

### State of the States



The new Florida Attorney General, Ashley Moody (R), is **pushing** for the passage of a bill that would

allow information from the state's PDMP to be used in litigation against pharmacies. Currently the law states that PDMP records are "informational" only and cannot be used for civil or administrative actions against prescribers or dispensers. Moody is seeking to further her lawsuits against big pharmacy chains Walgreens and CVS, whom the AG's office is accusing of ignoring red flags and failing to implement adequate safeguards in the race to sell as many opioids as possible.



New Hampshire is attempting to pass a bill that would allow injured workers with a partial

disability to collect workers' comp indefinitely, similar to how total disability works. The bill faces strong opposition from insurers and employers because it would likely increase costs from 5 to 30 percent. Workers' comp attorneys argue the change only impacts a small number of individuals and would have a minimal impact on the market.



On Monday, Governor Jared Polis (D) signed SB 19-079 into law. The new law mandates the

use of electronic prescribing for all controlled substance prescriptions beginning July 1, 2021 for physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, and optometrists. Dentists and practitioners in rural communities will be required to comply by July 1, 2023.



This week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration **issued** a Drug Safety Communication warning health care providers to not abruptly discontinue opioid treatment for patients. Among the information shared is guidance for prescribers on how to safely decrease opioid doses for patients who are physically dependent on the medication.

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On Monday, the Kentucky Department of Workers' Compensation issued the final regulations for

the state's new drug formulary. On July 1, 2019, the state will begin enforcing the ODG formulary on workers' comp claims. Under the regulations, "N" drugs, non-listed medications, and all compounds will require preauthorization.



Missouri continues to slowly creep towards adopting a prescription drug monitoring program. HB 188 would require the adoption of a program to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of Schedule II, III, and IV controlled substances beginning January 1, 2022. After a public hearing, the bill was voted out of the Fiscal Oversight Committee.



Last week, a
bill to make
PTSD an
occupational
disease for first
responders
was filed in the

North Carolina House. Under the bill, PTSD would need to be diagnosed within a year of a traumatic event by a licensed and authorized psychiatrist. The bill is currently with Committee on Judiciary.

■ In Session □ Out of Session □ In Special Session

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

Danielle will be in the home office next week.



# Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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978.770.8047

#### **Article of Interest**

An **examination** into Tesla's efforts to avoid workers' comp claims by pressuring on-site doctors to downplay workers injuries.

### **States in Session**

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