

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: September 8, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convened at 10 a.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Andre B. Mathis to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 6th Circuit. At 11:30, the Senate will vote on confirmation of the Mathis nomination. At 1:45 p.m., the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer, D-N.Y., motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Salvador Mendoza, Jr. to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 9th Circuit.
 - Nominations:
 - Andre B. Mathis to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 6th Circuit.
 - Salvador Mendoza, Jr. to be a U.S. circuit judge for the 9th Circuit.
- The House is not in session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Stat News: Launch prices: tackling the next drug pricing challenge - <https://www.statnews.com/2022/09/08/launch-pricing-post-inflation-reduction-act-drug-pricing-challenge/>
 - Inside Health Policy: White House Okay With Attaching User Fees To Continuing Resolution - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/white-house-okay-attaching-user-fees-continuing-resolution>
 - RevCycleIntelligence: Most of Premium Dollar Used for Prescription Drugs, Medical Services - <https://healthpayerintelligence.com/news/most-of-premium-dollar-used-for-prescription-drugs-medical-services>
- Nurse staffing
 - Fierce Healthcare: Many nurses still eyeing an exit as pandemic frustrations persist, survey finds - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/many-nurses-still-eyeing-exit-pandemic-frustrations-linger-survey-finds>
 - McKnight's Senior Living: 'Significant' drop in residential care aide workforce during pandemic raises questions about future growth: PHI - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/significant-drop-in-residential-care-aide-workforce-during-pandemic-raises-questions-about-future-growth-phi/>

- McKnights Senior Living: \$1.2 billion healthcare worker bonus program targets employee retention - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/1-2-billion-healthcare-worker-bonus-program-targets-employee-retention/>
- Colon cancer-related items
 - Fierce Healthcare: ESMO: Mirati plays the hits, posting colorectal KRAS data that mirror results reported to fanfare last year - <https://www.fiercebiotech.com/biotech/esmo-mirati-plays-hits-posting-colorectal-kras-data-mirror-results-reported-fanfare-21>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - No new items
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - McKnights Senior Living: Proposal addressing therapy ‘double-whammy’ could net system savings - <https://www.mcknights.com/news/proposal-addressing-therapy-double-whammy-could-net-system-savings/>
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - American Medical Association: Proposed 2023 physician pay schedule deepens Medicare’s instability - <https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/medicare-medicaid/proposed-2023-physician-pay-schedule-deepens-medicare-s>
 - Bloomberg: Watchdog Scrutinizes Medicare Telehealth Billing During Pandemic - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RHUVJPT0G1KW>
 - Bloomberg: Employer Group Touts ‘Playbook,’ Data to Broker Hospital Prices - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RHUX0MT0AFB4>
 - Politico: Insurers must now reveal their prices, but consumers aren’t benefitting yet - <https://www.politico.com/newsletters/future-pulse/2022/09/07/insurers-must-now-reveal-their-prices-but-consumers-arent-benefiting-yet-00054948>

- Health Leaders: These 4 Steps Are Key To A Successful Value-Based Payment Strategy - <https://www.healthleadersmedia.com/finance/these-4-steps-are-key-successful-value-based-payment-strategy>
- Inside Health Policy: Biden Calls For Medicare, Medicaid Riders To Continuing Resolution - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/biden-calls-medicare-medicaid-riders-continuing-resolution>
- Modern Healthcare: End of federal support means big COVID-19 costs for insurers - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/payment/covid-19-vaccine-drug-costs-burden-healthcare-industry?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am-thursday&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20220907&utm_content=article-1-headline
- Becker's Hospital Review: States ranked by percentage of hospitals complying with price transparency law - <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/finance/states-ranked-by-percentage-of-hospitals-complying-with-price-transparency-law.html>
- Fierce Healthcare: Consumers say they are willing to pay more for healthcare services based on these factors, survey finds - <https://www.fiercehealthcare.com/providers/heres-what-healthcare-consumers-say-theyre-willing-pay-more>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Skilled Nursing News: Congresswoman Schakowsky: We Are Setting the Stage for 'Essential' Nursing Home Ownership Disclosures - https://skillednursingnews.com/2022/09/congresswoman-schakowsky-we-are-setting-the-stage-for-essential-nursing-home-ownership-disclosures/?euid=e0557ca2d3&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=11796c1ada&mc_cid=11796c1ada&mc_eid=e0557ca2d3
- Health equity-related items
 - Politico: Urban Medicare patients were more likely than rural ones to use telehealth during pandemic's first year - <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2022/09/urban-medicare-patients-were-more-likely-than-rural-ones-to-use-telehealth-during-pandemics-first-year-00055287>
- STI-related items

- Washington Post: Obamacare can't require coverage for some HIV drugs, federal judge rules - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2022/09/07/aca-hiv-drugs-religious-freedom-texas/>
- Inside Health Policy: Patients Say Ruling Threatens Coverage Of Preventive Services - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/patients-say-ruling-threatens-coverage-preventive-services>