

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: October 11, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 11 a.m. Following morning business, the chamber will proceed to the immediate consideration of the fiscal 2023 defense authorization (HR 7900) and adjourn following remarks by Sen. Reed, D-R.I. No legislative action is expected.
 - Bills:
 - HR 7900 — Fiscal 2023 Defense Authorization
- The House meets in a pro-forma session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Wall Street Journal: Why a \$158,000 Drug With Unclear Benefits Hurts Whole Health System - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/why-a-158-000-drug-with-unclear-benefits-hurts-whole-health-system-11665427529>
 - The Hill (Opinion): 340B drug pricing program helps advance health for patients, communities - <https://thehill.com/opinion/congress-blog/3681858-340b-drug-pricing-program-helps-advance-health-for-patients-communities/>
 - Inside Health Policy: GOP Will Seek To End Govt. Price Negotiation, Rebates If They Control Congress - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/gop-will-seek-end-govt-price-negotiation-rebates-if-they-control-congress>
- Nurse staffing
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Bain: 25% of clinicians want out of healthcare - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/workforce/bain-25-of-clinicians-want-out-of-healthcare.html>
 - McKnights Senior Living: Debate over agency rate cap divides nursing factions - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/debate-over-agency-rate-cap-divides-nursing-factions/>
 - McKnights Senior Living: State staffing policies could hamper MedPAC's recommendations on federal mandate - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/state-staffing-policies-could-hamper-medpacs-recommendations-on-federal-mandate/>
- Colon cancer-related items

- CNN: A colonoscopy study has some wondering if they should have the procedure. What you should know - <https://www.cnn.com/2022/10/10/health/colonoscopy-study-q-and-a-wellness/index.html>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - No new items
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Entitlement, Spending Cap Plans Linked by GOP to Debt-Limit Deal - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJL131DWX2PY>
 - Bloomberg: IRS Rule to Strengthen Obamacare Clears White House Review - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJDW1YT0G1KW>
 - Bloomberg: Biden: Obamacare to Be More Affordable for Families Next Month - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RJLA9HDWX2PU>
 - Forbes: Medicare Premiums Drop In 2023, But That's Not The Full Story - https://www.google.com/search?q=medicare&rlz=1C1GCEA_enUS1008US1008&tbm=nws&source=Int&tbs=gdr:d&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwivuMXmqNj6AhVwD1kFHRnVB-gQpwV6BAgCEBY&biw=1920&bih=969&dpr=1
 - Stat News (Opinion): CBO's dismissal of health price transparency is based on faulty premises - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/11/cbo-health-care-price-transparency-dismissal-faulty-premises/>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: How payers have exploited Medicare Advantage - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/how-payers-have-exploited-medicare-advantage.html>
- Nursing home quality initiative

- Stat News (Opinion): Medicare's cuts to home health are a step in the wrong direction - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/11/medicare-proposed-cuts-home-health-step-wrong-direction/>
- Skilled Nursing News: More Nursing Homes Look for Upside by Plugging Into Medicare Advantage - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/10/more-nursing-homes-look-for-upside-by-plugging-into-medicare-advantage/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=6e8e024145&mc_cid=6e8e024145&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
- McKnights Senior Living (Opinion): MDS meets VBP: I love good value, don't you? - <https://www.mcknights.com/blogs/guest-columns/mds-meets-vbp-i-love-a-good-value-dont-you/>
- Health equity-related items
 - Stat News: A minuscule new HHS office has a mammoth goal: tackling environmental justice - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/10/11/hhs-office-environmental-justice/>
- Hospital merger news
 - Modern Healthcare: LCMC Health to spend \$150M to acquire 3 HCA Healthcare hospitals in Louisiana - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/mergers-acquisitions/lcmc-health-buy-3-hca-healthcare-hospitals-150m?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-tuesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221010&utm_content=article-1-headline