

August 11, 2017

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



This week, the state Supreme Court received a petition to review the constitutionality of the state's

workers' comp statute that lets government entities direct care for injured workers. The petition argues that denial of the right to choose a treating physician is an equal protection violation because there is no basis in law or fact that indicates a government entity is more likely to have a provider network to treat an injured worker than a private employer. The Court has not yet announced if it will hear the case.



The Wisconsin State Finance Office released new analysis of AB 434, a bill that would create

a presumption that a PTSD diagnosis in a first responder is a compensable injury under the state's workers' comp statute. The analysis found that it could create "extensive" liability for state and local governments. The Division of Workers' Compensation made similar findings in an analysis earlier this year.



The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has proposed a 20 percent reduction in opioid production in the U.S. for 2018. The DEA cited reduced opioid demand thanks to prescription drug monitoring programs, prescribing guidelines, and additional educational efforts by the federal government as the reason for the decrease. The DEA reduced opioid production by 25 percent in 2017.





State of the States



On Monday, the Department of Industrial Relations released proposals for 14 updates to

the state's Medical Treatment Utilization Schedule, including changes to the guidelines for opioids and chronic pain. The updates incorporate changes made to the treatment guidelines by ACOEM in preparation for the state's drug formulary implementation, scheduled for January 1.



The New Hampshire Attorney General filed a lawsuit against Purdue Pharma, the

maker of OxyContin, arguing they engaged in deceptive marketing practices and fueled the nation's opioid epidemic. The lawsuit is not the first of its kind, currently Oklahoma, Mississippi, Ohio, and Missouri have similar lawsuits filed against Purdue.

Where in the U.S.A. are Jayne & Danielle?

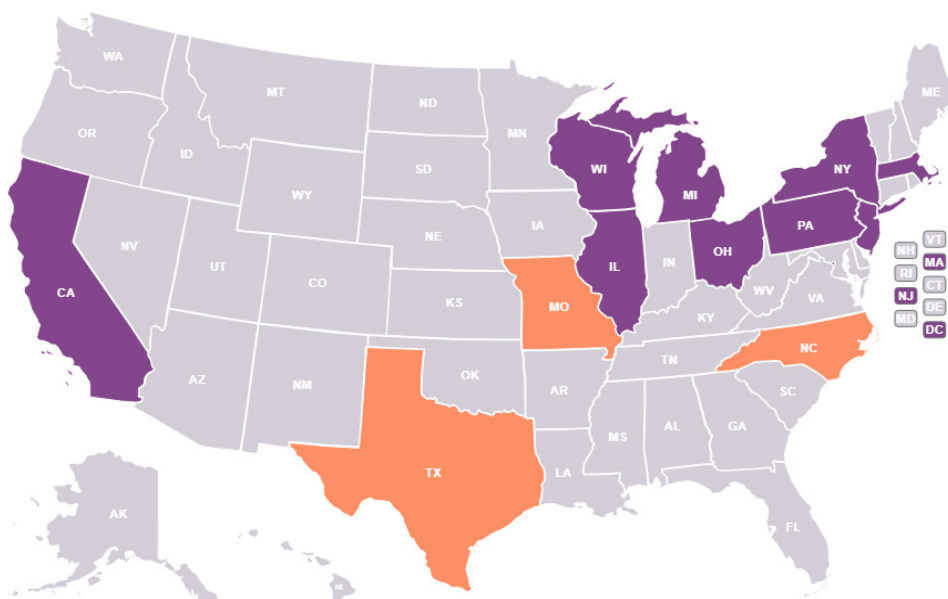
Jayne and Danielle will be in the home office next week.



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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