

October 14, 2016

Weekly Legislative Wrap-Up

State of the States



The North Carolina Industrial Commission issued its **annual report**, and among

its recommendations to the legislature, the Commission calls on them to adopt a worker's compensation drug formulary for state employee claims. The full formulary report, which was sent to the legislature back in April, also asked permission to implement the formulary through the administrative process rather than through legislation, and expand the formulary to all workers' compensation claims.



Late last week the New York State Workers' Compensation Board released a **"discussion document"**

regarding the state's workers' compensation pharmacy benefit plan. The document provides several recommendations for the system, including the adoption of a drug formulary, limitations on compounded medications, and the use of Pharmacy Benefit Managers for the administration of a carrier's pharmacy benefit plan.



Article of Interest

A **recent study** found that although medication-assisted treatment for opioid addiction is highly successful, doctors qualified to provide it are only treating, on average, 13 patients a month. This makes it difficult for patients suffering from opioid addiction to find qualified doctors in more suburban and rural areas.





State of the States



The only state without a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) will **again** tackle

the issue in the 2017 session. Representative Holly Rehder announced this week she will pre-file a bill in December to create a PDMP to monitor patient's prescription refills. Representative Rehder was the sponsor of 2016's PDMP bill which passed the house but died in the Senate after a threatened filibuster over patient privacy concerns.



A new **report** issued by the Legislative study committee on substance abuse prevention

calls for daily reporting by South Dakota dispensers and a requirement that prescribers query the prescription drug monitoring program before writing a prescription for a controlled substance. The measure, if adopted by the legislature next session, would go into effect July 1, 2018.



A bill that would limit all prescriptions for opioids to seven days, with some exceptions, was introduced in the

Pennsylvania Senate this week. **SB 1349** is currently before the Senate committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.



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

Jayne will be in New Orleans for the National Association of State Controlled Substances Authorities conference, and Danielle will be in Florida for a political fundraiser.

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



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PO Box 338 Methuen, MA 01844

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