**ACS State Affairs Legislative Update – May 9, 2025**

**STATE AFFAIRS WORKGROUP**

Arnold Baskies, MD, FACS (NJ); Ali Kasraeian, MD, FACS (FL); Kevin Koo, MD, FACS (MN); David Santos, MD, FACS (TX); and Kelly Swords, MD, FACS (CA). The Workgroup plays 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

For more information regarding ACS State Affairs Policy Priorities in your state, please contact Catherine Hendricks, State Affairs Manager, at chendricks@facs.org or Cory Bloom, State Affairs Associate, at 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/)

**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/).

**STATE ADVOCACY DAYS**

District of Columbia: May 17, District of Columbia

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

Legislative adjournments: Arkansas (4/16); Colorado (5/7); Georgia (4/4); Hawaii (5/2); Idaho (4/4); Indiana (4/24); Kansas (4/11); Kentucky (3/28); Maryland (4/7); Mississippi (4/3); Montana (4/30); New Mexico (3/22); North Dakota (5/3); South Carolina (5/8); South Dakota (3/31); Tennessee (4/22); Utah (3/7); Virginia (2/22); Washington (4/27); West Virginia (4/12), and Wyoming (3/6).

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

**CALIFORNIA**

[HR 36](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billPdf.xhtml?bill_id=202520260HR36&version=20250HR3699INT) – Cancer

Introduced by Assemblymember Robert Garcia (D), HR 36 designates the second week of May as lung cancer awareness week. The resolution was introduced in the Assembly and is pending referral to a committee.

**COLORADO**

[SB 152](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2025a_152_signed.pdf) – Truth in Advertising **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Lisa Frizell (R), SB 152 requires health care professionals clearly identify their qualifications to patients; required to wear their ID tags during patient encounters; must verbally communicate their credentials when establishing a patient relationship; violations of these requirements may result in fines up to $500, with corrective actions encouraged before imposing the maximum fine. Governor Jared Polis (D) signed the bill into law May 5.

**DELAWARE**

[SB 120](https://legis.delaware.gov/json/BillDetail/GeneratePdfDocument?legislationId=142167&legislationTypeId=1&docTypeId=2&legislationName=SB120) – Biomarker

Introduced by Senator Spiros Mantzavinos (D), SB 120 requires health insurers provide coverage for biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Banking, Business, Insurance, and Technology Committee.

**GEORGIA**

[HB 87](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/235614) – Insurance

Introduced by Representative David Clark (R), HB 87 requires health insurers provide coverage for medically necessary orthotic and prosthetic devices. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

[HB 94](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/239067) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Eddie Lumsden (R), HB 94 requires health insurers to cover fertility preservation services when treatment for cancer may impair fertility. Governor Brian Kemp (R) signed the bill into law May 1.

[HB 219](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/230918) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Ron Stephens (R), HB 219 establishes professional health programs for impaired health care professionals, ensuring confidentiality and liability protection. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Regulated Industries Committee.

[HB 373](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/231882) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Lydia Glaize (D), HB 373 requires health insurers to provide no cost sharing prostate cancer screenings for men aged 40 to 49 with a family history, men aged 50 and older, and others as determined by a physician; incudes DRE and prostate-specific antigen test. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[SB 5](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/239395) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Kay Kirkpatrick (R), SB 5 requires health insurers to implement a program to reduce prior authorizations based on the health care professional’s adherence to evidence-based medicine. The bill was introduced in the Senate.

[SB 30](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/237444) – Criminalization

Introduced by Senator Ben Watson (R), SB 30 prohibits hormone therapies and puberty-blocking medications for minors; allows for civil actions against physicians who violate provisions. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Community Health Committee.

[SB 50](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/230487) – Medicaid

Introduced by Senator David Lucas (D), SB 50 expands Medicaid to cover individuals up to 138% of the federal poverty level. The bill was introduced in the Senate and is pending introduction to a committee.

**INDIANA**

[SB 480](https://iga.in.gov/pdf-documents/124/2025/senate/bills/SB0480/SB0480.06.ENRH.pdf) – Cancer/Prior Authorization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Tyler Johnson (R), SB 480 requires utilization review entities make their prior authorization (PA) requirements available on their website; limits PA to one percent of unique health care services and providers annually; prohibits PA for emergency health services; adverse determinations and appeals must be reviewed and decided by a physician with relevant experience; PA granted by another entity must be honored for 90 days; includes step-therapy provisions. Governor Mike Braun (R) signed the bill into law May 1.

