

February 23, 2018

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



Kentucky

On Wednesday, after a lengthy debate, the Kentucky House voted 55-39 to pass [HB 2](#), a workers' comp reform bill. The bill calls for the adoption of a drug formulary by the end of this year and treatment guidelines by the end of 2019. The original bill was designed to make the state more appealing to employers, but several amendments were offered in the House that also expanded benefits to injured workers, including an increase in average weekly wages and an increased cap on attorney's fees. The bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.



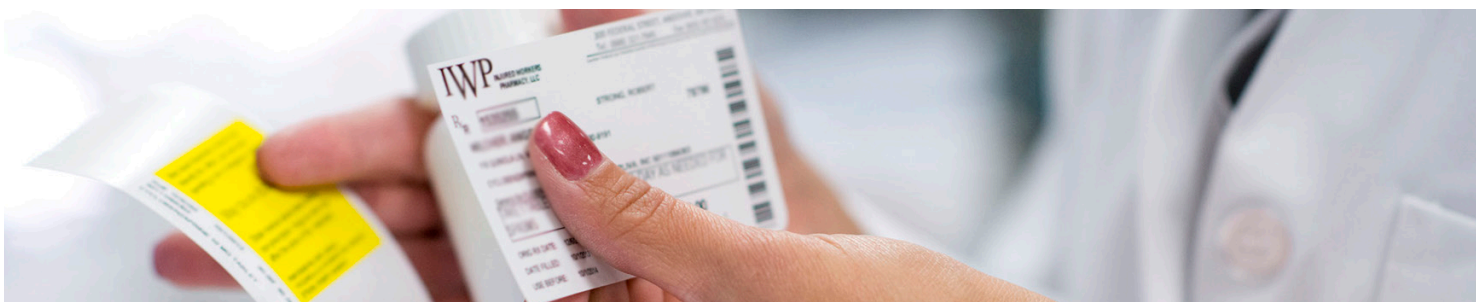
Louisiana

A new flash [report](#) from the Workers' Comp Research Institute found that a Texas-style drug formulary could save Louisiana upwards of \$2.3 million in workers' comp costs. The study, requested by the Louisiana Office of Risk Management, only examined state employee workers' comp claims and did not look at the impact of a drug formulary on overall outcomes. When the legislative session begins on March 12, it is expected a formulary bill will be introduced, marking the third year in a row a formulary has been attempted.



Florida

The Senate Banking and Insurance Committee voted 6-4 to pass [SB 1568](#), a bill that would close the loophole to deny undocumented workers their workers' comp claim. SB 1568 rewrites a 2003 law stating that an insurer may deny a workers' comp claim for false statements only when the statements are relevant to their eligibility for workers' comp benefits. The bill must still pass two committees before the Senate can vote on the measure.



State of the States



The Utah House unanimously passed [HB 288](#) late last week. The bill would impose a \$5,000 fine

on employers that interfere with an employee's ability to file a workers' comp claim or retaliate against an employee for filing a claim. On Wednesday, the Senate Business and Labor Committee made a favorable recommendation of the bill and it now awaits a full Senate vote.



[SB 1111](#), a bill that would place limits on reimbursement for medications dispensed outside of a

licensed pharmacy, is nearing a

vote in the Senate. This week, the bill was reported out of the Rules Committee and voted "yes" by both the Democrat and Republican Caucuses. It now awaits a full vote of the Senate before it can move to the House for consideration.



The bill that would adopt the ODG drug formulary for Indiana's workers' comp system is quickly moving through

the House of Representatives. [SB 369](#), which passed the Senate earlier this month, was voted out of the Committee on Employment, Labor and Pensions on Tuesday and now awaits a vote of the full House before it can be sent to the Governor for his signature.

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

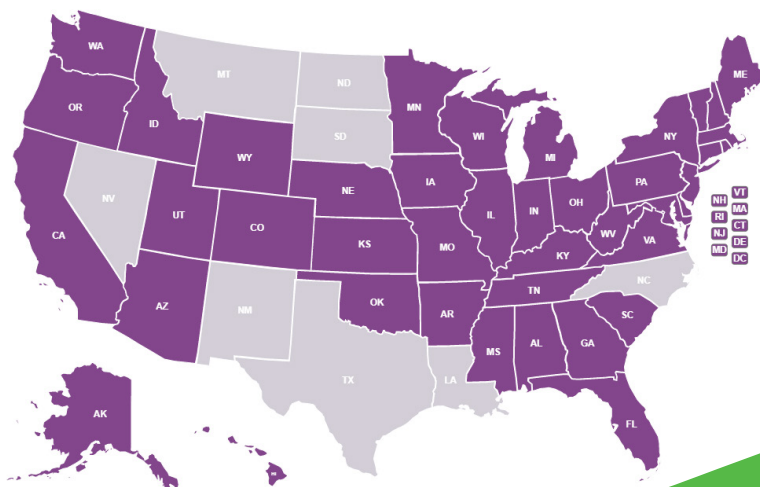
Danielle will be in D.C. for the National Governor's Association this weekend and in Annapolis, MD on Monday for legislative meetings.



States in Session

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■ In Session ■ Out of Session ■ In Special Session



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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