

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: JULY 21, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convened at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the semiconductor incentives and science innovation package (legislative vehicle HR 4346). At 11:30 a.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of Reuben E. Brigety II to be U.S. ambassador to South Africa. Additional roll call votes are expected.
 - Nominations:
 - Reuben E. Brigety II to be U.S. ambassador to South Africa.
 - Bills:
 - HR 4346 — Legislative vehicle for a semiconductor incentives package
- The House reconvened at 9 a.m. for legislative business. The chamber is expected to consider a bill (HR 8373) that would affirm the statutory right to obtain or provide contraceptives.
 - Bills:
 - HR 8373 — A bill to protect a person's ability to access contraceptives and to engage in contraception, and to protect a health care provider's ability to provide contraceptives, contraception, and information related to contraception.

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - Republican Policy Committee: Democrats Are Always Ready With The Wrong Prescription - <https://www.rpc.senate.gov/policy-papers/democrats-are-always-ready-with-the-wrong-prescription>
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Senate Staffers Meet Referee on Drugs, ACA - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFD8NTDWX2PS>
 - Bloomberg: Democrats Revive Drug Pricing Bill - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFD773DWX2PS>

- Roll Call: How 'Build Back Better' started, and how it's going: a timeline - <https://rollcall.com/2022/07/21/how-build-back-better-started-and-how-its-going-a-timeline/>
- Newsweek (Opinion): 'Skinny' Build Back Better is Still a Bad Idea - <https://www.newsweek.com/skinny-build-back-better-still-bad-idea-opinion-1726114>
- Stat News: Powerful Senate Democrat outlines 'plenty' more drug pricing reforms to follow Medicare negotiation - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/07/20/powerful-senate-democrat-outlines-plenty-more-drug-pricing-reforms-to-follow-medicare-negotiation/>
- Nurse staffing
 - Skilled Nursing News: Economic, Staffing Headwinds Continue to Trouble Nursing Homes, But Operators Like Ensign Remain 'Steady' - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/economic-staffing-headwinds-continue-to-trouble-nursing-homes-but-operators-like-ensign-remain-steady/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=d9c6564d37&mc_cid=d9c6564d37&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
 - Inside Health Policy: AHCA Puts Possible Staffing Mandate at \$10B, Advocates Say That Shows Understaffing - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/ahca-puts-possible-staff-mandate-10b-advocates-say-shows-understaffing>
 - Modern Healthcare: More physicians seeks unions amid changing landscape, COVID-19 - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/labor/more-physicians-seek-unions-amid-changing-landscape-covid-19?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-thursday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220720&utm_content=article-1-headline
 - MedCity News: There's a spotlight on nurses' poor mental health, but little action is actually being taken - https://medcitynews.com/2022/07/theres-a-spotlight-on-nurses-poor-mental-health-but-little-action-is-actually-being-taken/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=220355170&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-9dwDWaBlmjF6iNdS0cNrAWGOjY4vChn0FUZgnHQ-wF3Ltsc6EPRYr_uF-cvVPsfS1AU5VHoTwqYGRTQgkZAJGo82yhw&utm_content=220355170&utm_source=hs_email
- STIs
 - No new items

- Colon cancer-related items
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Medicaid Beneficiaries Face Barriers to Cancer Care Access - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/medicaid-beneficiaries-face-barriers-to-cancer-care-access>
- 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
 - Becker's Hospital Review: 3 trends that will affect providers' future profits: McKinsey - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/3-trends-that-will-affect-providers-future-profits-mckinsey.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Inflation to erode nonprofit hospital margins, Fitch reports - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/inflation-to-erode-nonprofit-hospital-margins-fitch-reports.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Payers will raise rates an average of 10% in 2023 as healthcare usage rises - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/payers-will-raise-rates-an-average-of-10-in-2023-as-healthcare-usage-rises.html>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Medicare Advantage Plans See High Enrollment, Low Spending in 2022 - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/medicare-advantage-plans-see-high-enrollment-low-spending-in-2022>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Most Consumers Look to Payers for Healthcare Price Transparency - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/most-consumers-look-to-payers-for-healthcare-price-transparency>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: CMS Makes Significant Updates to ACOs But Still Leaves Nursing Homes Largely Out of Conversation -

https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/cms-makes-significant-updates-to-acos-but-still-leaves-nursing-homes-largely-out-of-conversation/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=d9c6564d37&mc_cid=d9c6564d37&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3

- Managed Healthcare Executive: Reforming Hospice -
<https://www.managedhealthcareexecutive.com/view/reforming-hospice>