

April 6, 2018

## Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

### State of the States



The New York state PDMP is now [sharing](#) information with 25 other states and the District of Columbia. Since 2013, physicians have been required to consult the state's PDMP before prescribing opioid prescriptions. New York aims to reduce the impact of the opioid epidemic with the increased data, allowing their PDMP to cover approximately 150 million patients.



Connecticut is taking its fifth attempt at providing PTSD coverage for

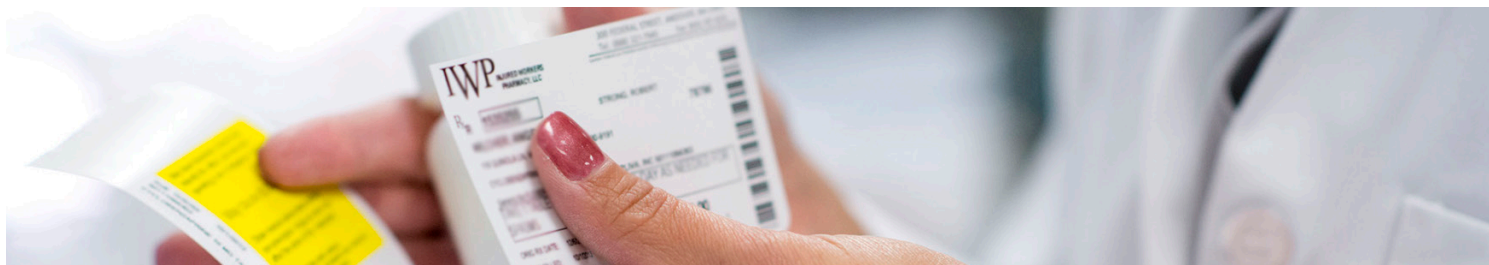
first responders during the 2018 legislative session. Senator Cathy Osten [announced](#) her plan to introduce legislation that would provide workers' comp coverage, including medical expenses and lost wages, for on-the-job related mental problems in first responders.



The House Committee on Health and Welfare voted 7-4 to report [HB 548](#) out of committee. The bill mandates the use of electronic prescribing for all opioids by January 1, 2020. The bill now awaits consideration by the full House.



A new [nationwide](#) crackdown by the Drug Enforcement Administration has led to the arrest of 28 prescribers and pharmacists and the revocation of 147 licenses. The effort comes as the DEA is targeting the illegal use and distribution of opioids after a review by Attorney General Jeff Sessions of over 80 million drug transactions.



# State of the States



Pennsylvania

On Wednesday, Governor Wolf extended his opioid disaster declaration for another 90 days. In

January, Governor Wolf made the declaration which waives certain regulations and protocols to better direct resources to the opioid epidemic. Governor Wolf has asked for improvements to the state's PDMP and is working with legislators on more initiatives.

opioids. The bill also requires the Industrial Commission to study the dispensing of medications "in settings that are not accessible to the general public," including physician dispensed medications, and make recommendations about adoption of additional reimbursement guidelines.



Texas

On Tuesday, the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation

released a memo calling for input on the development of an Opioid Plan-Based Audit program. The audit would review a selection of physicians who prescribe opioids and determine the appropriateness of the provider's decision-making and recordkeeping processes.



Arizona

Late last week, Governor Ducey signed SB 1111 into law. The bill requires workers' comp

doctors to perform physical exams and conduct a substance-abuse risk assessment before prescribing

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

Danielle will be in Arizona for legislative meetings next Tuesday and Wednesday.



Massachusetts

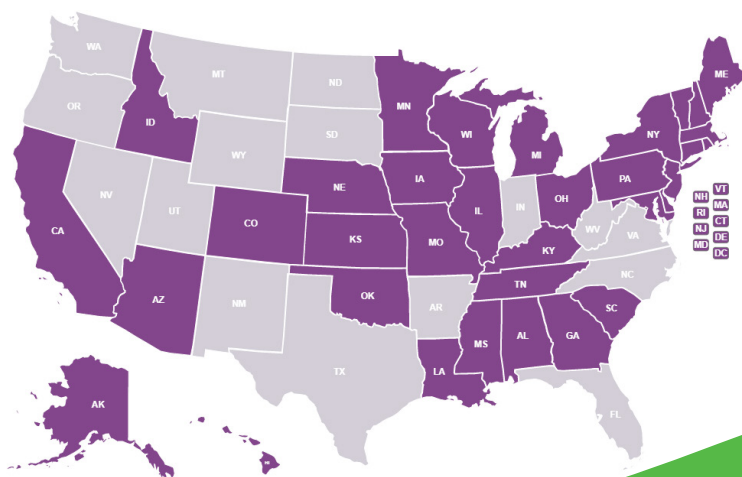


Arizona

## 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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