

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: September 13, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Arianna J. Freeman to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 3rd Circuit. At 11:30, the Senate will vote on the confirmation of the Freeman nomination and on agreeing to the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Lara E. Montecalvo to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 1st Circuit. Following votes, the Senate will recess until 2:15 p.m. for weekly caucus lunches.
 - Nominations:
 - Lara E. Montecalvo to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 1st Circuit.
 - Arianna J. Freeman to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 3rd Circuit.
- The House reconvenes at 2p.m. for legislative business and is expected to consider measures under suspension of the rules. Roll call votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m.
 - Bills:
 - S 3103 — Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act
 - S 4785 — A bill to extend by 19 days the authorization for the special assessment for the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund.
 - HR 5315 — Drone Infrastructure Inspection Grant Act
 - HR 884 — National Aviation Preparedness Plan Act
 - HR 5774 — Expediting Disaster Recovery Act
 - HR 1468 — Securities and Exchange Commission Real Estate Leasing Authority Revocation Act
 - HR 1066 — Wildfire Recovery Act
 - S 2293 — Civilian Reservist Emergency Workforce (CREW) Act
 - S 4205 — Planning for Animal Wellness (PAW) Act
 - S 442 — Bulb Replacement Improving Government with High-efficiency Technology (BRIGHT) Act
 - HR 7939 — Student Veteran Emergency Relief Act
 - HR 7846 — Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act
 - HR 7735 — Improving Access to the VA Home Loan Benefit Act
 - HR 5916 — Wounded Warrior Access Act
 - HR 8260 — Faster Payments to Veterans' Survivors Act
 - HR 5952 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 123 East Main Street, in Vergas, Minnesota, as the 'Jon Glawe Post Office.'
 - HR 5650 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16605 East Avenue of the Fountains in Fountain Hills, Arizona, as the "Dr. C.T. Wright Post Office Building."

- HR 5865 — A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4110 Bluebonnet Drive in Stafford, Texas, as the "Leonard Scarcella Post Office Building."

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Bloomberg: Prescription Drug Discount Coupons and Patient Assistance Programs (PAPs) - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RI49IHYCT1CO>
 - Axios: Hospitals mark up discounted cancer drugs as much as 11 times, report says - <https://www.axios.com/2022/09/13/hospitals-cancer-drugs-mark-up-report>
 - Roll Call: Biden touts new drug pricing law amid cancer, biotech push - <https://rollcall.com/2022/09/12/biden-touts-new-drug-pricing-law-amid-cancer-biotech-push/>
 - Inside Health Policy: Lawmakers Want Antibiotic Bill Passed By Year's End, But Path Is Unclear - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/lawmakers-want-antibiotic-bill-passed-year%E2%80%99s-end-path-unclear>
 - Modern Healthcare: Rebate walls may thwart biosimilar savings - <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/supply-chain/humira-biosimilar-savings-may-face-delays>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Providers spent \$44B on 340B drugs in 2021 - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/pharmacy/providers-spent-44b-on-340b-drugs-in-2021.html>
 - RealClearPolicy: The Democrats' Favorite Offset - https://www.realclearpolicy.com/articles/2022/09/13/the_democrats_favorite_offset_853094.html
- Nurse staffing
 - MedCity News: Small healthcare practices should be wary of letting the patient experience slip amid staffing shortages - https://medcitynews.com/2022/09/small-healthcare-practices-should-be-wary-of-letting-the-patient-experience-slip-amid-staffing-shortages/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&_hsmt=225856090&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-hAozIXfwtuQPtawS5sTuo-IlZKbnVoyg_fZujYIW8NkRMK1W4tLywv01snTkKC14-ScxgAEsSy6G3zo-Yt8z0owsAw&utm_content=225856090&utm_source=hs_email

- Skilled Nursing News: Why Skilled Nursing Operators Must Look Beyond Washington to Solve the Workforce Crisis - <https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/09/why-skilled-nursing-operators-must-look-beyond-washington-to-solve-the-workforce-crisis/>
- Becker's Hospital Review: PAs push for permanent expansion of practice authority - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-physician-relationships/pas-push-for-permanent-expansion-of-practice-authority.html>
- McKights Senior Living: Key senator pressures state survey agencies over staffing-related delays - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/key-senator-presses-state-survey-agencies-over-staffing-related-delays/>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - MedPage Today: 'Striking' Colon Cancer Data Spur Mid-Presentation Ovation at ESMO - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/meetingcoverage/esmo/100652>
 - MedPage Today: Colorectal Cancer Burden on the Rise in Developed Countries - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/gastroenterology/coloncancer/100657>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - American Hospital Association: U.S. celebrates millionth organ transplant - <https://www.aha.org/news/headline/2022-09-12-us-celebrates-millionth-organ-transplant>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Inside Health Policy: ACOs Urge CMS To Work With Lawmakers To Extend APM Bonuses - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/acos-urge-cms-work-lawmakers-extend-apm-bonuses>
 - Modern Healthcare: Medicare Advantage insurers brace for post-pandemic star ratings drop - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/insurance/medicare-advantage-star-ratings-declines-coming-post-covid?utm_source=modern-

[healthcare-am-tuesday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220912&utm_content=article-1-headline](#)

- Becker's Hospital Review: Study: Time-based billing leads to more reimbursement for longer patient visits - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/study-time-based-billing-leads-to-more-reimbursement-for-longer-patient-visits.html>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Study: Smaller hospitals less likely to comply with price transparency requirements - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/study-smaller-hospitals-less-likely-to-comply-with-price-transparency-requirements.html>
- McKnight's Senior Living: ACOs: Loss of quality bonus could disrupt value-based care model, physician recruitment - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/clinical-news/acos-loss-of-quality-bonus-could-disrupt-value-based-care-model-physician-recruitment/>
- RevCycleIntelligence: State Surprise Billing Laws Impact Out-of-Network Provider Charges - <https://revcycleintelligence.com/news/state-surprise-billing-laws-impact-out-of-network-provider-charges>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - McKnight's Senior Living: Government, private insurance should assume greater role in paying for long-term care: survey - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/government-private-insurance-should-assume-greater-role-in-paying-for-long-term-care-survey/>
 - McKnight's Senior Living: 100 long-term care experts to act on withering NASEM report - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/100-long-term-care-experts-to-act-on-withering-nasem-report/>
- Health equity-related items
 - Inside Health Policy: Inaugural ARPA-H Chief Hopes To Spur Equitable Access To New Cures - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/inaugural-arpa-h-chief-hopes-spur-equitable-access-new-cures>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Public Charge Final Rule Published, Pursues Health Equity For Immigrants - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/public-charge-final-rule-published-pursues-health-equity-for-immigrants>