



March 1, 2019

State of the States



On Tuesday, Representative Kannady’s workers’ compensation **reform** bill finally faced consideration and a vote by the House Judiciary Committee. The substitute amendment, which removes the controversial pharmacy provisions, unsurprisingly passed out of the Committee with little controversy. The bill must now be taken up by the full House before it can be considered by the Senate. While its passage by the House is expected, its success in the Senate remains uncertain.



The Kentucky House is considering a bill to mandate electronic prescribing. **HB 342** would require electronic prescribing for all controlled substance prescriptions by

January 1, 2021. The bill is awaiting a committee hearing in the House before it can be considered by the legislature.



The Illinois house is considering **HB 2795**, a bill that would require the adoption of a “nationally recognized” workers’ compensation drug formulary by September 1, 2020. A similar bill was introduced in years prior but failed to move as the legislature and Governor battled over a budget bill. This year, with Democrats in control of both the legislature and executive branch, significantly more bills are expected to pass. However, the fate of HB 2795 seems unlikely.



A bill introduced in the Missouri House would place additional limits on the use of opioid prescriptions. Specifically, **HB 491** would prohibit a physician from prescribing opioids to a patient under the age of 18 unless they are admitted to a health care facility. Other states have considered and implemented restrictions on opioids for minors but allow it with signed approval of their guardian.



