

January 19, 2018

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



A [bill](#) that may make it harder for physicians to dispense medication in Arizona's workers'

comp system was introduced in the Senate last week. The bill states that an insurance carrier is only responsible for payment of medications dispensed by a licensed pharmacist in a pharmacy setting. Additionally, the bill limits initial opioid prescriptions for workers' comp claimants to a 5-day supply.



On Tuesday, the Senate Commerce and Tourism Committee unanimously passed [SB 376](#), a bill to expand mental

health coverage to first responders under Florida's workers' comp statute. The bill would compensate first responders for lost wages related to mental injuries that do not have corresponding physical injuries.



The North Carolina Industrial Commission [released](#) proposed

guidelines for the prescribing of opioids. The guidelines limit initial daily opioid doses to 50 morphine equivalent doses (MED) and can not exceed a 5-day supply. If passed, the rule would go into effect May 1, 2018.



The Oklahoma legislature is considering several opioid related bills during the

2018 session. Among those are [SB 1075](#) that would limit initial opioid prescriptions to a 7-day supply and [SB 1080](#) which would require electronic prescribing for Schedules II-V prescriptions.





State of the States



Last week, the Texas Department of Insurance issued a proposed rule that would require prior authorization for all compound

medications in the state's workers' comp system. The proposal comes after significant discussions within TDI on the increased system costs associated with excessive prescribing of compound medications. TDI will hold a hearing in February on the topic.



SB 369 was introduced in the Indiana Senate at the start of 2018. The bill would require the adoption of the ODG workers'

comp drug formulary by January 1, 2019. Additionally, the bill would require all insurers issuing workers' comp policies in the state to use the ODG formulary for all Indiana policies.

Where in the U.S.A. is Danielle?

Danielle will be in Orlando, FL next week for IWP's National Sales Meeting.



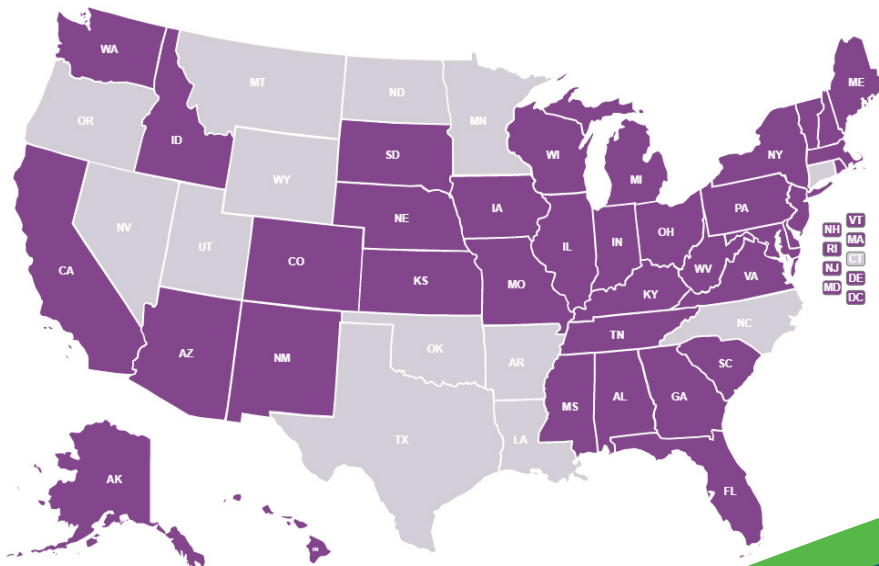
Article of Interest

The Washington Post explores the expansion of Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs across the country, as the opioid epidemic continues to expand.

States in Session

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Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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