

# American Nephrology Nurses Association

Daily Capitol Hill Update - Monday, September 14, 2020

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

- 12:20pm: President Trump leaves Las Vegas en route to California
- 2pm: Trump takes part in a briefing on wildfires in McClellan Park, Calif.
- 3:05pm: Trump delivers remarks and participates in a ceremony recognizing the California National Guard
- 3:40pm: Trump departs Calif. for Arizona
- 6pm: Trump participates in a Latinos for Trump event in Phoenix
- 11:35pm: Trump arrives back at the White House

### CONGRESS

- House meets at 2pm, with votes postponed until 6:30pm
- Senate meets at 3pm; considers nomination of Mark Scarsi to be U.S. District Judge for the Central District of California

## Congressional, Health Policy, and Political News

- **Bloomberg Government: U.S. Faces Last Chance to Salvage Stimulus Deal as House Returns:** Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin opened this month by saying that despite the stalemate over Covid-19 relief funding, the Trump administration and Congress could agree on one thing: a stimulus package was needed. That hasn't produced serious negotiations, however, and prospects for a relief bill before the November election are dwindling fast.
  - Pelosi welcomes the House back today, but that's unlikely to give fresh impetus to the discussions. Republicans and Democrats both are testing a risky strategy that the public -- and voters -- will blame the other side for failing to deliver help to millions of households and companies.
- **The Wall Street Journal: Trump Executive Order Takes New Aim At Drug Prices:** President Trump signed an executive order on Sunday to reduce the cost of prescription drugs for U.S. seniors by more closely aligning prices with what pharmaceutical companies charge in other countries. The order, part of Mr. Trump's broader focus on prescription drugs ahead of the November election, is unlikely to have an immediate effect because it requires federal rulemakings that could take months to complete. But if Mr. Trump wins a second term and goes ahead with the rules with wide applications, the move could be significant, since most developed nations have far lower drug prices than the U.S. does.
- **Fox News: Uncontrolled Blood Pressure On Rise In US: Study:** A recent study representative of the U.S. population found that uncontrolled blood pressure rose by 10%

in 2017-18 compared to several years prior. Researchers from the University of Alabama published their findings on Wednesday in the JAMA Network. Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a common, but dangerous condition, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It increases the risk of heart disease and stroke, and the CDC says those with hypertension "might be at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19," though the study authors said it's uncertain.