

## HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 14, 2022

### Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 3 p.m. Following leader remarks the Senate will resume consideration of the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Maria del R. Antongiorgi-Jordan to be U.S. district judge for the District of Puerto Rico. At 5:30, the Senate will vote on agreeing to the cloture motion.
  - Nominations:
    - Maria del R. Antongiorgi-Jordan to be U.S. district judge for the District of Puerto Rico
- The House reconvenes at 2 p.m. for legislative business and is expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules. Roll call votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.
  - Bills:
    - S 2159 — A bill to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 400 College Drive, Middleburg, Florida, as the "Andrew K. Baker Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic," and for other purposes.
    - HR 5481 — A bill to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Forest City, North Carolina, as the "Corporal Jerry K. Crump VA Clinic."
    - HR 6722 — A bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in French Camp, California, as the 'Richard A. Pittman VA Clinic.'
    - HR 6863 — A bill to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Memphis, Tennessee, as the 'Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, Jr. VA Medical Center.'
    - HR 7903 — A bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Canton, Michigan, as the "Major General Oliver W. Dillard VA Outpatient Clinic."
    - HR 7925 — A bill to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Palm Desert, California, as the 'Sy Kaplan Veterans Center.'
    - S 3369 — Max Cleland VA Medical Center Act
    - S 4359 — Senator Johnny Isakson VA Regional Office Act
    - HR 5721 — VA Infrastructure Powers Exceptional Research (VIPER) Act
    - HR 7299 — A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to obtain an independent cybersecurity assessment of information systems of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

- HR 7277 — Improving Oversight of the Veterans Community Care Providers Act
- HR 2250 — Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Reform Act
- HR 3630 — Lymphedema Treatment Act
- HR 4275 — Ensuring Phone and Internet Access for SNAP Recipients Act
- HR 6290 — Manufacturing.gov Act
- HR 5441 — Prevent All Soring Tactics (PAST) Act
- HR 5502 — A bill to require online marketplaces to verify certain information regarding high-volume third-party sellers of consumer products on such online marketplaces and to disclose to consumers certain contact and other information regarding such high-volume third-party sellers.
- S 533 — Guidance Clarity Act
- S 3655 — Civil Rights Cold Case Investigations Support Act
- S 407 — Air America Act
- S 3510 — Disaster Resiliency Planning Act
- S 1941 — Metropolitan Areas Protection and Standardization (MAPS) Act
- HR 7899 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 75 Commerce Drive in Grayslake, Illinois, as the "Army Specialist Joseph 'Joey' W. Dimock II Post Office Building."
- HR 6917 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 301 East Congress Parkway in Crystal Lake, Illinois, as the "Ryan J. Cummings Post Office Building."
- HR 2473 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 275 Penn Avenue in Salem, Ohio, as the "Howard Arthur Tibbs Post Office."
- HR 7518 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 23200 John R Road in Hazel Park, Michigan, as the "Roy E. Dickens Post Office."
- S 3826 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1304 4th Avenue in Canyon, Texas, as the 'Gary James Fletcher Post Office Building.'
- S 3825 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3903 Melear Drive in Arlington, Texas, as the 'Ron Wright Post Office Building.'
- S 3884 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 404 U.S. Highway 41 North in Baraga, Michigan, as the "Cora Reynolds Anderson Post Office."

