The following information comes from directly from news sources including Bloomberg Government, Kaiser Health News, and other news sources.

**Schedules: White House and Congress**

**WHITE HOUSE**

- Biden will speak from the executive residence at 6:45 p.m. at a virtual reception for the Democratic National Committee.

**CONGRESS:**

- The Senate will continue work on the bipartisan infrastructure package.
- The House meets tomorrow at 10 a.m. The chamber is scheduled for a district work period until Aug. 30.

**Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News**

- **Bloomberg Government: HELP Markup**: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee is scheduled tomorrow to mark up four bills including:
  - S. 1486, to eliminate discrimination and promote women’s health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition; and
  - S. 1543, to provide best practices on student suicide awareness and prevention training and to condition state educational agencies, local educational agencies, and tribal educational agencies to establish and implement a school-based student suicide awareness and prevention training policy.

- **Bloomberg Government: Debt Ceiling Suspension Ends With Next Steps Unclear**: The U.S. debt ceiling officially became operative again yesterday after a two-year suspension, with lawmakers in Washington yet to outline how they’ll avoid a potential default later this year. The debt limit -- the total amount that the federal government is authorized to borrow -- was set at $22 trillion in 2019. It will adjust to the current level of debt -- which had risen to $28.5 trillion as of the end of June -- when the suspension ends, putting pressure on Congress to find a solution that will allow the government to keep borrowing.

- **Politico: Senate Negotiators Finalize Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill**: Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer on Sunday evening took the next procedural step to move the legislation forward, predicting it would pass the chamber in a “matter of days.” But first it will need to go through an arduous amendment process. “It’s been decades since Congress passed such a significant standalone investment and I salute the hard work done here by everybody,”
Schumer said. “Given how bipartisan the bill is and how much work has already been put in to get the details right, I believe the Senate can quickly process relevant amendments.”

- **Bloomberg Government: Expanded Medicare Benefits Plan Raises Equity Questions:** Congressional Democrats’ plan to add hearing, vision, and dental coverage to Medicare is stirring debate about its potential effects on low-income beneficiaries and whether it advances the push for health equity. Given HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra’s push for equity in federal health programs, some argue the plan—which could cost $358 billion over 10 years—would better cut disparities if it was targeted to the needy.

- **Bloomberg Government: Final Medicare Hospital Pay Rule Nears Release:** A final rule setting Medicare hospital payment rates for 2022 has cleared White House review and can be published at any time by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The proposed rule issued in April would give acute-care hospitals an overall 2.8% jump, or another $2.5 billion, in fiscal 2022. Long-term care hospitals would receive an extra 1.4%, or $52 million under the proposal, which published May 10 in the Federal Register.