**MAINE**

[LD 1878](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1249&item=1&snum=132) – Medicaid

Introduced by Representative Holly Stover (D), LD 1878 creates a managed care program for Medicaid, requiring the state contract with three managed care organizations to deliver services; shifts from a fee-for-service model to a capitated payment system. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[LD 1883](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP1254&item=1&snum=132) – Single Payer

Introduced by Representative Anne-Marie Mastraccio (D), establishes a state agency to implement a single-payer health care system for residents. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Coverage Committee.

**MINNESOTA**

[SF 3489](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF3489&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Judy Seeberger (D), SF 3489 reduces the statute of limitations for professional liability cases from four years to two years; limits the collection of judgements against a health care provider's personal income or assets unless the provider's conduct was willful, malicious, or intentionally fraudulent; noneconomic damages for pain and suffering are capped at $500,000. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**MISSOURI**

[SB 61](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/House/HCS-SB/SB0061.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Ben Brown (R), SB 61 requires physician licensure applicants to provide a criminal background check; ; a diploma and transcripts from an accredited medical school; disclose all licenses held in other regions and any disciplinary actions. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Emerging Issues and Professional Registration Committee.

**MONTANA**

[HB 195](https://bills.legmt.gov/#/lc/bill/2/LC0417) – Professional Liability **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Wendy McKamey (R), HB 195 increases the cap for professional liability cases from $250,000 to $300,000 with annual increments of $50,000; effective January 1, 2030 and on January 1 each subsequent year the limit increases by two present. Governor Greg Gianforte (R) signed the bill into law March 27.

[HB 342](https://bills.legmt.gov/#/lc/bill/2/LC0210) – Professional Liability **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Steve Fitzpatrick (R), HB 342 provides a specific risk does not change or heighten the duty beyond the reasonable standard of care. Governor Greg Gianforte (R) signed the bill into law May 1.

[HB 435](https://bills.legmt.gov/#/lc/bill/2/LC0453) – Licensure **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Jodee Etchart (R), HB 435 requires licensees to report if they are physically or mentally impaired and any actions against them that could affect their qualifications or fitness to practice to the medical board; provides liability immunity for those who report misconduct in good faith. Governor Greg Gianforte (R) signed the bill into law May 1.

[HB 544](https://bills.legmt.gov/#/lc/bill/2/LC1961) – Prior Authorization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Ed Buttrey (R), HB 544 prohibits a health insurer from rescinding prior authorization once it is approved and the service has been provided, except in cases of fraud. Governor Greg Gianforte (R) signed the bill into law May 1.

[SB 347](https://bills.legmt.gov/#/lc/bill/2/LC3474) – Licensure **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Sue Vinton (R), SB 347 mandates interns or resident physicians in training are no longer exempt from licensing requirements; allows individuals who have completed the first year of an approved residency program and in good standing to qualify for a medical license. Governor Greg Gianforte (R) signed the bill into law April 16.

**NEW JERSEY**

[A 5594](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A6000/5594_I1.PDF) – Licensure

Introduced by Assemblymember Margie Donion (D), A 5594 establishes protections for healthcare professionals seeking behavioral health care, ensuring confidentiality and non-discrimination in licensing processes to encourage mental health treatment without fear of professional repercussions. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Regulated Professions Committee.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

[H 97](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/House/PDF/H97v3.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Paul Scott (R), H 97 expands the definition of "killed in the line of duty" to include deaths of firefighters resulting from cancers including mesothelioma, testicular cancer, cancer of the small intestine, esophageal cancer, oral cavity cancer, pharynx cancer, stomach cancer, prostate cancer and colon cancer. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Appropriations Committee.

[S 97](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S97v1.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Tim Moffitt (R), S 97 expands the definition of "killed in the line of duty" to include deaths of firefighters resulting from cancers including mesothelioma, testicular cancer, cancer of the small intestine, esophageal cancer, oral cavity cancer, pharynx cancer, stomach cancer, prostate cancer and colon cancer. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules and Operations Committee.

**OKLAHOMA**

[HR 1022](https://www.oklegislature.gov/cf_pdf/2025-26%20FLR/HFLR/HR1022%20HFLR.PDF) – Cancer **ADOPTED**

Introduced by Representative Cyndi Munson (D), HR 1022 designates the second week of May as lung cancer action week. The resolution was adopted by the House May 6.

