

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: JULY 13, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 10:30 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Michael S. Barr to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. At 11:30 a.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Barr nomination to be a member of the Federal Reserve Board and on agreeing to the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination Barr to be vice chairman for supervision of the Federal Reserve Board. At 2:30 p.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the second Barr nomination, if cloture is invoked, and on agreeing to the Durbin, D-Ill., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Owen Edward Herrnsstadt to be a member of the board of directors of the Export-Import Bank. Additional roll call votes are expected.
 - Nominations:
 - Michael S. Barr to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
 - Michael S. Barr to be vice chairman for supervision of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
 - Owen Edward Herrnsstadt to be a member of the board of directors of the Export-Import Bank.

- The House reconvened at 10 a.m. for legislative business. The chamber is expected to consider a bill (HR 6538) that would implement local active shooter alert systems, a bill (S 3373) that would make veterans who, during their military service, were exposed to burn pits or other toxic substances automatically eligible for VA health care and disability benefits if they develop certain conditions, and begin consideration of a bill (HR 7900) that would authorize national defense for FY 2023. The chamber may also take final votes on ten measures previously debated under suspension of the rules.
 - Bills:
 - HR 6538 — Active Shooter Alert Act
 - HR 7900 — Fiscal 2023 Defense Authorization
 - S 3373 — Protecting Our Gold Star Families Education Act
 - HR 7174 — National Computer Forensics Institute Reauthorization Act
 - HR 5274 — Prevent Exposure to Narcotics and Toxics (PREVENT) Act
 - HR 1934 — Promoting United States International Leadership in 5G Act
 - H Con Res 59 — A concurrent resolution condemning the October 25, 2021, military coup in Sudan and standing with the people of Sudan.
 - H Res 720 — A resolution calling for stability and the cessation of violence and condemning ISIS-affiliated terrorist activity in northern

Mozambique, including the Cabo Delgado Province, and for other purposes.

- H Con Res 45 — A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the execution-style murders of United States citizens Ylli, Agron, and Mehmet Bytyqi in the Republic of Serbia in July 1999.
- H Res 892 — A resolution calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to release Paul Rusesabagina on humanitarian grounds.
- HR 7337 — Access for Veterans to Records Act
- HR 203 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4020 Broadway Street in Houston, Texas, as the "Benny C. Martinez Post Office Building."
- HR 5659 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1961 North C Street in Oxnard, California, as the "John R. Hatcher III Post Office Building."

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - Washington Post: Democrats race to reach deal to prevent spike in health premiums - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/07/13/manchin-schumer-aca-credits/>
 - Politico: Sidelined by Covid, Schumer goes hard from Brooklyn - <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/07/13/chuck-schumer-covid-00045459>
 - Axios: House centrists mull Manchin counteroffer: No new taxes - <https://www.axios.com/2022/07/13/manchin-schumer-reconciliation-house-centrists>
 - Morning Consult: Democrats' Drug Pricing and Medicare Plans Garner Broad Bipartisan Voter Support - <https://morningconsult.com/2022/07/13/democrats-drug-pricing-medicare-plans-garner-bipartisan-voter-support/>
 - Pink Sheet (Opinion): Senate Drug Pricing Bill: Even Worse Than The House Version - <https://pink.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/PS146476/Senate-Drug-Pricing-Bill-Even-Worse-Than-The-House-Version>
 - Pink Sheet (Opinion): Part D Overhaul: The Silver Lining Amid Very Dark Cloud Of US Drug Pricing Bill - <https://pink.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/PS146477/Part-D-Overhaul-The-Silver-Lining-Amid-Very-Dark-Cloud-Of-US-Drug-Pricing-Bill>
- Nurse staffing

- Stat News: Nursing Shortage at Mass. Hospitals leads to multimillion-dollar costs - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/07/13/nursing-shortage-massachusetts-hospitals-multimillion-dollar-costs/>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Hospitals struggle with effects of pandemic, shifts in healthcare industry - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/hospitals-struggle-with-effects-of-pandemic-shifts-in-healthcare-industry.html>
- Becker's Hospital Review: 10 hospitals cutting services - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/care-coordination/10-hospitals-cutting-services-712.html>
- FEDweek: Understaffing at VA Getting More Severe, Report Says - <https://www.fedweek.com/fedweek/understaffing-at-va-getting-more-severe-report-says/>
- STIs
 - No new items
- Colon cancer-related items
 - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - AP News: Pig organ transplants inch closer with testing in the dead - <https://apnews.com/article/pig-heart-transplant-nyu-c332493b4d6232edcf9ca389df976de0>
 - CNN: Genetically modified pig heart transplanted into deceased recipient, researchers say - <https://edition.cnn.com/2022/07/12/health/pig-heart-transplant-nyu/index.html>
 - NYU Langone Health: Successful Heart Xenotransplant Experiments at NYU Langone Set Protocol for Pig-to-Human Organ Transplants - <https://nyulangone.org/news/successful-heart-xenotransplant-experiments-nyu-langone-set-protocol-pig-human-organ-transplants>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items

- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Washington Post: Democrats are making a final play for Obamacare expansion this year - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/07/13/democrats-are-making-final-play-obamacare-expansion-this-year/>
 - Inside Health Policy: Is The Provider Relief Fund Lawsuit-Proof? Recipients' Possible Recourse - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/provider-relief-fund-lawsuit-proof-recipients%E2%80%99-possible-recourse>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Widespread Medicare confusion among members may lead to worse care outcomes, increased spending, survey finds - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/widespread-medicare-confusion-among-members-may-lead-to-worse-care-outcomes-increased-spending-survey-finds.html>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: CMS Proposes Quality Payment Program Updates in CY23 PFS Rule - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/cms-proposes-quality-payment-program-updates-in-cy23-pfs-rule>
 - Healthcare Finance: House bill seeks to keep Medicare Hospital Insurance Fund solvent - <https://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/house-bill-seeks-keep-medicare-hospital-insurance-fund-solvent>
 - National Law Review: New Options for Rural Hospitals: CMS Proposes Condition of Participation for New "rural Emergency Hospital" Provider Category - <https://www.natlawreview.com/article/new-options-rural-hospitals-cms-proposes-conditions-participation-new-rural>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Health Affairs: Could Person-Centered Care Be The Secret To Achieving The Triple Aim? - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/forefront.20220708.832806>
 - Skilled Nursing News: Why HUD Financing May Be the Vehicle to Drive Skilled Nursing Innovation - <https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/why-hud-financing-may-be-the-vehicle-to-drive-skilled-nursing-innovation/>
 - Home Health News: Proposed Payment Rule Could Trigger \$18B Cut to Medicare Home Health Reimbursement -

<https://homehealthcarenews.com/2022/07/proposed-payment-rule-could-trigger-18b-cumulative-cut-to-medicare-home-health-reimbursement/>