Good morning! It’s Madyson Fitzgerald here with Stateline Daily. We’re already at this week’s halfway mark, so let’s keep it going.

Private equity-owned health care companies are focused on generating robust profits for investors. Typically, they want to cut costs, increase cash flow, use debt to fund expansion and then sell within a few years for maximum profit. In health care, critics say, that business model can diminish the quality of care — particularly in more lightly regulated industries such as home care and hospice care, Anna Claire Vollers reports.

Check out the second story in our series examining private equity’s impact on health care and the ways that states are responding. Don’t forget to send this email to a co-worker so they can subscribe, too.

The Stateline Team

FEATURED STORY

Private equity’s growing footprint in home health care draws scrutiny

Patrick Semansky/The Associated Press

While much of the negative attention on private equity’s foray into health care has focused on hospitals and nursing homes, many private equity firms have turned their sights on the lucrative — and often less heavily regulated — home care industry.

WHAT WE’RE READING

DRIVER’S LICENSES: Transgender people in Florida can no longer obtain a driver’s license that reflects their gender identity. The new policy treats “misrepresenting one’s gender, understood as sex, on a driver license” as fraud punishable by civil and criminal penalties and cancellation, suspension or revocation of the license, the Florida Phoenix reports.

TRUMP ON THE BALLOT: In a unanimous, bipartisan vote, the Illinois State Board of Elections rejected a challenge to former President Donald Trump’s place on the state’s GOP primary ballot, saying it lacked the authority to decide whether he was disqualified from holding the presidency under the U.S. Constitution’s “insurrection clause,” the Chicago Tribune reports.

LEGACY ADMISSIONS: Legislation banning Virginia’s public colleges and universities from providing special treatment in admissions decisions to students related to alumni and donors is on track to head to Republican Gov. Glenn Youngkin later this session, the Virginia Mercury reports. The Virginia House joined the Senate in passing the proposal on a unanimous vote.
SOCIAL MEDIA: Nevada Attorney General Aaron Ford, a Democrat, announced his office had filed civil lawsuits against TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and Messenger. The lawsuits were filed over allegations that algorithms used by the platforms were "designed deliberately to addict young minds and prey on teenagers' well-understood vulnerabilities," according to The Nevada Independent.

BASIC INCOME PROGRAM: Washington state Democrats want to give 7,500 low-income state residents recurring cash payments for two years, no strings attached, the Washington State Standard reports. The Evergreen Basic Income Pilot Program would pay qualifying participants a monthly amount equal to the fair market rent for a two-bedroom apartment where the participant lives.

MORE STATE NEWS

WI: Wisconsin governor vetoes Republican legislators' maps proposal | wisconsinexaminer.com
MA: 6 people, including former and current Massachusetts state police officers, charged in bribery scandal | wbur.org
MO: Missouri Republicans filibuster in hopes of making it harder for voters to amend constitution | annnews.com
NC: North Carolina Department of Public Instruction asks for summer meal sponsors | ncregister.com
UT: Critics say Utah bill prioritizes hunting access over money for schools | utahinvestigative.org
HI: Hawaii legislators target deepfake political messaging | staradvertiser.com
ME: Maine House passes proposal expanding privacy protections for electronic devices | mainemomnews.com
CA: Business groups sue California to block climate disclosures | wsj.com
OH: Ohio Senate president appeals deposition in private school voucher lawsuit | ohiocapitaljournal.com
NM: New Mexico governor unveils 50-year water action plan | sourcemm.com
ID: Idaho bill to arm teachers is on hold for now | idahodaily.com
PA: Pennsylvania governor unveils economic development plan | pennacapital-star.com

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Hollowed Out: 'Shell game': When private equity comes to town, hospitals can see cutbacks, closures

Nearly 400 U.S. hospitals are owned by private equity investors, representing 1 out of every 3 for-profit hospitals. When private equity takes over, hospitals sometimes see closures and cutbacks. Read the first part of Stateline's Hollowed Out series here.

Thanks so much for reading today's edition of Stateline Daily. Enjoy your Wednesday!