[SR 17](https://www.oklegislature.gov/cf_pdf/2025-26%20ENR/SRES/SR17%20ENR.PDF) – Cancer **ADOPTED**

Introduced by Senator Brenda Stanley (R), SR 17 designates the second week of May as lung cancer action week. The resolution was adopted by the Senate May 6.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

[HB 1391](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/HB1391/PN1586) – Insurance

Introduced by the Insurance Committee, HB 1391 requires health insurers to provide coverage for custom-fabricated and custom-fitted medical devices; may require preauthorization to determine medical necessity. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[HR 225](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/HR0225/PN1572) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Arvind Venkat (D), HR 225 designates May 13, 2025, as cancer action day. The resolution was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

[SB 709](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/SB0709/PN0745) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Senator Nikil Saval (D), SB 709 mandates the establishment of violence prevention committees in health facilities; requires the creation of violence prevention programs, risk assessments, and employee training; prohibits retaliation against employees who report violence. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Labor and Industry Committee.

[SR 102](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/SR0102/PN0739) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Jay Costa (D), SR 102 declares May 5-11, 2025 as lung cancer action week. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

[SR 104](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/SR0104/PN0747) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Edler Vogel (R), SR 104 designates May 2025 as national mammography month. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

**RHODE ISLAND**

[HR 6303](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H6303.pdf) – Cancer **ADOPTED**

Introduced by Representative Samuel Azzinaro (D), HR 6303 designates the second week of May 2025 as lung cancer action week. The resolution was adopted by the House May 6.

[SB 1014](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S1014.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Ana Quezada (D), SB 1014 changes the interest calculations on monetary damages in civil actions, previously fixed at 12 percent, to a variable rate based on the coupon issue yield equivalent determined by the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[SR 944](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0994.pdf) – Cancer **ADOPTED**

Introduced by Senator Melissa Murray (D), SR 994 designates May 2025 as national skin cancer awareness month. The resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 1.

[SR 1035](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S1035.pdf) – Cancer **ADOPTED**

Introduced by Senator Victoria Gu (D), SR 1035 designates May 5-11, 2025, as lung cancer action week. The resolution was adopted by the Senate May 7.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

[SCR 633](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/633_20250501.htm) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Sean Bennett (R), SCR 633 declares November 2025 as lung cancer awareness month. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and is pending referral to a committee.

**TENNESSEE**

[SB 955](https://publications.tnsosfiles.com/acts/114/pub/pc0266.pdf) – Moral Conscience **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Ferrell Haile (R), SB 955 mandates health care providers cannot be compelled to participate in or pay for procedures that violate their conscience; establishes whistleblower protections for health care providers who report violations and ensures government entities cannot penalize providers for protected speech; allows for civil actions for violations. Governor Bill Lee (R) signed the bill into law April 24.

**TEXAS**

[HB 3057](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB03057H.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Brooks Landgraf (R), HB 3057 requires health insurers cover chimeric antigen receptor T-cell therapy cancer treatments. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[SB 2480](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB02480S.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Donna Campbell (R), SB 2480 requires continuous queries of the National Practitioner Data Bank for medical board licensees; adds a $15 surcharge for the issuance of a first-time license or renewal, to cover the costs of continuous queries. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 2207](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB02207E.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Bob Hall (R), SB 2207 prohibits the medical board from prohibiting a physician from advertising as "board certified" if the physician was initially certified by a recognized certifying organization; allows an initially certified physician to continue to use "board certified" after their certification is terminated for disciplinary action or CME deficiencies. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**VERMONT**

[H 493](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Docs/BILLS/H-0493/H-0493%20Senate%20Proposal%20of%20Amendment%20Unofficial.pdf) – Trauma Funding

Introduced by the Appropriations Committee, H 493 repeals the traumatic brain injury fund; transfers the remaining balance of the traumatic brain injury fund to the general fund at the end of 2025. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

**VIRGINIA**

[SB 740](https://track.govhawk.com/public/bills/1954639) – Licensure **VETOED**

Introduced by Senator Mamie Locke (D), SB 740 requires physicians to complete continuing medical education on unconscious bias and cultural competency as part of their license renewal. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) vetoed the bill May 2.

**WEST VIRGINIA**

[SB 299](https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2025_SESSIONS/RS/bills/sb299%20intr.pdf) – Criminalization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Christopher Rose (R), SB 299 prohibits conducting gender reassignment surgery on minors, violations can be subject to disciplinary action by relevant licensing boards; allows individuals to assert violations as claims or defenses in judicial or administrative proceedings with the possibility of obtaining compensatory damages. Governor Patrick Morrisey (R) signed the bill into law April 30.

[SB 810](https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2025_SESSIONS/RS/bills/sb810%20intr.pdf) – Scope of Practice **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Patricia Rucker (R), SB 810 allows certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) to administer anesthesia in cooperation with physicians; physicians are not liable for acts or omissions of CRNAs administering anesthetics. Governor Patrick Morrisey (R) signed the bill into law April 30.