HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 2, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at noon. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Elizabeth Wilson Hanes to be a U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Virginia. The Senate will recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. for weekly caucus lunches. At 2:15 p.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Hanes nomination. Additional roll call votes are possible.
  - Nominations:
    - Elizabeth Wilson Hanes to be a U.S. district judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.
- The House meets in a pro forma session.

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
  - RealClearPolicy: The Law is Clear: There’s No Legal Authority to Control Prices Via Bayh-Dole - [https://www.realclearpolicy.com/articles/2022/08/02/the_law_is_clear_theres_no_legal_authority_to_control_prices_via_bayh-dole_845601.html](https://www.realclearpolicy.com/articles/2022/08/02/the_law_is_clear_theres_no_legal_authority_to_control_prices_via_bayh-dole_845601.html)

• **Nurse staffing**


  o **Advisory Board:** Is the travel nursing market finally cooling down? - [https://www.advisory.com/daily-briefing/2022/08/01/travel-nursing](https://www.advisory.com/daily-briefing/2022/08/01/travel-nursing)

• **STIs**

  o **No new items**

• **Colon cancer-related items**


  o **Washington University in St. Louis:** Pairing imaging, AI may improve colon cancer screening, diagnosis - [https://source.wustl.edu/2022/08/pairing-imaging-ai-may-improve-colon-cancer-screening-diagnosis/](https://source.wustl.edu/2022/08/pairing-imaging-ai-may-improve-colon-cancer-screening-diagnosis/)

• Organ donation and transplantation items
  
  o Still looking for House Oversight report
  

• Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
  
  o No new items

• Physical rehabilitation
  
  o No new items

• Hospital and physician payment-related items
  
  
  
  
  o Inside Health Policy: Dems Tee Up Reconciliation Package For Senate Vote, Providers Seek Medicare Pay Changes - https://insidehealthpolicy.com/features/health-insider
  
  
  
- MedCity News: Coverage delays exacerbate inequity for Medicare beneficiaries -
  https://medcitynews.com/2022/08/coverage-delays-exacerbate-inequity-for-medicare-beneficiaries/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&_hsmi=221543485&_hsenc=p2ANqtz- -
  77SykPLC3a8Yx8MqChMDbsf1UjwyRchXg-1gZSin33yQz_Vwl35Cv2sE6t9UnNXBuDdZ45H3cdoDEb-
P2tllcGKiQ&utm_content=221543485&utm_source=hs_email

- Nursing home quality initiative

- Skilled Nursing News: Why CMS’s Final Payment Rule Meets Nursing Home Providers ‘More Than Halfway’ -
  https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/why-cmss-final-payment-rule-meets-nursing-home-providers-more-than-halfway/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=7ade7b0ade&mc_cid=7ade7b0ade&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3

- Fierce Healthcare: CMS finalizes rule to boost nursing home pay rates by $904M in fiscal 2023 -

- Healthcare Finance: Skilled nursing facility final payment rates updated to reflect impact of COVID-19 -