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The Patient Advocate Pharmacy®

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State of the States



Florida

A nonpartisan government watchdog group, Florida TaxWatch, **released** a new research report recommending Florida adopt a California-like Independent Medical Review system for workers' comp. The proposal suggests requiring doctors to resolve medical claim disputes, rather than compensation judges or trial courts, would reduce time for a resolution from the current 231 days to just 30 days. This change would also help to lower litigation costs from \$439 million to \$22.6 million annually.



New York

The Workers' Compensation Board has released proposed **regulation** changes to the state's pharmacy fee schedule. Along with updating definitions and including the

pending drug formulary, the proposed regulations restrict reimbursement for repackaged medications and prohibits reimbursement for drugs dispensed outside of the drug formulary that have not been pre-approved. The regulations will also require PBMs to pass along any rebates to employers and insurers, a move the WCB took to comply with a legislative mandate that employers and carriers pay the lowest price available for prescriptions.



Missouri

In 2019, the Missouri legislature will once again consider **legislation** that would establish a state-wide prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP). Representative Holly Rehder is expected to file the PDMP legislation on the first day of pre-filing. Missouri is the only state in the country without a PDMP in place, but not for

lack of trying; PDMP legislation has been considered in the last three legislative sessions with no success. A CDC report **issued** last month found that Missouri is one of the twenty states with a drug overdose death rate higher than the national average.



Nevada

Nevada Representative Mike Sprinkle, has **announced** his intent to review the state's workers' comp laws during the 2019 legislative session. Although Sprinkle did not give specifics about what he would seek to change, he said he was concerned that employers were denying nearly all workers' comp claims without consideration for the facts.



State of the States



On Friday, President Pro Tempore of the Oklahoma Senate **announced** new committee chairs for the 2019

session. As expected, Senator Julie Daniels will serve as chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee is responsible for debating and passing any workers' comp related legislation.

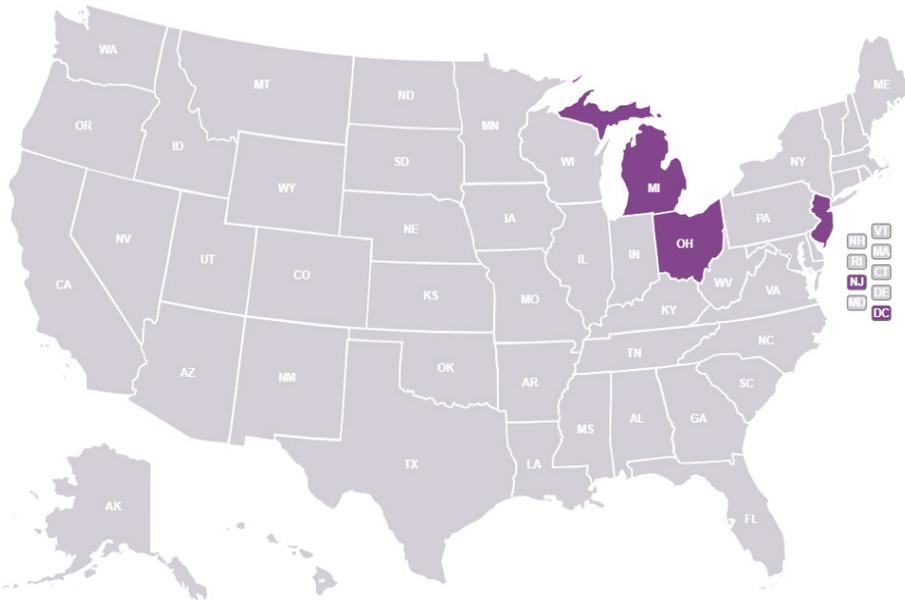
Article of Interest

A new study published in JAMA International Medicine argues that **dentists** prescribing opioids to teenagers after removing their wisdom teeth may put patients at a greater risk for opioid addiction in the future.

States in Session

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■ In Session ■ Out of Session ■ In Special Session



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

Danielle is in the home office next week.



Questions, Concerns, Suggestions? Let Us Know.

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