**State Legislative Update – May 31, 2024**

For more information regarding ACS State Affairs Policy Priorities in your state, please contact Catherine Hendricks, State Affairs Manager, at [chendricks@facs.org](mailto:chendricks@facs.org) or Cory Bloom, State Affairs Associate, at [cbloom@facs.org](mailto:cbloom@facs.org). To view a complete list of bills ACS State Affairs is tracking, visit our online [State Legislative Tracker.](https://www.quorum.us/spreadsheet/external/QGjJBFIfORzJNAtlNvfp/)

**STATE AFFAIRS WORKGROUP**

Arnold Baskies, MD, FACS (NJ); Ali Kasraeian, MD, FACS (FL); Kevin Koo, MD, FACS (MN); and Kelly Swords, MD, FACS (CA). The Workgroup will play a critical role in identifying state advocacy priorities, setting new policy objectives, and evaluating state advocacy grant applications among other duties.

**ACS STATE AFFAIRS PRIORITY ISSUES**

* Trauma System Funding and Development
* Cancer Screening, Testing, and Treatment
* Insurance and Administrative Burden
* Professional Liability
* Criminalization of Physician Care
* Access to Surgical Care
* Health Equity

**ACS GRANT PROGRAM**

State Chapters are eligible to apply for ACS State Advocacy Grants and may use funds towards their annual state advocacy day, to hire a lobbyist, or other relevant advocacy functions such as travel costs for members, catering, venue rentals, printing, and more. To learn more information regarding the ACS State Advocacy Grants, apply [here](https://www.facs.org/advocacy/state-legislation/chapter-state-advocacy-grant-program/).

**IN THE NEWS**

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

The following state legislatures remain in session: Arizona, California, Delaware, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island.

Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, and Texas have no regular session in even-numbered years. Legislative session information can be found [here](https://www.multistate.us/resources/2024-legislative-session-dates).

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

**CALIFORNIA**

[SCR 155](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billPdf.xhtml?bill_id=202320240SCR155&version=20230SCR15599INT) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Lena Gonzalez (D), SCR 155 proclaims the month of October 2024 as breast cancer awareness and prevention month. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules Committee.

**CONNECTICUT**

[SB 307](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2024/ACT/PA/PDF/2024PA-00050-R00SB-00307-PA.PDF) – Biomarker ENACTED

Introduced by Senator Jeff Gordon (R), SB 307 provides Medicaid coverage for biomarker testing for the purpose of diagnosis, treatment, appropriate management or ongoing monitoring of an enrollee's disease or condition. Governor Ned Lamont signed the bill into law May 28.

[SB 435](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2024/ACT/PA/PDF/2024PA-00070-R00SB-00435-PA.PDF) – Criminalization ENACTED

Introduced by Senator Kevin Kelly (R), SB 435 prevents the disclosure of information about a patient’s receipt of gender services without obtaining required written consent; a violation will subject the individual or entity to fines, legal action, or other disciplinary measures. Governor Ned Lamont (D) signed the bill into law May 28.

**LOUISIANA**

[HB 24](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1379539) – Professional Liability ENACTED

Introduced by Representative Michael Mereine (R), HB 24 eliminates the presumption of causation established by lack of prior history of an injury or illness and shall not create a presumption that an illness or injury was caused by the act subject to the claim. Governor Jeff Landry (R) signed the bill into law May 23.

[HB 361](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1379539) – Cancer ENACTED

Introduced by Representative Joseph Stagni (R), HB 361 mandates health coverage plans to cover colorectal screenings and allows any test or screening recommended by named medical organizations. Governor Jeff Landry (R) signed the bill into law May 23.

[SB 48](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1379381) – Biomarker ENACTED

Introduced by Senator Kirk Talbot (R), SB 48 amends state law to provide appropriations to implement coverage for biomarker testing as outlined in Act 324 of 2023. Governor Jeff Landry (R) signed the bill into law May 23.

[SB 338](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1379384) – Cancer ENACTED

Introduced by Senator Gerald Boudreaux (D), SB 388 amends existing law to add contrast-enhanced mammograms and breast magnetic resonance imaging to standard mammography services. Governor Jeff Landry (R) signed the bill into law May 23.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

[H 1103](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/H1103) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative James Murphy (D), H 1103 mandates health care insurers provide coverage for diagnostic breast cancer exams and digital breast tomosynthesis screening with no increase in patient cost sharing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Financial Services Committee.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

[HB 518](https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB518/id/2917771) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Gary Merchant (D), HB 518 mandates the medical board will investigate any referral by the insurance commissioner alleging a medical director has committed misconduct; requires each licensee to show proof at least 100 hours of approved continuing medical education program completed within the preceding two years. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Executive Departments and Administration Committee.

**NEW YORK**

[A 10429](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2023/A10429) – Cancer

Introduced by Assemblymember Crystal Peoples-Stokes (D), A 10429 requires health insurance carriers provide coverage for follow-up screening or diagnostic services for lung cancer with no cost sharing. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Insurance Committee.

**VERMONT**

[H 766](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2024/Docs/ACTS/ACT111/ACT111%20As%20Enacted.pdf) – Prior Authorization ENACTED

Introduced by Representative Alyssa Black (D), H 766 ensures patients do not have to fail the same medication more than once during step therapy; prohibits prior authorization for any admission, item, service, treatment, or procedure ordered by a primary care provider; requires health plans to publicly list services requiring prior authorization; sets a 24-hour timeline to approve, deny, or request additional information for an urgent prior authorization request and two business days for a non-urgent request; once granted prior authorization shall be valid for the duration of the treatment or one year whichever is longer. Governor Phil Scott (R) signed the bill into law May 20.