

HEALTH CARE POLICY UPDATE: JUNE 13, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 3 p.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the veterans' toxic exposure benefits bill (HR 3967). At 5:30, the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the Tester, D-Mont., substitute amendment no. 5051 to HR 3967.
 - Bills:
 - HR 3967 — Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (Honoring our PACT) Act
- 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 516 — Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act
 - HR 2020 — Post-Disaster Assistance Online Accountability Act
 - HR 7211 — Small State and Rural Rescue Act
 - S 3580 — Ocean Shipping Reform Act

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - AAMC: House Holds Special Order Hour Commemorating the 340B Drug Pricing Program - <https://www.aamc.org/advocacy-policy/washington-highlights/house-holds-special-order-hour-commemorating-340b-drug-pricing-program>
 - Politico: How SCOTUS' upcoming climate ruling could defang Washington - <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/06/12/how-scotus-upcoming-climate-ruling-could-defang-washington-00038595>
 - Washington Post (Opinion): We need a labeling system for pharmaceutical prices - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2022/06/10/pharmaceutical-pricing-labeling-system/>
 - Insurance Newsnet: Q&A with Illinois governor candidates – How to bring down health care costs? - <https://insurancenewsnet.com/oarticle/qa-with-illinois-governor-candidates-how-to-bring-down-health-care-costs>

- Nurse staffing
 - Governor Tom Wolf, Press Release: Gov. Wolf Signs Bill to Improve Nursing License Requirements - <https://www.governor.pa.gov/newsroom/gov-wolf-signs-bill-to-improve-nursing-license-requirements/>
 - National Nurses United: Registered nurses at Seton announce two-day strike - <https://www.nationalnursesunited.org/press/seton-rns-announce-two-day-strike>
 - CT Mirror: Demand for nurses is urgent. CT's colleges and universities can't keep up - <https://ctmirror.org/2022/06/12/demand-for-nurses-is-urgent-cts-colleges-and-universities-cant-keep-up/>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Newly Hired Nurses Working Most Shifts as Staffing Shortages Persist - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/newly-hired-nurses-working-most-shifts-as-staffing-shortages-persist>
 - HealthLeaders: Stop Workforce Shortages: 3 Ways - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/nursing/stop-workforce-shortages-3-ways>
- STIs
 - Healio: Evidence builds that pandemic negatively impacted STI testing - <https://www.healio.com/news/infectious-disease/20220610/evidence-builds-that-pandemic-negatively-impacted-sti-testing>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - CNN Health: When we'll be able to 3D-print organs and who will be able to afford them - <https://www.cnn.com/2022/06/10/health/3d-printed-organs-bioprinting-life-itself-wellness-scn/index.html>

- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - Healthcare Dive: Despite rosier trust fund outlook, time running out to stabilize Medicare funding, researchers warn - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/congress-action-on-medicare-finances-insolvency/625073/>

- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items

- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Office of Inspector General, Press Release: Medicare and Beneficiaries Paid Substantially More to Provider-Based Facilities in Eight Selected States in Calendar Years 2010 Through 2017 Than They Paid to Freestanding Facilities in the Same States for the Same Type of Services - <https://oig.hhs.gov/oas/reports/region7/71802815.asp>
 - AMA: AMA unveils Recovery Plan for America's Physicians - <https://www.ama-assn.org/press-center/press-releases/ama-unveils-recovery-plan-america-s-physicians>
 - AAPA: NHPSA Celebrates New Law Allowing PAs to Receive Direct Payment - <https://www.aapa.org/news-central/2022/06/nhpsa-celebrates-new-law-allowing-pas-to-receive-direct-payment/>
 - Physicians Weekly: Half of Hospitals Have Implemented No Price Transparency - <https://www.physiciansweekly.com/half-of-hospitals-have-implemented-no-price-transparency/>
 - Fierce Healthcare: UMass Memorial Health, UNC Health commend hospital-at-home programs, touting better outcomes, saved costs - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/experts-call-action-extending-reimbursement-home-care>
 - Healthcare Dive: Florida health system sues bill-sharing ministry for non-payment - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/florida-health-system-sues-health-sharing-ministry/625335/>
 - Becker's ASC Review: The cost of running a medical practice has increased by 39 percent, says 1 director. See how he's handling the change - <https://www.beckersasc.com/leadership/the-cost-of-running-a-medical-practice-has-increased-by-39-percent-says-1-director-see-how-he-s-handling-the-change.html>

- Nursing home quality initiative
 - The Center Square: 74 nursing homes fined up to \$50,000 each for reported violations - https://www.thecentersquare.com/illinois/74-nursing-homes-fined-up-to-50-000-each-for-reported-violations/article_5ce4fdd0-e774-11ec-9e45-e360da723aca.html