

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: August 5, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate is not in session.
- The House meets in a pro forma session.

Health policy update:

- BBB drug pricing and drug price negotiation items
 - New York Times: Sinema Agrees to Climate and Tax Deal, Clearing the Way for Votes - <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/04/us/politics/sinema-inflation-reduction-act.html>
 - Wall Street Journal (Opinion): Whom Does AARP Serve? - https://www.wsj.com/articles/whom-does-aarp-serve-conflict-of-interest-retirees-tax-spend-deal-joe-manchin-chuck-schumer-medicare-drug-prices-11659650860?mod=hp_opin_pos_2#cxrecs_s
 - Washington Post: Lobbyists are rushing to influence the Democrats' spending bill - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2022/08/05/inflation-reduction-act-lobbyists/>
 - Washington Post: Democrats, Sinema reach deal on Inflation Reduction Act, after key changes to tax policies - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/08/04/inflation-reduction-act-sinema/>
 - Bloomberg: Hospitals Demand Fast Repayment for Medicare Drug Program Cuts - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RG3KILDWLU6A>
 - The Hill: AARP, Big Pharma locked in battle over drug pricing bill - <https://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/business-lobbying/3588542-aarp-big-pharma-locked-in-battle-over-drug-pricing-bill/>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: AHA Asks Federal Court to Immediately Stop 340B Payment Cuts - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/aha-asks-federal-court-to-immediately-stop-340b-payment-cuts>
- Nurse staffing
 - Skilled Nursing News: CMS: Nursing Home Minimum Staffing Requirements to Strike Balance Between Opposing Industry Views - <https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/08/cms-nursing-home-minimum-staffing-requirements-to-strike-balance-between-opposing-industry->

[views/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=33e76ed4a4&mc_cid=33e76ed4a4&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/exclusives/100076)

- MedPage Today: Is the Travel Nurse Pay Boom Really Over? - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/exclusives/100076>
- McKnight's Senior Living: Geriatric workforce funding in Senate Bill 'far too low,' provider group says - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/business-daily-news/geriatric-workforce-funding-in-senate-bill-far-too-low-provider-group-says/>
- Chief Healthcare Executive: Most nurses say there's not enough staffing, and many intend to leave - <https://www.chiefhealthcareexecutive.com/view/most-nurses-say-there-s-not-enough-staffing-and-many-intend-to-leave>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Healthcare added 70K jobs in July - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/workforce/healthcare-added-70k-jobs-in-july.html>
- EurekAlert!: Staff and facility administrator retention has been challenging for long-term care facilities - <https://www.eurekaalert.org/news-releases/960812>
- STIs
 - No new items
- Colon cancer-related items
 - No new items
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - MedPage Today: Transplant System Urgently Needs Overhaul, Experts Say - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/transplantation/transplantation/100078>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - Washington Post: Sanders grapples with missed opportunity in Democrats' economic plan - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/us-policy/2022/08/05/bernie-sanders-manchin-schumer/>
- Physical rehabilitation

- No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Senators Push for Medicare Gap Fix in Deal - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RG50FJDWRGG0>
 - MedPage Today: Hospitals Will Still Have to Share Safety Data Publicly - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/special-reports/features/100063>
 - Inside Health Policy: Warnock Seeks Senate Vote On Medicaid Gap Fix In Vote-A-Rama - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/warnock-seeks-senate-vote-medicaid-gap-fix-vote-rama>
 - Inside Health Policy: CMS Scraps Plan To Suppress Hospital Complications Data - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-scraps-plan-suppress-hospital-complications-data>
 - Modern Healthcare: Congress eyes faster Medicare Advantage prior authorizations - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/politics-policy/medicare-advantage-prior-authorization-bill-nearing-passage?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220804&utm_content=article1-headline
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - No new items
- Health equity-related items
 - Bloomberg: CMS' Framework for Health Equity Sets Goals Without Details - https://www.bloomberglaw.com/bloomberglawnews/us-law-week/X81FFS34000000?bna_news_filter=us-law-week#jcite
 - Healio: RNS Keynote: Nurses have 'profound power' in achieving health equity - <https://www.healio.com/news/rheumatology/20220804/rns-keynote-nurses-have-profound-power-in-achieving-health-equity>