**Health policy update:**

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items

- Forbes: How To Get Away With Corporate Murder: Unbundling And Disrupting Pharmacy Benefit Managers (Part 1) -  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/sethjoseph/2022/11/13/how-to-get-away-with-corporate-murder-unbundling-and-disrupting-pharmacy-benefit-managers-part-1/?sh=596415867bc0>
- Health Leaders (Opinion): AARP Was Wrong To Back Medicare Drug Price Control. It'll End Up Hurting Seniors -  
<https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/pharma/opinion-aarp-was-wrong-back-medicare-drug-price-control-itll-end-hurting-seniors>
- Nurse staffing
  - Skilled Nursing News: Why Resident, Staff Autonomy Should Be at Center of SNF Policy Decision Making -  
[https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/why-resident-staff-autonomy-should-be-at-center-of-snf-policy-decision-making/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm\\_source=snn-newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=e9033eae56&mc\\_cid=e9033eae56&mc\\_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/11/why-resident-staff-autonomy-should-be-at-center-of-snf-policy-decision-making/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e9033eae56&mc_cid=e9033eae56&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)
  - RevCycleIntelligence: ACEP Urges Biden Admin to Address Emergency Department Boarding -  
<https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/acep-urges-biden-admin-to-address-emergency-department-boarding>
  - McKnights Senior Living: State lawmakers consider cutting CNA training hours, hiking Medicaid pay to address staffing woes -  
<https://www.mcknights.com/news/state-lawmakers-consider-cutting-cna-training-hours-hiking-medicare-pay-to-address-staffing-woes/>
- 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

- Kaiser Family Foundation: Cost of COVID-19 Hospital Admissions among People with Private Health Coverage - <https://www.kff.org/coronavirus-covid-19/issue-brief/cost-of-covid-19-hospital-admissions-among-people-with-private-health-coverage/>
- Inside Health Policy: In Boon For Stakeholders, HHS Expected To Extend PHE Through April - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/boon-stakeholders-hhs-expected-extend-phe-through-april>
- Inside Health Policy: Senate Finance Unveils Draft Bill To Integrate Mental, Physical Health - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/senate-finance-unveils-draft-bill-integrate-mental-physical-health>
- Nursing home quality initiative
  - Inside Health Policy: Advocates Optimistic After Arguments In SCOTUS Nursing Home Case - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/advocates-optimistic-after-arguments-scotus-nursing-home-case>
- Health equity-related items
  - Fierce Healthcare: CMS seeks to close gaps in health equity data collection as new measures roll out - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/cms-seeks-close-gaps-health-equity-data-collection-new-measures-roll-out>
- Hospital merger news
  - Healthcare Finance: FTC refocusing on anticompetitive practices - <https://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/ftc-refocusing-anticompetitive-practices>
- Telehealth news
  - Inside Health Policy: Groups To DEA: Extend Controlled Substance Rx Telehealth Waiver - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/groups-dea-extend-controlled-substance-rx-telehealth-waiver>
  - MedCity News: Telehealth: A Boon for Treating Substance Use Disorder? Or a Risk? - [https://medcitynews.com/2022/11/telehealth-a-opioid-addiction-for-treating-substance-use-disorder-or-a-risk/?utm\\_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm\\_medium=email&hsmi=233774193&hsenc=p2ANqtz--oHRyfXEiSlq-xylsuFkFMfCtzXFfn9yR\\_cf5LXv2GxTrzflvc73TKUx4uHoOaOqr9yDNn-KW31-6GTz3nssM7E2aUQ&utm\\_content=233774193&utm\\_source=hs\\_email](https://medcitynews.com/2022/11/telehealth-a-opioid-addiction-for-treating-substance-use-disorder-or-a-risk/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=233774193&hsenc=p2ANqtz--oHRyfXEiSlq-xylsuFkFMfCtzXFfn9yR_cf5LXv2GxTrzflvc73TKUx4uHoOaOqr9yDNn-KW31-6GTz3nssM7E2aUQ&utm_content=233774193&utm_source=hs_email)
- 118<sup>th</sup> Congress and lame-duck news

- Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Pelosi Wants Debt-Limit, Medicare Talks - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLC4B9DWLU6C>
- Bloomberg: Biden Agenda Depends on Flood of Regulations If GOP Wins Control - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RL50D0DWX2PS>
- Bloomberg: Congress Begins Its Year-End Push Gripped by Midterms Hangover - <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/daily-tax-report/congress-begins-its-year-end-push-gripped-by-midterms-hangover>
- Axios: The lame-duck health care agenda, *see attached PDF*
- Stat News: A Democratic Senate improves the outlook for Biden health and science priorities, including key nominees - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/11/13/democratic-senate-biden-health-science/>