

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: JULY 29, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate is not in session.
- The House reconvened at 9 a.m. for legislative business. The chamber may consider a bill (HR 5118) that would respond to drought and wildfires in the Western United States.
 - Bills:
 - HR 5118 — Wildfire Response and Drought Resiliency Act

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - Washington Post: Drug industry poised for rare political loss on prices - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2022/07/28/drug-pricing-democrats-manchin/>
 - Washington Post: Democrats look to include insulin provisions in Manchin-Schumer deal - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/07/29/democrats-look-include-insulin-provisions-manchin-schumer-deal/>
 - Bloomberg: Senate Tax, Climate, Drug Bill in Limbo as Sinema Reviews It - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFQQWGT0G1KW>
 - Bloomberg: What to Know in Washington: Senators Await Ruling Before Break - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFS45YT0AFB4>
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Schumer Seeks to Slash Insulin Prices - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFS1P4T0G1KW>
 - Bloomberg: FTC Caught in Balancing Act With Pharmacy Benefit Manager Probe - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFRZ3AT0AFB5>
 - AP News: Deal on Capitol Hill could ease seniors' health costs - <https://apnews.com/article/health-seniors-medicare-prescription-drug-costs-drugs-8aaa8fd3959c1da5fba5b5a352b6afb0>
 - Politico: Silent Sinema stresses Dems as they race to pass Manchin-blessed deal - <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/07/28/democrats-climate-tax-health-care-bill-recess-00048459>

- Politico: Drugmakers are waging a ‘Hail Mary’ campaign to sink reconciliation bill - <https://www.politico.com/news/2022/07/28/drugmakers-are-waging-a-hail-mary-campaign-to-sink-reconciliation-bill-00048513>
- The Hill: Senate Democrats look to add insulin measures to Schumer-Manchin deal - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3578518-senate-democrats-look-to-add-insulin-measures-to-schumer-manchin-deal/>
- The Hill (Opinion): Democrats’ drug-pricing plan warrants disinformation flag for seniors - <https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/3577999-democrats-drug-pricing-plan-warrants-disinformation-flag-for-seniors/>
- Modern Healthcare: Biosimilars to curb drug price hikes next year, report shows - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/supply-chain/biosimilars-limit-drug-price-increases-2023-report-shows?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220728&utm_content=article1-headline
- Healio: Our prescription for the nation: Make medicines and health care costs affordable now - <https://www.healio.com/news/primary-care/20220728/our-prescription-for-the-nation-make-medicines-and-health-care-affordable-now>
- Nurse staffing
 - Skilled Nursing News: Nursing Home Staffing Regulations, Proposals Clash With Financial, Operational Realities - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/nursing-home-staffing-regulations-proposals-clash-with-financial-operational-realities/?mc_cid=63fd522cc8&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
 - Nurse.com: States With Full Practice Authority Ensure Access to Nurse Practitioners - <https://www.nurse.com/blog/2022/07/29/states-with-full-practice-authority-ensure-access-nurse-practitioners/>
 - McKnight's Senior Living: Nursing home RNs, nurse aides lead with 11 percent pay jumps: new industry survey - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/nursing-home-rns-nurse-aides-lead-with-11-percent-pay-jumps-new-industry-survey/>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Side hustle or exit path? How COVID-19 shifted the side gig landscape for nurses - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/nursing/side-hustle-or-exit-path-how-covid-19-shifted-the-side-gig-landscape-for-nurses.html>
- STIs
 - No new items

- Colon cancer-related items
 - Medscape: New Blood Test Could Reshape Early CRC Screening - <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/978239?src=>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - Medscape: World's First HIV+ to HIV+ Heart Transplant Performed - <https://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/978171>
 - EurekAlert!: New study shows hope, options for older patients with liver cancer - <https://www.eurekalert.org/news-releases/960250>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - Healio: Home-based stretching, physical therapy for plantar fasciitis had similar outcomes - <https://www.healio.com/news/orthopedics/20220729/homebased-stretching-physical-therapy-for-plantar-fasciitis-had-similar-outcomes>
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - American Medical Association: Big step for bill to streamline prior auth in Medicare Advantage - <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/prior-authorization/big-step-bill-streamline-prior-auth-medicare-advantage>
 - Modern Healthcare: Inspector General pushes CMS to recover \$226M in Medicare overpayments - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/government/inspector-general-pushes-cms-recover-226m-medicare-overpayments?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220728&utm_content=article3-headline
 - Becker's Hospital Review: CMS drops 3 final payment rules: 8 things to know - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/cms-drops-3-final-payment-rules-8-things-to-know.html>
- Nursing home quality initiative

- Bloomberg: Nursing Home Infections Spur Call for HHS Action on Prevention - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RFRKIAT0AFB6>
- Skilled Nursing News: Nursing Home Operators Stung by 'Significant' Insurance Cost Increases - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/07/nursing-home-operators-stung-by-significant-insurance-cost-increases/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=63fd522cc8&mc_cid=63fd522cc8&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3