

May 19, 2017

## Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

### State of the States



The judge that ruled the Alabama worker's comp statute unconstitutional has [issued](#) a

new order that stays his original ruling indefinitely until the legislature can act. This ruling will keep the statute in place until the legislature can address the unconstitutional elements, which include caps on attorneys' fees and weekly benefit amounts. The original ruling gave the legislature 120 days but they are set to adjourn at the end of this month and it was highly unlikely they could address such a complex issue in that time.



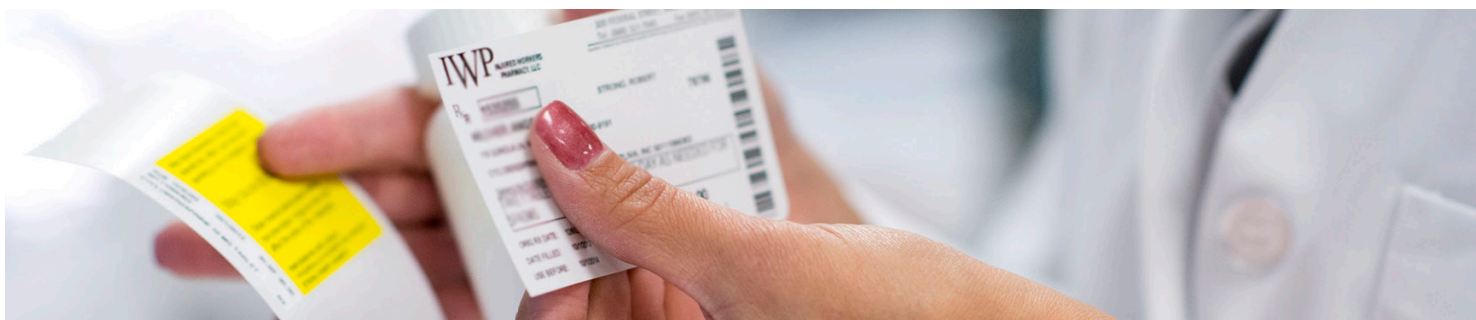
Senate Democrats have recommitted themselves to passing workers' comp reform in the face of a

continued budget stalemate. This week, Senators amended a bill that would adopt workers' comp reforms but would not be reliant on the other Grand Bargain bills to pass. [SB 198](#) would establish a Medicare based fee schedule for medical treatment and a closed drug formulary. The bill would still need to pass both houses before the end of session on May 31st.



Even with bipartisan support for a prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP), Missouri is

nearing the end of its legislative session and all PDMP bills have [stalled](#). The original Senate passed bill was rejected by the House, and a conference committee between the two tried to resolve the differences but the two Houses still remain far apart on certain issues. The session ends tonight.



# State of the States



Just two weeks after the public hearing on the proposed drug formulary, the Department

of Workers' Compensation announced it will be making changes to the proposal and open up another comment period. Among the changes made public is a delayed implementation that would postpone the effective date from July 1, 2017 to January 1, 2018.



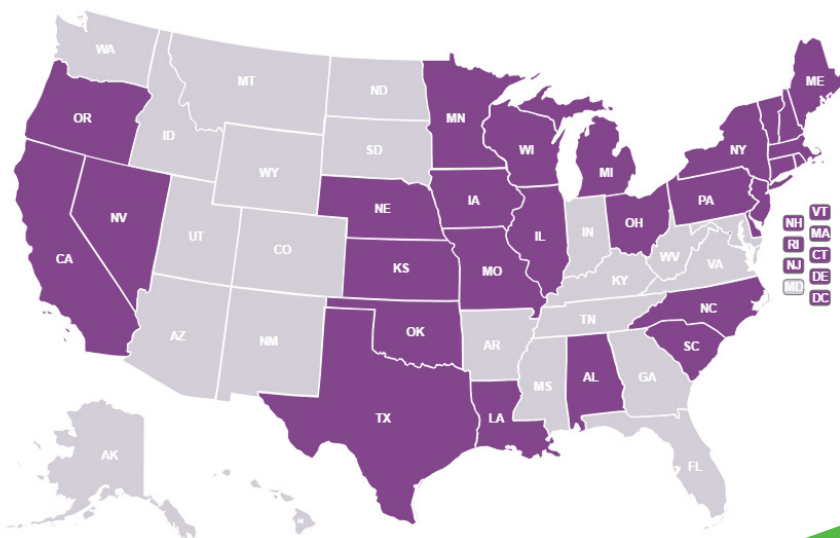
The Ohio House passed a workers' comp budget bill that also makes changes to the system.

Among some of the last minute amendments added to the bill is the elimination of benefits for undocumented immigrants and additional restrictions on a new law that would allow firefighters to collect workers' comp for certain cancers.

## Industry News

Express Scripts announced this week they are acquiring workers' comp PBM MyMatrixx.

## States in Session



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

Jayne will be in the home office and Danielle will be in Baton Rouge, LA for legislative meetings the first half of the week.



## Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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