HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: September 15, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Sarah A. L. Merriam to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 2nd Circuit. At 11:30, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Merriam nomination. At 1:45 p.m., the Senate will vote on confirmation of the nomination of David P. Pekoske to be administrator of the Transportation Security Administration.
  
  - Nominations:
    - Sarah A. L. Merriam to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 2nd Circuit.
    - David P. Pekoske to be administrator of the Transportation Security Administration
  
- The House reconvenes at noon for legislative business. The House is expected to complete consideration of a bill (HR 2988) that would prohibit retaliation against employees who share information with Congress and a bill (HR 8326) that would modify requirements of the Census Bureau. The chamber is also expected to consider a bill (HR 302) that would bar the creation of newly created schedules within the excepted service.

  - Bills:
    - HR 8326 — Ensuring a Fair and Accurate Census Act
    - HR 302 — Preventing a Patronage System (PPSA) Act
    - HR 2988 — Whistleblower Protection Improvement Act

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
  


- Nurse staffing

- **Skilled Nursing News**: A ‘Painful Couple of Years’ Ahead For Operators as Nurses Say Workforce Crisis Hasn’t Improved - [https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/09/a-painful-couple-of-years-ahead-for-operators-as-nurses-say-workforce-crisis-hasnt-improved/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e2f2f2d74a&mc_cid=e2f2f2d74a&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/09/a-painful-couple-of-years-ahead-for-operators-as-nurses-say-workforce-crisis-hasnt-improved/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=e2f2f2d74a&mc_cid=e2f2f2d74a&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)


- Colon cancer-related items

- Organ donation and transplantation items
  - **Still looking for House Oversight report**

- Vison/dental care in Medicare-related items
  - **No new items**

- Physical rehabilitation

- Hospital and physician payment-related items
- Bloomberg: Biden Agencies Seek Input on Medical Benefit Statement Details - https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RI7YXDT1UM0W
- Bloomberg: House Backs Bill to Speed Approvals by Private Medicare Plans - https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RI7P64DWRGG0

- Nursing home quality initiative

- Health equity-related items