

Session 4 – Live: Outside of the Healthcare Beltway - To reconcile or ‘not’ to reconcile the Budget?

Speakers:



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Lay of the Land in DC

- March 11: Congressional deadline to keep paying the bills and make sure the lights stay on
- SCOTUS
- Potential conference on U.S. competitiveness legislation
- It's UFA season! (GDUFA, PDUFA, MDUFA, BsUFA)

Impact of Ukraine

- Consuming attention in Congress and Executive Branch
- Implications for how – and when – Congress reaches a final FY22 funding agreement
 - Defense vs. non-defense parity
 - Hitching a ride on a Democrat-led bill
- ...What about COVID-19?

Congress' Next Moves

Is BBB DOA?

Is there *anything* both sides of the aisle agree on?

- Lower OOP drug costs for seniors (Part D redesign)
- Supply chain sustainability and strengthening domestic manufacturing
- Public health and medical preparedness (PREVENT Pandemics Act)

Congress' Next Moves

But the award for one of 2022's most promising areas for legislative action goes to:

TELEHEALTH

- Significance of Public Health Emergency (PHE) extensions
 - 60-day countdown watch
 - Several bipartisan, bicameral bills in Congress

Potential Medicare Vehicles To Watch

- Senate Finance Committee: mental health package, telehealth working group
- Extending Medicare telehealth flexibilities in Cures 2.0
- CY23 Physician Fee Schedule (CY22 proposed rule released July 2021)
- Spending and “must-pass” bills

2022 Midterm Elections

- [Graphic showing inverse relationship] Longer campaign season = shorter legislative agenda
- More isn't always better: 31 Democrats vs. 15 Republicans call it quits this cycle
- Setting the stage for a lame duck agenda, a.k.a. this year's legislative Christmas tree

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