

Congress' Health Care Timetable for remainder of 2009

This timetable will shift as other issues come into play, but at least this provides an idea of current Congressional intentions and the expected timing.

Please note the recesses and the suggestion that you begin now with invitations for a visit to your facility.

June 1 to June 29:

- Senate committees should approve (“mark up”) their versions of health care reform. This is the start of the legislative process.
- The House committees should move a product during this calendar block. The House versions will be more aggressive than the Senate version, and, if health care is to pass, the final product will look more like the Senate version.

July 6 to August 3 (House) or August 10 (Senate):

- Full Senate should approve health care reform.
- Full House should approve its bill.
- ***Congressional recess June 29 – July 3 consider inviting your US Senators or Congressman to visit your facility)***

August 3 (House) or August 10 (Senate) to September 4:

- ***Congressional Recess (consider inviting your US Senators or Congressman to visit your facility)***

September 8 to November 20:

- Conference Committee may be necessary to work out the differences in the two bills and then each chamber must approve before the final product before it goes to President Obama to sign.
- Congress would like to adjourn at the end of October, but it rarely hits that target date in an off-election year.

- Congress should wrap up its legislative business for the first session of the 111th. Congress. If it doesn't, it will return after Thanksgiving and finish before leaving for Christmas.