

September 8, 2017

## Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

### State of the States



On Wednesday, the Division of Industrial Relations held a public hearing on the proposed adoption of ACOEM medical

treatment guidelines. The Division hopes to adopt all treatment guidelines by the end of the year in anticipation of the implementation of the state's new drug formulary. At the hearing, speakers [urged](#) the DIR to reject some of ACOEM's treatment guidelines that would severely limit non-opioid options for the treatment of pain.



On Friday, the Senate Appropriations Committee voted [AB 40](#) out of committee. The bill requires the

state's PDMP system (CURES) to make available the full electronic history of controlled substance prescriptions dispensed to an individual. The bill authorizes, but does not require, practitioners and pharmacists to query the PDMP before writing or dispensing a controlled substance. AB 40 now awaits a vote by the full Senate.



A group of safety advocates have [petitioned](#) the Food and Drug Administration to ban opioid pills that, when taken as directed, add up to a daily dose above 90 MEDs. Some doctors are concerned that such a ban would lead to under-treatment of patients suffering from pain.





# State of the States



Under a year after the state adopted a 14.5% rate increase because of Supreme Court decisions that

increased attorney's fees, Florida is now recommending a 9.6% rate decrease for 2018. The rate reflects a decrease in claims over the last 2 years. The decrease relieves pressure on the legislator to attempt workers' comp reform again in 2018 after failing to pass anything in 2017, but stakeholders warn of increased rates in the future and urge the legislature to consider reforms sooner rather than later.



On Friday, the New York Workers' Compensation Board released proposed

changes to the state's impairment guidelines to address advances in medical treatment. The changes come as part of the implementation of the 2018 state budget bill which adopted workers' comp reforms, including the creation of a drug formulary. Labor and workers' comp attorneys strongly oppose the proposed changes. The Board is also expected to announce a formulary vendor this afternoon.

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

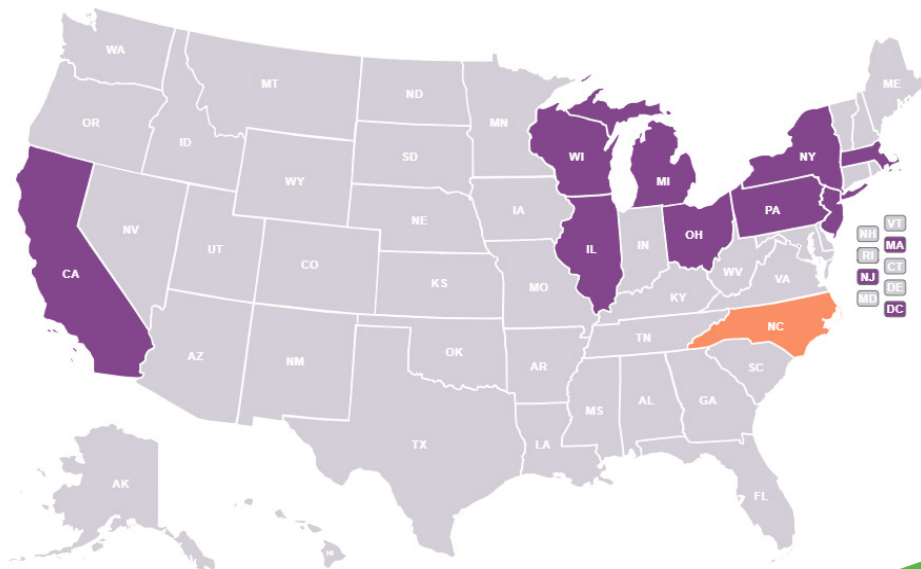
Jayne and Danielle will be in the home office next week.



## 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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