

April 21, 2017

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



On Wednesday, the House version of workers' comp reform, HB 7085, passed the House with a vote of

82-37. The bill will now go to the Senate for consideration. Meanwhile, the Senate's version of workers' comp reform, SB 1582, was voted out of its final committee and now awaits a full Senate vote. At the committee hearing, the sponsor of SB 1582, Representative Bradley, expressed willingness to work with members of the House to compromise on conflicting issues, which includes attorney fees. Currently, the Senate version allows for attorney fee deviations up to \$250/hour whereas the house caps fees at \$150/hour.



This week, the legislature continued its work on two opioid related bills.

AB 1512 creates a one (1) cent per milligram tax on all opioids (a similar tax is currently being considered by the U.S. Senate) and was amended this week to become effective January 1, 2018, if passed. Additionally, SB 419 was amended on Monday to require providers to discuss the risks and benefits of opioids with minors and their parents/guardians before issuing an opioid prescription to a minor. The provider is required to document the conversation and a pharmacist must review and verify the documentation before dispensing the opioid.



As the legislative session winds down, Missouri continues its push towards a Prescription Drug

Monitoring Program (PDMP) bill. The House passed the bill back in March, but during the Senate's review it was amended to create a requirement on prescribers to query the PDMP. The bill was sent back to the House this week where they promptly rejected the amendment. The House has requested a conference committee with the Senate to resolve differences and pass the bill before session concludes.





State of the States



A bill, [HB 1983](#) that would provide workers' comp coverage for post-traumatic stress disorder for police officers and firefighters, is moving through the Texas house. After a public hearing at the beginning of the month, the Business and Industry Committee voted 7-0 to pass HB 1983. The bill now awaits its next committee assignment.

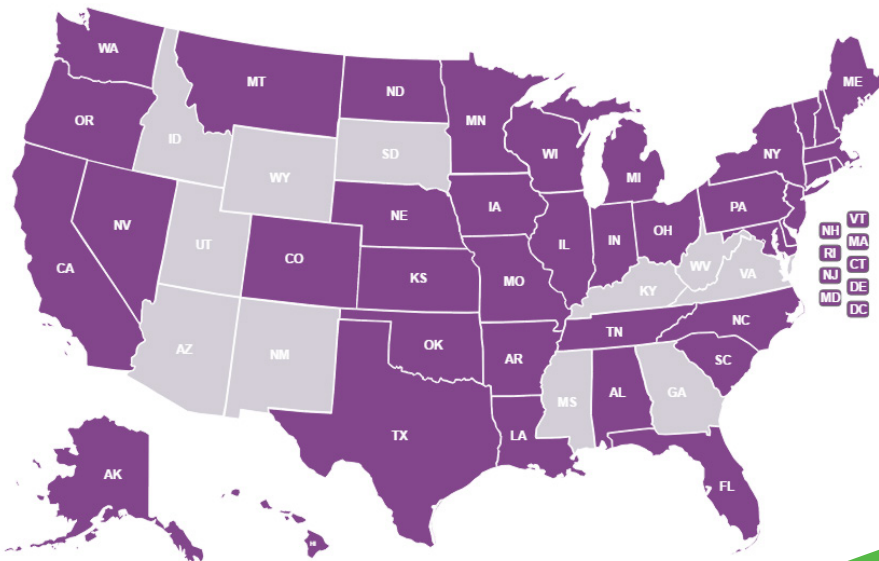


With a vote of 28-6, the Colorado Senate [passed](#) HB 1229 which provides workers' comp coverage of post-traumatic stress disorder in first responders. The bill, which passed the House back in March, will now go to the Governor for his signature.

Article of Interest

The New York Times [released](#) an interactive graph depicting just how bad the drug overdose epidemic has become in the United States.

States in Session



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

Jayne will be in the home office and Danielle will be in California for legislative meetings.



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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