

December 8, 2017

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



With only a handful of days left in the 2017 session, House legislators are making a final push to pass [SB 936](#), a bill to establish a

workers' comp drug formulary. The bill remains in the House Labor and Industry Committee where it is expected to pass easily. However, the bill would still need to overcome several procedural motions on the floor of the House to make it to the Governor for his signature. The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO remains opposed to the bill, publishing an opinion piece on Wednesday arguing this workers' comp reform does not help workers.



A final version of the Arkansas' new workers' comp drug [formulary](#) was released last week. The formulary goes

into effect July 1, 2018, and removes payers financial responsibility for payment of opioid medications that exceed 50 MED per day or continue for more than 90 days without prior authorization. Even with prior authorization, opioid prescriptions will be capped at 90 MED and require review and approval every 90 days.



On Tuesday, the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee [passed](#) a significantly

amended version of SB 376, a bill to provide PTSD coverage for first responders under the workers' comp statute. The amended bill allows first responders to collect workers' comp for a mental injury, even without an accompanying physical injury. The amended bill also removed requirements that mass casualties be present at the triggering event and that first responders seek mental health treatment within 15 days of the triggering event. A final bill draft will need to be agreed on by the Senate before January 5 for consideration in the 2018 session.



State of the States



On Tuesday, the Ohio House of Representatives passed HB 380 to prohibit injured undocumented immigrants from filing workers' comp claims. In a rare sign of unity, business and labor both opposed the bill before the vote on Tuesday. It will now go to the Senate for consideration, but earlier this year, the House had passed similarly worded legislation which the Senate rejected.



The Minnesota Opioid Prescribing Work Group released its draft recommendations

for public comment. The recommendations include a 3-day fill limit and limit full prescriptions to 100 morphine equivalent doses for acute pain. This increase to a 7-day supply and 200 MEDs for the treatment of short-term pain following major surgery or a traumatic injury.



A new bill, A 5243, would allow the Board of Pharmacy to require pharmacist to check the PDM before dispensing certain Schedule IV and Schedule V controlled substances, as well as other controlled substances the board determines pose a risk, or potential risk, for abuse.

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

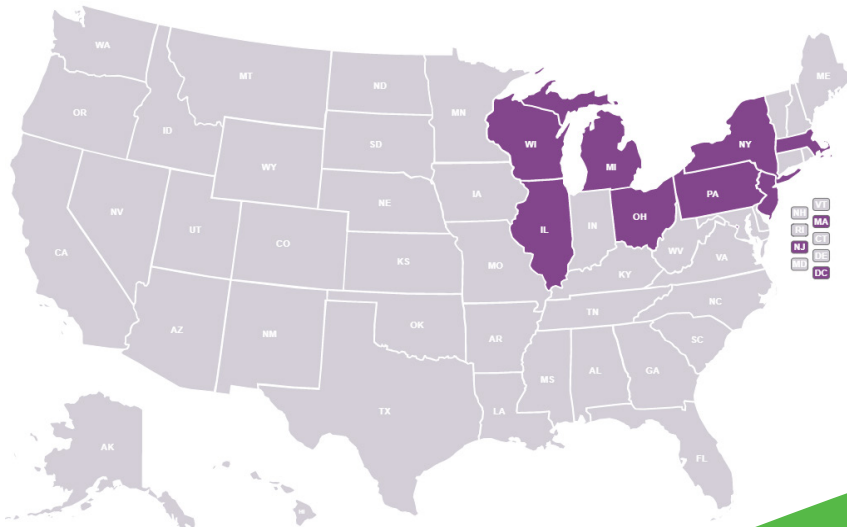
Danielle will be in the home office next week preparing for the 2018 legislative sessions.



States in Session

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Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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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