Week 5 Policymaking Assignment
(Answer the four prompts. Bullet points are fine.)

Name: Page Kennedy Class: POLI 330 Professor: Brian Fuss Date: June 7, 2026	
Name of Topic	Value-Based Care, Administrative Burden, and Productivity Pressures in U.S. Healthcare Delivery
Provide a brief background of the issues leading to the policy.	• The U.S. healthcare system historically operated under a fee-for-service model, where providers were reimbursed based on the volume of services delivered rather than patient outcomes. • This structure contributed to increased healthcare spending, fragmented care coordination, and inconsistent quality outcomes across populations. • In response, federal policy shifted toward vale-based care models, which link reimbursement to measurable outcomes such as quality indicators, patient satisfaction, and readmission rates (Centers for Medicare S Medicaid Services [CMS], n.d.). • These reforms were implemented through Medicaid and Medicare payment programs designed to improve care coordination, prevention, and population health outcomes. • Implementation has also increased reliance on performance metrics, documentation requirements, and productivity benchmarks, which can contribute to administrative burden and reduced time for direct patient care (CMS, n.d.). • The COVID-19 pandemic exposed and intensified existing healthcare system vulnerabilities, including staffing shortages, workforce strain, and increased patient acuity demands. • Following the pandemic, healthcare systems have continued efficiency-driven staffing and operational models, reflecting ongoing cost containment pressures

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