

October 6, 2017

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



Liberty Mutual Insurance has filed a [lawsuit](#) against 41 doctors, pharmacies, and pharmacists in Pennsylvania alleging the

doctors fraudulently prescribed pharmaceutical products and sent their workers' comp patients to pharmacies the doctors have financial interests in. The suit, seeking \$4.7 million, claims the participating doctors and pharmacists organized to create an "illicit revenue stream." The lawsuit, combined with last month's Philadelphia Inquirer investigation into attorney-owned

pharmacies continues to spark debate among legislators about unethical behavior in workers' comp.

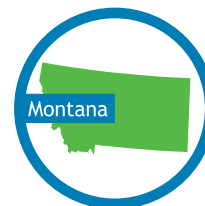


On Wednesday, the Wisconsin Workers' Compensation Advisory Council [voted](#) to approve their draft bill

language to be considered by the legislature in 2018. The proposal calls for the adoption of a fee schedule, [something](#) the Wisconsin Medical Society has strongly opposed. More often than not, the Advisory Council's bills are easily adopted by the legislature.



Over the weekend, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) [announced](#) their support for 7-day fill limits on opioids.



The Montana Labor-Management Advisory Council voted to [adopt](#) the ODG drug

formulary for the state's workers' comp system. The Employment Relations Division still has to issue regulations that address legacy claims, prior authorization procedure, and dispute resolution.





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On Tuesday, the Division of Workers' Compensation **announced** they would lift the dismissals of

2,794 liens that were dismissed by operation of law this past summer for potentially failing to file a declaration. Under a new law, all lien holders are required to include declarations that they are the proper party. On July 1, the rule went into effect causing the automatic dismissal of nearly 300,000 liens. The lift means those 2,794 liens will now go before an administrative law judge to determine their fate.




The Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission **released** an updated draft of the states

proposed drug formulary. Under the formulary, first time prescriptions for opioids will be limited to a 5-day supply and all opioid prescriptions will be limited to a 90-day maximum supply. If a doctor wishes to extend the use of opioids beyond 90 days, they must detail a plan that establishes follow-up visits, drug screens, and PDMP checks.

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

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



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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