HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: December 5, 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 Frances Kay Behm to be a U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Michigan. At 5:30, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Doris L. Pryor to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit.

  o Nominations:

    - Doris L. Pryor to be a U.S. circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit.
    - Frances Kay Behm to be a U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Michigan.

- The House reconvenes at 2 p.m. for legislative business and is expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules.

  o Bills:

    - S 198 — Data Mapping to Save Moms’ Lives Act
    - S 4052 — Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Act
    - HR 1193 — Cardiovascular Advances in Research and Opportunities Legacy Act
    - HR 3462 — SBA Cyber Awareness Act
    - HR 8844 — STEP Improvement Act
    - S 1687 — Small Business Cyber Training Act
    - S 1617 — Disaster Assistance for Rural Communities Act
    - S 3875 — Community Disaster Resilience Zones Act
    - S 3499 — A bill to amend the Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006 to repeal certain obsolete requirements, and for other purposes.
    - S 4235 — A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to fix a technical error in the definitions.
    - S 2796 — Rural Opioid Abuse Prevention Act
    - S 4834 — Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats (PROTECT) to Our Children Act
    - HR 5796 — Patents for Humanity Act

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items


Nurse staffing


Organ donation and transplantation items

Still looking for House Oversight report

No new items

Vison/dental care in Medicare-related items

No new items

Physical rehabilitation

No new items

Hospital and physician payment-related items


- **Bloomberg**: Enforcement Discretion for No Surprises Act Provision Extended - [https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RMAA8OT1UM0W](https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RMAA8OT1UM0W)

- **Stat News**: Medical malpractice lawsuits, delayed by the pandemic, are hitting hospitals harder than expected - [https://www.statnews.com/2022/12/05/medical-malpractice-hospitals-covid-pandemic-insurance/](https://www.statnews.com/2022/12/05/medical-malpractice-hospitals-covid-pandemic-insurance/)


- Nursing home quality initiative


- Health equity-related items

Hospital merger news


Telehealth news

- Bloomberg: Federal Agencies Pushed to Do More to Combat Telehealth Fraud - [https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RMA3JST1UM0W](https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RMA3JST1UM0W)
- Health Affairs: Audio-Only Telemedicine In Primary Care: Embraced In The NHS, Second Rate In The US - [https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/audio-only-telemedicine-primary-care-embraced-nhs-second-rate-us](https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/audio-only-telemedicine-primary-care-embraced-nhs-second-rate-us)

118th Congress and lame-duck news

- Politico: Lawmakers’ omnibus hopes for mental health policies - [https://subscriber.politicopro.com/newsletter/2022/12/lawmakers-omnibus-hopes-for-mental-health-policies-00072130](https://subscriber.politicopro.com/newsletter/2022/12/lawmakers-omnibus-hopes-for-mental-health-policies-00072130)
- Axios: Year-end package could increase access to addiction treatment - [https://www.axios.com/2022/12/02/year-end-package-addiction-treatment](https://www.axios.com/2022/12/02/year-end-package-addiction-treatment)
- Health Leaders: Payer-Negotiated Prices At Hospitals Higher For Insured Patients For Same Services - [https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/payer/payer-negotiated-prices-hospitals-higher-insured-patients-same-services](https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/payer/payer-negotiated-prices-hospitals-higher-insured-patients-same-services)

ALS news