

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: JULY 25, 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 concur in the House amendment to the veterans' toxic exposure benefits bill (S 3373). At 5:30, the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to the semiconductor incentives and science innovation package (HR 4346) with the Schumer substitute amendment no. 5135.
 - Bills:
 - S 3373 — Honoring our PACT Act
 - HR 4346 — Legislative vehicle for a semiconductor incentives package
- The House is not in session.

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - Wall Street Journal (Opinion): The Fattest 'Skinny' Spending Bill Ever - https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-fattest-skinny-bill-ever-manchin-healthcare-medicare-obamacare-drug-price-controls-11658683704?mod=hp_opin_pos_4
 - Bloomberg: FDA to Enforce Deadlines for Fixing Generic Drug Applications - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFFIA0T1UM1A>
 - The Hill: Democrats rev up high-stakes final push to lower drug prices - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3571126-democrats-rev-up-high-stakes-final-push-to-lower-drug-prices/>
 - Axios: Democrats' high-stakes math game - <https://www.axios.com/2022/07/25/democrats-high-stakes-math-game>
 - Kaiser Health News: Ad Targeting Manchin and AARP Mischaracterizes Medicare Drug-Price Negotiations - <https://khn.org/news/article/american-commitment-ad-manchin-aarp-medicare-drug-price-negotiations/>
 - Inside Health Policy: Burr Opposes Generic, Orphan Drug Measures In User Fees As Talks Stall - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/burr-opposes-generic-orphan-drug-measures-user-fees-talks-stall>
- Nurse staffing

- Skilled Nursing News: Why Minimum Standards Are Not the Best Way to Monitor Staffing During Covid Outbreaks - <https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/why-minimum-standards-are-not-the-best-way-to-monitor-staffing-during-covid-outbreaks/>
- Health Leaders: Health System's Internal Travel Agency Program Gives Nurses What They Want: Flexibility And Options - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/nursing/health-systems-internal-travel-agency-program-gives-nurses-what-they-want-flexibility-and>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Ochsner Health commits to hire Ukrainian nurses - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/workforce/ochsner-health-commits-to-hire-ukrainian-nurses.html>
- STIs
 - No new items
- Colon cancer-related items
 - No new items
- 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
 - McKnights Senior Living: Psychological resilience boosts walking abilities after hip fracture: study - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/clinical-news/psychological-resilience-boosts-walking-abilities-after-hip-fracture-study/>
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Health Leaders: Productivity-Based Payment Model For Primary Care Generates 21% Physician Gender Pay Gap - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/clinical-care/productivity-based-payment-model-primary-care-generates-21-physician-gender-pay-gap>

- RevCycleIntelligence: How Healthcare Spending, Utilization Varies by Payer, Region - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/how-healthcare-spending-utilization-varies-by-payer-region>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Modern Healthcare: CMS sets quality measures for state-funded home care programs - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/safety-quality/cms-sets-quality-measures-state-funded-home-care-programs?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220724&utm_content=article4-headline
 - Inside Health Policy: CMS Puts Off Decision On Trump Nursing Home Relief Reg - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-puts-decision-trump-nursing-home-relief-reg>