



April 12, 2019

# State of the States



The new Florida Attorney General, Ashley Moody (R), is **pushing** for the passage of a bill that would

allow information from the state's PDMP to be used in litigation against pharmacies. Currently the law states that PDMP records are "informational" only and cannot be used for civil or administrative actions against prescribers or dispensers. Moody is seeking to further her lawsuits against big pharmacy chains Walgreens and CVS, whom the AG's office is accusing of ignoring red flags and failing to implement adequate safeguards in the race to sell as many opioids as possible.



New Hampshire is attempting to **pass** a bill that would allow injured workers with a partial

disability to collect workers' comp indefinitely, similar to how total disability works. The bill faces strong opposition from insurers and employers because it would likely increase costs from 5 to 30 percent. Workers' comp attorneys argue the change only impacts a small number of individuals and would have a minimal impact on the market.



On Monday, Governor Jared Polis (D) signed **SB 19-079** into law.

The new law mandates the use of electronic prescribing for all controlled substance prescriptions beginning July 1, 2021 for physicians, physician assistants, advanced practice nurses, and optometrists. Dentists and practitioners in rural communities will be required to comply by July 1, 2023.



This week, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration **issued** a Drug Safety Communication warning health care providers to not abruptly discontinue opioid treatment for patients. Among the information shared is guidance for prescribers on how to safely decrease opioid doses for patients who are physically dependent on the medication.

