

Media Recap

July 2026

Summary

Media coverage of the Health Connector in July 2026, focused primarily on compounding affordability challenges and severe workforce stability risks driven by federal rulings. State leaders and health care advocates highlighted “excessive” premium hikes as evidence of an ongoing affordability crisis, exacerbated by broader national trends of rising Marketplace premiums and sagging enrollment. Simultaneously, local coverage reflected developments regarding new Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) rules and Medicaid work requirements sparked legal clashes, raising concerns that millions nationwide could lose Medicaid coverage and further stress state funding mechanisms.

On July 20, 2026, the Health Connector was excited to announce the appointment of Dr. Jonathan Gruber to the health economist seat of its Board of Directors. Dr. Gruber, the Ford Professor of Economics at MIT and a key architect of the 2006 Massachusetts health care reform law, served as an inaugural member of the Board and returns at a time of significant federal change.

Health Connector Topics

	<u>How Much and Why ACA Marketplace Premiums Are Going up in 2027</u> Health System Tracker, July 8, 2026
	<u>Massachusetts Health Connector Announces Appointment of Dr. Jonathan Gruber to Health Connector Board of Directors</u> Massachusetts Health Connector Press Release, July 20, 2026
	<u>Massachusetts Negotiates \$72M in Rate Reductions, Rejects Fallon’s Rate Hike for 2027</u> Becker’s Payer Issues, July 23, 2026

Articles of Note

	<u>New Medicaid Work Rule Means More Opportunities to Lose Coverage</u> KFF Health News, July 6, 2026
	<u>Affordable Care Act Insurers Want More Premium Increases as Enrollment Sags</u> KFF Health News, July 8, 2026
	<u>Mass. Health Care Faces 'Crisis' After Supreme Court Ruling Ends TPS for Haitians</u> WGBH, July 8, 2026
	<u>New Rule Could Cost Millions of Medicaid Recipients Coverage: What to Know</u> Masslive.com, July 8, 2026
	<u>Facing Funding Losses, States Call Out Big Businesses with Employees on Medicaid</u> KFF Health News, July 15, 2026
	<u>Judge Pauses CMS Rule Reshaping ACA Marketplaces</u> Healthcare Finance, July 20, 2026
	<u>Regulators Approve Steep Health Insurance Premium Increase</u> SHNS, July 22, 2026
	<u>Mass. Insurance Commissioner Calls Status Quo 'Unacceptable' as Premiums Soar</u> <i>Boston Business Journal</i> , July 27, 2026
	<u>Medicaid Court Clash Kicks Off</u> Politico, July 28, 2026

Social Media Highlights

Most Engagements, Impressions & Reactions



Most Reach & Shares



Most Video Views



A LinkedIn post announcing the immediate appointment of Dr. Jonathan Gruber to its Board of Directors. An MIT economics professor and key contributor to both MA's 2006 health care reform and the Affordable Care Act, he previously served as an inaugural board member and returns to the organization.	A Facebook Post reminding the Health Connector is hosting a free, live webinar on August 12 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. titled "Preliminary Eligibility: What does it mean and what do you need to do?". Readers are encouraged to sign up and reserve their spot.	A Facebook post of a Spanish-language video, originally shared by <i>El Mundo Boston</i>, highlighting the mission of the Health Connector. It emphasizes the organization's commitment to ensuring that all residents have access to quality healthcare and directs users to our webpage to find and enroll in a health plan that fits their needs.
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