**ACS State Affairs Legislative Update – January 31, 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 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

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**

Montana: February 12; Helena, Montana

Indiana: February 18; Indianapolis, Indiana

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

State legislative session dates can be found [here](https://www.multistate.us/resources/2025-legislative-session-dates).

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

**ALABAMA**

[HB 45](https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/files/pdf/SearchableInstruments/2025RS/HB45-int.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Ed Oliver (R), HB 45 requires Medicaid coverage for noninvasive colorectal cancer screening tests and follow-up colonoscopies based on positive results. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

[SB 27](https://alison.legislature.state.al.us/files/pdf/SearchableInstruments/2025RS/SB27-int.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Larry Stutts (R), SB 27 requires Medicaid coverage for noninvasive colorectal cancer screening tests and follow-up colonoscopies based on positive results. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Healthcare Committee.

**ARIZONA**

[SB 1398](https://apps.azleg.gov/BillStatus/GetDocumentPdf/522259) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Eva Burch (D), SB 1398 allows nurse practitioners and physician assistants to provide surgical abortions. The bill was introduced in the Senate and is pending referral to a committee.

**ARKANSAS**

[HB 1297](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1297.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Lee Johnson (R), HB 1297 mandates health insurers disclose the strengths and limitations of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms used in their utilization review processes on their website; mandates human oversight of AI decisions including adverse determinations. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

[HB 1300](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1300.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Lee Johnson (R), HB 1300 mandates health insurers disclose all prior authorization requirements, clinical criteria, and restrictions on their website. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

[HB 1301](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1301.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Lee Johnson (R), HB 1301 requires health insurers to provide written notice to physicians who are exempt from prior authorization (PA) for qualifying services; the PA exemption is valid for at least twelve months, evaluated every six months; insurers cannot deny or reduce payments for services, unless there is evidence of misrepresentation or failure to perform the service. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

[HB 1309](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1309.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Ryan Rose (R), HB 1309 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing breast cancer screenings and diagnostic services. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

[SB 119](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FSB119.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Clint Penzo (R), SB 119 establishes participation in the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health, Welfare and Labor Committee.

[SB 123](https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FSB123.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Greg Leding (D), SB 123 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

**CONNECTICUT**

[HB 6146](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/H/PDF/2025HB-06146-R00-HB.PDF) – Insurance

Introduced by Representative Josh Elliott (D), HB 6146 increases Medicaid reimbursement rates. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

[HB 6355](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/H/PDF/2025HB-06355-R00-HB.PDF) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Tim Ackert (R), HB 6355 requires health insurers cover biomarker testing coverage. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

[HB 6601](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/H/PDF/2025HB-06601-R00-HB.PDF) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Representative Irene Haines (R), HB 6601 mandates the development of best practices for implementing STOP THE BLEED® programs in schools and public buildings. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Public Health Committee.

[HB 6771](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/H/PDF/2025HB-06771-R00-HB.PDF) – Biomarker

Introduced by the Aging Committee, HB 6771 requires health insurers to provide coverage for biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Aging Committee.

**FLORIDA**

[SB 372](http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/372/BillText/Filed/PDF) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Gayle Harrell (R), SB 372 allows patients identified as having dense breast tissue to receive an ultrasound or other additional screening tests without first having a mammogram. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**GEORGIA**

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

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

**HAWAII**

[HB 1046](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB1046_.PDF) – Licensure

Introduced by Speaker Nadine Nakamura (D), HB 1046 allows the medical board to conduct criminal history record checks to fully comply with the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

[HB 1063](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB1063_.PDF) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Speaker Nadine Nakamura (D), HB 1063 makes harming a health care professional while in performance of their duties an assault in the second degree. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[HB 1085](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB1085_.PDF) – Trauma

Introduced by Speaker Nadine Nakamura (D), HB 1085 increases taxes on tobacco products; increases amount of fees that goes towards the state trauma fund to 25% of the tax per product or $7,400,000, whichever is less. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Finance Committee.

[HB 1098](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB1098_.PDF) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Speaker Nadine Nakamura (D), HB 1098 makes harming a health care professional while in performance of their duties an assault in the second degree; makes terroristic threatening a healthcare worker a charge of terroristic threatening in the first degree. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Human Services and Homelessness Committee.

[HB 1490](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB1490_.PDF) – Single Payer

Introduced by Representative Amy Perruso (D), HB 1490 establishes a single payer health care system. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[SB 1365](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/SB1365_.PDF) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Ronald Kouchi (D), SB 1365 allows the medical board to conduct criminal history record checks to fully comply with the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

[SB 1404](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/SB1404_.PDF) – Trauma

Introduced by Senator Ronald Kouchi (D), SB 1404 increases taxes on tobacco products; increases amount of fees that goes towards the state trauma fund to 25% of the tax per product or $7,400,000 per year, whichever is less. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

[SB 1417](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/SB1417_.PDF) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Senator Ronald Kouchi (D), SB 1417 classifies harming a health care professional while in performance of their duties an assault in the second degree; makes terroristic threatening of a health care worker a charge of terroristic threatening in the first degree. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 1519](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/SB1519_.PDF) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Brandon Elefante (D), SB 1519 mandates health insurers respond to non-urgent prior authorization (PA) requests within 48 hours and respond to urgent requests within 24 hours; establishes PA exceptions for services with high approval rates; mandates the publication of statistics on PA approval and denials. The bill is pending introduction in the Senate.

