

## HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: September 20, 2022

### Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Florence Y. Pan to be a U.S. circuit judge for the D.C. Circuit. At 11:30, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Pan nomination. Following the vote, the Senate will recess until 2:15 p.m. for weekly caucus lunches. At 2:30, the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer motion to invoke cloture on the resolution of ratification for a treaty (TD 117-1) relating to the "Kigali Amendment" to the Montreal Protocol.
  - Treaties:
    - Treaty Doc 117-1 — Amendment to Montreal Protocol (“Kigali Amendment”).
  - Nominations:
    - Florence Y. Pan to be a U.S. circuit judge for the D.C. Circuit
- The House reconvenes at noon for legislative business. The chamber is expected to begin consideration of a bill (S 1098) that would allow borrowers to split federal student joint consolidation loans. The House is also expected to take final votes under suspension of the rules on 12 measures.
  - Bills:
    - HR 8453 — Upholding the Dayton Peace Agreement Through Sanctions Act
    - HR 6846 — Corruption, Overthrowing Rule of Law, and Ruining Ukraine: Putin's Trifecta (CORRUPT) Act
    - HR 7240 — READ Act Reauthorization Act
    - HR 8503 — Securing Global Telecommunications Act
    - HR 8520 — Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act
    - HR 7338 — Russia Cryptocurrency Transparency Act
    - HR 6265 — Countering Assad's Proliferation Trafficking And Garnering Of Narcotics (CAPTAGON) Act
    - H Res 558 — A resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization.
    - HR 1433 — Helen Keller National Center Reauthorization Act
    - HR 4009 — Georgetown Waterfront Enslaved Voyages Memorial Act
    - S 2490 — Blackwell School National Historic Site Act
    - HR 4358 — Little Manatee Wild and Scenic River Act

## Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
  - Office of Senator Dick Durbin (Press Release): Durbin Highlights Benefits Of Inflation Reduction Act On Senate Floor -  
<https://www.durbin.senate.gov/newsroom/press-releases/durbin-highlights-benefits-of-inflation-reduction-act-on-senate-floor>
  - Office of Representative Gregory Murphy (Press Release): Murphy, Miller-Meeks, Barragan, and Kuster Introduce Bill to Expedite Substitution Process for Pharmaceuticals, Lower Drug Prices -  
<https://gregmurphy.house.gov/media/press-releases/murphy-miller-meeks-barragan-and-kuster-introduce-bill-expedite-substitution>
  - AHIP: Why Are Cancer Drugs So Expensive? -  
<https://www.ahip.org/news/articles/why-are-cancer-drugs-so-expensive>
  - Forbes: Where To Find The Real Crisis In Clinical Research? Follow The Money -  
<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesbooksauthors/2022/09/19/where-to-find-the-real-crisis-in-clinical-research-follow-the-money/?sh=6e9a1d644935>
- Nurse staffing
  - Stat News: Expensive travel nurses: the new norm? -  
<https://www.statnews.com/2022/09/19/a-teaching-hospital-payout-humana-flirts-with-wall-street-and-new-dialysis-incentives/>
  - McKnight's Senior Living: House COVID-19 hearing will focus on nursing homes' crisis, future -  
<https://www.mcknights.com/news/house-covid-19-hearing-will-focus-on-nursing-homes-crisis-future/>
- Colon cancer-related items
  - MedPage Today: Closing Colorectal Cancer Screening Gaps With FIT Initiative -  
[https://www.medpagetoday.com/meetingcoverage/avaho/100801?xid=nl\\_mpt\\_DHE\\_2022-09-19&eun=g2129323d0r&utm\\_source=Sailthru&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Daily%20Headlines%20Evening%202022-09-19&utm\\_term=NL\\_Daily\\_DHE\\_dual-gmail-definition](https://www.medpagetoday.com/meetingcoverage/avaho/100801?xid=nl_mpt_DHE_2022-09-19&eun=g2129323d0r&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20Headlines%20Evening%202022-09-19&utm_term=NL_Daily_DHE_dual-gmail-definition)
- Organ donation and transplantation items
  - Still looking for House Oversight report

- No new items
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
  - Inside Health Policy: New Resource Tracks Medicaid Adult Dental Coverage - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/new-resource-tracks-medicaid-adult-dental-coverage>
- Physical rehabilitation
  - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
  - Washington Post: Democrats are pushing to avoid a Medicaid cliff for new moms - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/09/19/democrats-are-pushing-avoid-medicaid-cliff-new-moms/>
  - Modern Healthcare (Opinion): 'Gold card' approach streamlines burdensome prior authorization - [https://www.modernhealthcare.com/opinion/rep-michael-burgess-transition-toward-value-and-quality-system?utm\\_source=Newsletter-Alerts\\_1663626863&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=RaR](https://www.modernhealthcare.com/opinion/rep-michael-burgess-transition-toward-value-and-quality-system?utm_source=Newsletter-Alerts_1663626863&utm_medium=email&utm_content=RaR)
  - Modern Healthcare (Opinion): The imperative of reimagining the healthcare payment model - <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/opinion/healthcare-payment-model-suzanne-delbanco-ellen-kelsay>
  - Becker's Hospital Review: 5 reactions to the passage of the House prior authorization reform bill - <https://www.beckerspayer.com/payer/5-reactions-to-the-passage-of-the-house-prior-authorization-reform-bill.html>
  - Fierce Healthcare: Urban Institute: Spending cuts not enough alone to shore up Medicare hospital trust fund - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/urban-institute-spending-cuts-not-enough-alone-shore-medicare-hospital-trust-fund>
- Nursing home quality initiative
  - No new items
- Health equity-related items
  - Stat News: Hospital financing in black and white - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/09/20/hospital-financing-in-black-and-white/>

- Becker's Hospital Review: Healthcare system gas emissions cost 98,000 lives each year, House committee says - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/strategy/healthcare-system-gas-emissions-cost-98-000-lives-each-year-house-committee-says.html>
- Fierce Healthcare: FDA plans advisory committee meeting to discuss racial bias built into pulse oximeters - <https://www.fiercebiotech.com/medtech/fda-plans-advisory-committee-meeting-discuss-racial-bias-pulse-oximeters>
- Hospital merger news
  - Wall Street Journal: Judge Rejects Antitrust Challenge to UnitedHealth Acquisition - [https://www.wsj.com/articles/judge-rejects-antitrust-challenge-to-unitedhealth-acquisition-11663627930?mod=hp\\_list\\_pos1](https://www.wsj.com/articles/judge-rejects-antitrust-challenge-to-unitedhealth-acquisition-11663627930?mod=hp_list_pos1)
  - Fierce Healthcare: In a blow to DOJ, judge allows UnitedHealth-Change Healthcare merger to move forward - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/payers/blow-doj-judge-allows-unitedhealth-change-healthcare-merger-move-forward>