

March 16, 2018

## Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

### State of the States



As the Oklahoma Supreme Court continues to strike down provisions from the state's 2013 workers' comp reform bill, another reform bill is making its way through the legislature. [HB 3277](#) makes several changes to the workers' comp statute, including setting the reimbursement rate for prescription drugs to 125% of the state's Medicaid fee schedule. Presently, the reimbursement rate is AWP – 10% plus a \$5 dispensing fee.



This week, the Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission [announced](#) the workers' comp drug formulary will be effective for all injuries occurring on or after July 1, 2018 and the formulary is mandated for all workers' comp outpatient medications. The formulary limits initial opioid prescriptions to a 5-day supply and 50 MEDs. The commission will begin hosting training sessions this month for all providers.



Virginia Governor Ralph Northam, signed [HB 558](#) into law late last week. The bill requires insurers to cover medical service provided outside of the state. Under the bill, if an injured worker receives medical treatment outside of Virginia, the fee schedule for the zip code of the employer's principal place of business will be used to reimburse the provider.



On Monday, a [bill](#) to require electronic prescribing for all medications in Maryland was withdrawn from consideration. Although the bill received a favorable fiscal analysis by the state, concerns over the ability to implement such a broad bill stalled its progress.





# State of the States



On Monday, [SB 376](#) was presented to Florida Governor Rick Scott for his signature.

The bill expands workers' comp coverage for first responders with PTSD, allowing them to collect medical and compensation benefits. The Governor is expected to sign the bill before the March 27 deadline.



The New York State Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) [released](#) their 2017 annual report this week.

While the percentage of claims overall has dropped in the state since 2013, the report found that the number of disputed claims has increased.

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

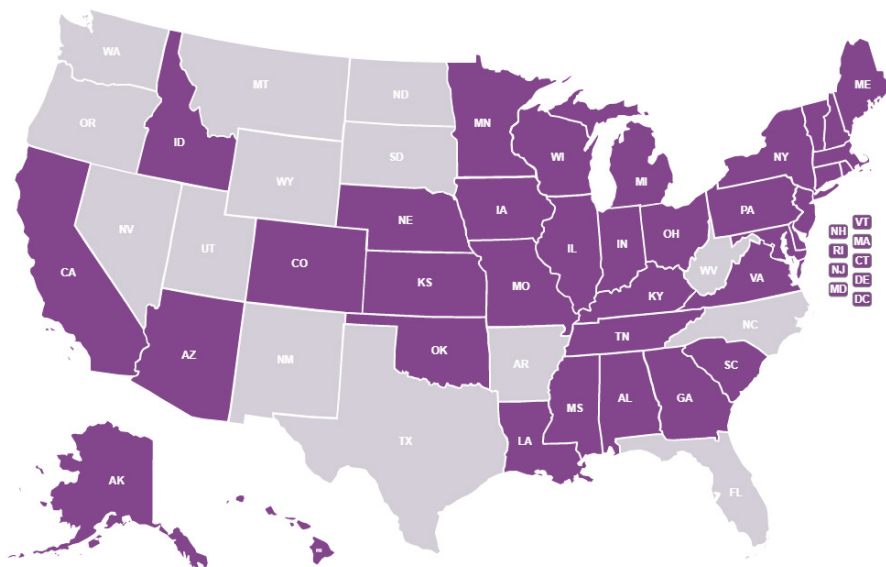
Danielle will be attending the Workers' Compensation Research Institute conference in Boston Thursday and Friday.



## 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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