

February 16, 2018

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



The U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California [issued](#) a ruling that a GrubHub driver

is an independent contractor, not an employee under state law, therefore they are not qualified for workers' compensation. This is the first time the gig economy, think Uber and Lyft, has had a court decision issued on the matter of employment status; earlier challenges were settled out of court. The decision is expected to be challenged to the state supreme court.



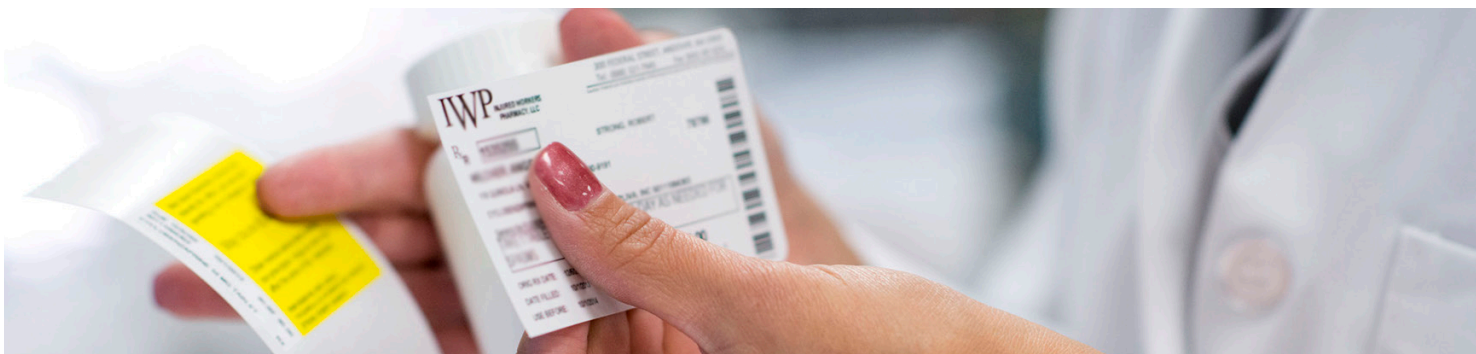
A new workers' compensation reform bill, [HB 2](#), has been introduced in the Kentucky House. The bill

would establish a drug formulary by December 31, 2018 and treatment guidelines by December 31, 2019. The sponsor of HB 2, Representative Koenig, introduced the bill in an effort to make Kentucky more employer friendly. Kentucky attempted to pass a similar workers' comp reform last year, but it failed to pass the Senate before the end of session.



This week there was an influx of opioid related legislation introduced in the California

legislature. In the Senate, [SB 1109](#) which requires labels that warn of addiction and overdose for all Schedule II controlled substance prescriptions and [SB 1103](#) which imposes heavier punishments equivalent to those applied to heroin and cocaine for fentanyl offenses. Over in the Assembly, [AB 2487](#) would require all prescribers to participate in opioid-dependent patient management courses.





State of the States



A [bill](#) that would make it easier for first responders to receive mental health benefits under the workers' comp statute is making its way through the Florida House. The bill was unanimously passed by the Government Operations and Technology Appropriations Subcommittee, the second House subcommittee to unanimously vote in support of the measure. The bill now awaits full House consideration.



The 2018 Wisconsin Workers' Comp Advisory Council's proposed legislation, [SB 665](#), will not see a vote by the

legislature this year. The bill, which contains the adoption of a medical fee schedule, has been heavily opposed by hospital associations and other medical providers. The Senate Labor and Regulatory Reform Committee held a public hearing on the bill on Wednesday, but will not vote on it this session.



[HB 1416](#) was introduced in the Maryland House this week. The bill requires the use of electronic prescribing for all medications in Maryland by the end of 2018. [HB 1416](#) allows for one-year waivers for economic hardships and technology limitations. The mandate does not apply to prescriptions sent to out-of-state pharmacies.

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

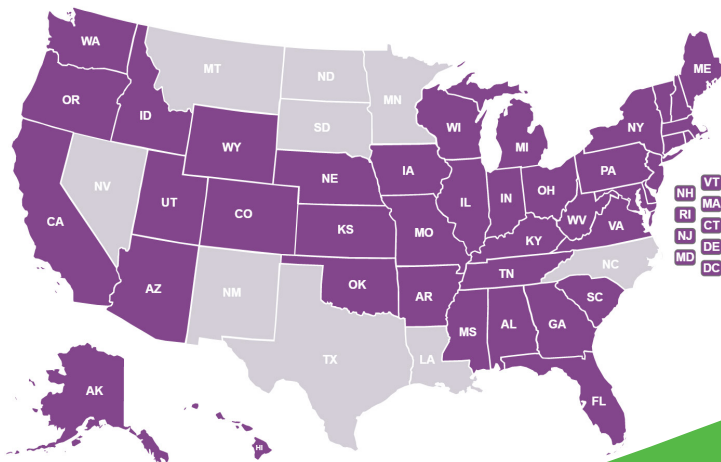
Danielle will be in the home office next week.



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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