

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: September 2, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate meets in a pro-forma session.
- The House meets in a pro-forma session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Office of Senate Jeanne Shaheen (Press Release): Shaheen, Mayor Craig Lead Discussion on Health Care Wins for New Hampshire Included in the Inflation Reduction Act - <https://www.shaheen.senate.gov/news/press/shaheen-mayor-craig-lead-discussion-on-health-care-wins-for-new-hampshire-included-in-the-inflation-reduction-act>
 - Office of Representative Abigail Spanberger (Press Release): Spanberger Highlights Another New Report Demonstrating How the Inflation Reduction Act Will Lower Healthcare Costs for Virginia Families - <https://spanberger.house.gov/posts/spanberger-releases-new-report-showing-inflation-reduction-act-will-soon-lower-healthcare-costs-for-virginia-families-seniors-2>
 - Bloomberg: FDA Drug Center Faces Layoff Notices If User Fee Deal Stalls - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RHJDWSDWLU6B>
 - Inside Health Policy: Congress Might Add 'Clean' FDA User Fee Bill To Stopgap Funding To Buy Time - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/congress-might-add-%E2%80%98clean%E2%80%99-fda-user-fee-bill-stopgap-funding-buy-time>
 - Managed Healthcare Executive: Prescription Drug Costs a Worry for Consumers - <https://www.drugtopics.com/view/prescription-drug-costs-a-worry-for-consumers>
- Nurse staffing
 - Wall Street Journal: Service is Slow. Luggage is AWOL. Companies Struggle With an Influx of New Hires - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/employment-jobs-labor-shortage-inexperienced-workers-11662041163>
 - Skilled Nursing News: Skilled Nursing Occupancy Takes Slight Dip As Labor, Inflation Pressures Continue - <https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/09/skilled-nursing-occupancy-takes-slight-dip-as-labor-inflation-pressures->

[continue/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=603d964edd&mc_cid=603d964edd&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/newsletter/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=603d964edd&mc_cid=603d964edd&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3)

- Modern Healthcare: Hospitals reduce services over staffing concerns - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/operations/hospitals-reduce-services-over-staffing-concerns?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-friday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220901&utm_content=article4-headline
- McKnight's Senior Living: Nursing home telehealth use rose during pandemic, study finds - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/clinical-news/nursing-home-telehealth-use-rose-during-pandemic-study-finds/>
- Becker's Hospital Review: 15 programs investing in 'talent pipelines' to overcome staffing shortages - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/workforce/15-programs-investing-in-talent-pipelines-to-overcome-staffing-shortages.html>
- Becker's Hospital Review: Healthcare added 48K jobs in August - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/workforce/healthcare-added-48k-jobs-in-august.html>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - The Hill: Ultra-processed food linked with heightened risk of colorectal cancer in men - <https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/3623889-ultra-processed-food-linked-with-heightened-risk-of-colorectal-cancer-in-men/>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - The Hill: Watchdog: Feds should improve cybersecurity oversight of organ sharing network - <https://thehill.com/policy/healthcare/3623961-watchdog-feds-should-improve-cybersecurity-oversight-of-organ-sharing-network/>
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items

- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Limits on Prior Authorization Urged for Private Medicare Plans - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RHJLPYDWRGG2>
 - Healthcare Dive: New rural hospital designation still needs tweaks and more flexibility, stakeholders say - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/new-rural-hospital-designation-still-needs-some-tweaks-and-more-flexibility/630062/>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Payers' prices for services are emerging. How useful is that data? - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/uncategorized/home-page/payers-prices-for-services-are-emerging-how-useful-is-that-data.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Hospitals that share public health data will get better Medicare rates - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/ehrs/hospitals-that-share-public-health-data-will-get-better-medicare-rates.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Payers' prices for services are emerging. How useful is that data? - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/uncategorized/home-page/payers-prices-for-services-are-emerging-how-useful-is-that-data.html>
 - Becker's Hospital Review: Transparent Billing Builds Patient Satisfaction - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/transparent-billing-builds-patient-satisfaction.html>
 - Fierce Healthcare: MA plans to CMS: Controversial audit rule could wreck popular program if finalized - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/ma-plans-cms-controversial-audit-rule-could-wreck-popular-program-if-finalized>

- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Axios: Database for showing nursing home ownership has gaps, report says - <https://www.axios.com/2022/09/02/private-equity-ownership-nursing-homes-remain-murky>
 - McKnights Senior Living: New nursing home reform target: Emergency preparedness? - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/next-nursing-home-reform-target-emergency-preparedness/>
 - McKnights Senior Living: Staff perceptions, limited resources thwart nursing home care for substance abusers - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/staff-perceptions-limited-resources-thwart-nursing-home-care-for-substance-abusers/>
 - McKnights Senior Living: Joint Commission seeks feedback on proposed memory care certification in assisted living -

<https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/joint-commission-seeks-feedback-on-proposed-memory-care-certification-in-assisted-living/>

- Health equity-related items
 - Health Affairs: Outcomes-Based Approaches to Health Care Finance Can Address Unmet Needs - <https://www.healthaffairs.org/content/forefront/outcomes-based-approaches-health-care-finance-can-address-unmet-needs>