine and Sandeep

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