

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: December 27, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate meets in a pro-forma session.
- The House meets in a pro-forma session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Office of Senator Mark Warner (Press Release): ICYMI: Key Inflation Reduction Act Provisions Will Be Implemented on January 1 to Help Virginians Cut Health and Energy Costs -
<https://www.warner.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?id=50A5CFF3-D666-42CB-8289-069850F1AD8C>
 - Wall Street Journal: Drug Prices Reach New High—in the Millions -
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/drug-prices-reach-new-high-in-the-millions-11671990099>
- Nurse staffing
 - Forbes: The Severe Implications Of Criminalizing Errors: Creating A Safer Healthcare Environment -
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesbusinesscouncil/2022/12/26/the-severe-implications-of-criminalizing-errors-creating-a-safer-healthcare-environment/?sh=4546f4ab2cc1>
 - Inside Health Policy: Omnibus Features Slew Of Provisions To Combat Workforce Shortages - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/omnibus-features-slew-provisions-combat-workforce-shortages>
 - Modern Healthcare: Healthcare unions to continue pushing aggressive agenda in 2023 - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/labor/healthcare-unions-better-wages-2023-flexible-scheduling-breaks?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-tuesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221226&utm_content=article-1-headline
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - No new items

- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - American Dental Association: Dental spending exceeds pre-pandemic levels in 2021 - <https://www.ada.org/publications/ada-news/2022/december/dental-spending-exceeds-pre-pandemic-levels-in-2021>
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Wall Street Journal: Millions Poised to Move Off Medicaid After Omnibus Bill Passage - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/millions-poised-to-move-off-medicaid-after-omnibus-bill-passage-11671898465>
 - Politico: The West's public option experiment is hitting roadblocks - <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2022/12/the-wests-public-option-experiment-is-hitting-roadblocks-00075150?source=email>
 - The Atlantic: The Great Big Medicare Rip-Off - <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2022/12/medicare-advantage-private-insurance-overcharging-government-taxpayers/672549/>
 - Modern Healthcare: \$1.7T spending bill draws mostly praise from healthcare industry - <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/law-regulation/17t-spending-bill-gets-support-some-criticism-healthcare-groups>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Inside Health Policy: Chamber Renews Legal Objections To OSHA's COVID-19 Healthcare Standard - https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/chamber-renews-legal-objections-oshas-covid-19-healthcare-standard?utm_medium=mh
- Health equity-related items
 - Bloomberg: Prognosis: A Renewed Focus on US Maternal Health - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RNJQKIDWRGG2>
 - Modern Healthcare: Medicaid agencies take on health equity, social determinants - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/medicaid/medicaid-health-equity-oregon-north-carolina-ohio-california-arizona?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-

[tuesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221226&utm_content=article-2-headline](#)

- Hospital merger news
 - No new items
- Telehealth news
 - Bloomberg: Telehealth Firm Lobbies to Keep Prescribing Drugs Amid Scrutiny - <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-12-27/telehealth-firm-lobbies-to-keep-prescribing-controlled-substances-amid-scrutiny>
 - Axios: The evolving business of virtual second opinions - <https://www.axios.com/2022/12/27/evolving-business-second-opinions>
 - MedCity News: Taboos With Telehealth: Is the Vimpro Model the Future of Men's Healthcare? - <https://medcitynews.com/2022/12/taboo-with-telehealth-is-the-vimpro-model-the-future-of-mens-healthcare/>
- 118th Congress and lame-duck news
 - Washington Post: House approves \$1.7 trillion omnibus bill amid GOP objections, sending it to Biden - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/12/23/omnibus-bill-house/>
 - Bloomberg: Durbin Undiminished in Senate as He Reaps 'Rewards of Seniority' - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RNB460T1UMOW>
- ALS news
 - No new items