

November 3, 2017

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



Last week, the majority of Democratic Assembly members in New York [sent](#) a letter to the

Chair of the New York State Workers' Compensation Board (WCB) opposing their draft impairment guidelines. The letter states that the WCB violated legislative directive by rewriting the guidelines when they were only tasked with revising. The legislators argue the proposed guidelines negatively impact injured workers, do not account for advances in modern medicine, and the WCB failed to consult with

stakeholders before issuing the draft. The Legislators urge the WCB to scrap the draft already issued and start again.



of six bills for the legislature to consider during the 2018 session. The package aims to curb the opioid epidemic through increased training of health care professionals, the creation of a 7-day fill limit, and required querying of the PDMP.

The bipartisan Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Interim Study Committee announced a [package](#)



On Wednesday, President Trump's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis [released](#) its list of 56 recommendations to the White House. Included in the list of recommendations is increased access to alternatives to opioids for pain treatment, required PDMP checks across the country, and required training for doctors in safe prescribing of controlled substances before renewing their DEA licenses.



State of the States



Groups representing Arizona's workers' comp insurers and businesses have begun work on a proposed

bill that would target opioids and physician dispensing in the state's workers' comp system. The groups are calling for opioid fill limits, increased education requirements for prescribers, and limited reimbursement for medications dispensed outside of a licensed pharmacy. The groups hope to have a formal bill considered during the 2018 legislative session, scheduled to begin January 8.



California Insurance Commissioner, Dave Jones, [called](#) on lawmakers to grant him authority to reject excessive

rates for workers' comp plans, authority he already has for auto, home and property insurance. His statement also asked the legislature to consider a requirement that insurers share cost savings with policyholders through lower rates as part of any reform bills they consider in 2018.

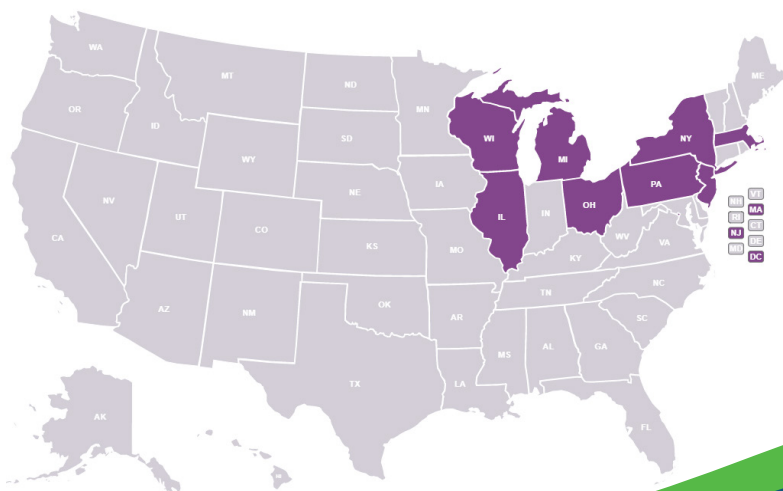
Article of Interest

[Why](#) are opioids such a problem for America but not other countries?

States in Session

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■ In Session ■ Out of Session ■ In Special Session



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

Jayne and Danielle will be in the home office next week preparing for the 2018 legislative session.



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

Jayne Kresac, Esq.
VP, Legal and Government Affairs
jkresac@iwpharmacy.com
www.iwpharmacy.com/about-iwp/government-affairs
978.809.2148

Danielle Jaffee, Esq.
Manager of Government Affairs
djaffee@iwpharmacy.com
www.iwpharmacy.com/about-iwp/government-affairs
978.770.8047

IWP

PO Box 338 Methuen, MA 01844

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