

# IWP

The Patient Advocate Pharmacy®

March 22, 2019

## State of the States



New Hampshire

On Tuesday, the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services will hold a hearing

on [HB 359](#), a bill to add new warning labels to prescription drugs containing opioids. Under the bill, pharmacies would be required to label prescription containers that contain opioids with a red cap and warning label regarding the addictive nature of opioids.



Connecticut

A hearing has been scheduled for the first of its kind bill in Connecticut. On Thursday, the Joint Committee

on Labor and Public Employees held a hearing on [HB 5883](#), a bill that would require workers' comp insurers to cover detoxification treatment for injured workers who have become addicted to opioids as a result of their injury.



Colorado

The Colorado legislature is nearing final passage of a [bill](#) that would mandate electronic

prescribing for all controlled substances by July 1, 2021. The Senate passed the bill back in February and last week the House made minor changes to the bill before passing. The Senate voted on Wednesday to concur with the House amendments and pass the bill.



Ohio

The Ohio Attorney General has [filed](#) a lawsuit against OptumRx claiming the PBM

overcharged the state almost \$16 million for prescription drugs. The lawsuit alleges that OptumRx failed to provide negotiated discounts on generic drugs for injured workers. Last month, the Attorney General had demanded

OptumRx refund the \$15 million they owed the Bureau of Workers' Compensation.



California

Over a year after implementation, the California Workers' Compensation Institute released a [study](#)

discussing the impact of the state's unique workers' comp drug formulary on prescriptions. The study found that use of exempt drugs rose 5% from pre-formulary numbers, while the use of non-exempt drugs, those that require prospective utilization review, declined by nearly 10%. However, the use of non-listed drugs also rose nearly 5%.



# State of the States



A labor friendly workers' comp bill moves swiftly through the legislature this month and now awaits the

Governor's signature. **SB 1596** would allow employees, or their heirs, to bring a lawsuit in civil court if they suffer related injuries or death as the result of an occupational disease after the statute of limitations has run out.



The New Mexico Senate has voted 34-5 to pass **HB 324**, a bill that adds PTSD to the list of ailments

presumed to be compensable under workers' comp for firefighters. The bill was passed by the House back in February with a vote of 58-4 and now awaits the Governor's signature.

## Where in the U.S.A. is Danielle?

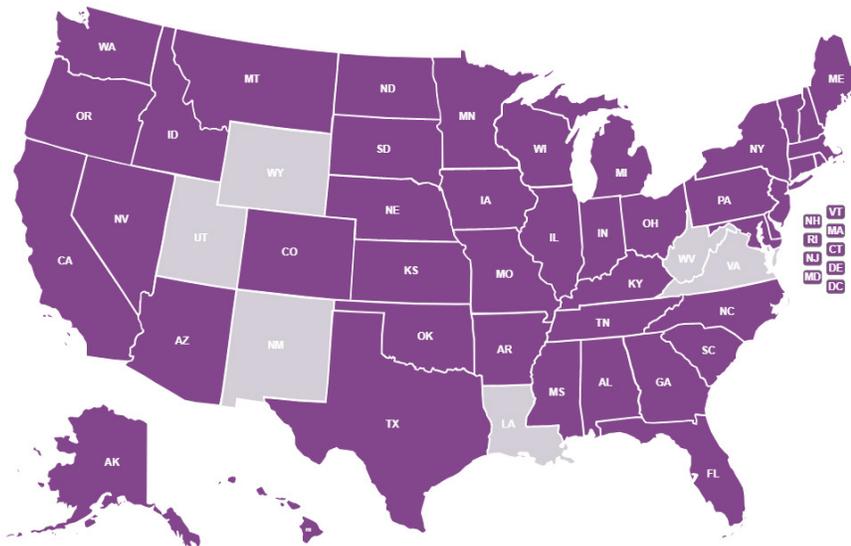
Danielle will be in the home office next week.



## States in Session

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■ In Session ■ Out of Session ■ In Special Session



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

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