**IDAHO**

[H 59](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2025/legislation/H0059.pdf) – Moral Conscience

Introduced by the Health and Welfare Committee, H 59 allows health care providers to refuse participation in procedures that conflict with their ethical, moral, or religious beliefs. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

**ILLINOIS**

[SB 210](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/SB/PDF/10400SB0210.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Dale Fowler (R), SB 210 extends the expiration of health care professional licenses by three months during a public health emergency. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Assignments Committee.

[SB 239](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/SB/PDF/10400SB0239.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Lakesia Collins (D), SB 239 allows certified registered nurse anesthetists to practice independently within ambulatory surgical treatment centers and hospitals. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Assignments Committee.

[SB 271](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/SB/PDF/10400SB0271.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Javier Cervantes (D), SB 271 allows physician assistants to practice independently after completing 250 hours of continuing education and 2,000 hours of clinical experience post-certification. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Assignments Committee.

[SB 1258](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/SB/PDF/10400SB1258.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Graciela Guzman (D), SB 1258 prohibits prior authorization if a drug has been prescribed to a patient by a healthcare professional for six or more consecutive months. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Assignments Committee.

**INDIANA**

[HB 1061](https://iga.in.gov/pdf-documents/124/2025/house/bills/HB1061/HB1061.01.INTR.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Cherrish Pryor (D), HB 1061 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing coverage for breast cancer related services. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[SB 475](https://iga.in.gov/pdf-documents/124/2025/senate/bills/SB0475/SB0475.02.COMS.pdf) – Restrictive Covenants

Introduced by Senator Justin Busch (R), SB 475 prohibits non-compete agreements between a physician and an employer. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Provider Services Committee.

**IOWA**

[SF 84](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/SF84.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Molly Donahue (D), SF 84 removes the cap on noneconomic damages in cases where there is substantial or permanent loss or impairment of a bodily function. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**KANSAS**

[SB 63](https://www.kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/measures/documents/sb63_00_0000.pdf) – Criminalization

Introduced by the Public Health and Welfare Committee, SB 63 prohibits gender transition surgeries for minors; penalties for violations include license revocation and exclusion from professional liability insurance coverage for related damages. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

**MARYLAND**

[HB 697](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0697f.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Jamila Woods (D), HB 97 requires health insurers to report quarterly on their use of artificial intelligence to the insurance commissioner; carriers must provide data on grievances and adverse decisions. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Operations Committee.

[HB 757](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb0757f.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Delegate Anne Kaiser (D), HB 757 increases oil transfer fees to fund a cancer screening program for firefighters, with a budget of at least $3 million annually. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

[SB 474](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0474f.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Pamela Beidle (D), SB 474 requires health insurers to report quarterly on adverse prior authorization decisions to the insurance commissioner. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

[SB 519](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Legislation/Details/sb0519?ys=2025RS#:~:text=Establishing%20the%20Prostate%20Cancer%20Care%20Access%20Grant%20Program,nonlapsing%20fund%20to%20provide%20grants%20under%20the%20) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Nick Charles (D), SB 519 establishes a $100,000 grant to provide access to prostate cancer screenings. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

[SB 523](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/sb/sb0523f.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Nick Charles (D), SB 523 allows state employees up to 4 hours of paid cancer screening leave annually. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

[HD 2125](https://trackbill.com/bill/massachusetts-house-docket-2125-an-act-relative-to-telehealth-and-digital-equity-for-patients/2606490/) – Telehealth

Introduced by Representative Marjorie Decker (D), HD 2125 expands telehealth services to include e-consults, e-visits, and remote patient monitoring. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

**MINNESOTA**

[SF 509](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF509&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Alice Mann (D), SF 509 creates a pathway to integrate foreign-trained medical professionals into rural and underserved urban areas; limited licenses can be issued to qualified individuals who have practiced medicine outside the United States for at least 60 months within the past 10 years and have secured a collaborative agreement with a hospital or clinical setting. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SF 731](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF731&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Jim Abeler (R), SF 731 prohibits prior authorization for health care services which cost $100 or less. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee.

**MISSISSIPPI**

[HB 1437](https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2025/pdf/HB/1400-1499/HB1437IN.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Samuel Creekmore (R), HB 1437 mandates electronic notifications for license renewals; establishes a retired status for physicians; sets maximum cost assessment of $25,000 for disciplinary proceedings; defines telemedicine and requires out-of-state physicians to obtain a license to practice in state. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[HB 4032](https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2025-2026/billintroduced/House/pdf/2025-HIB-4032.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Rylee Linting (R), HB 4032 approves entry into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Policy Committee.

[SB 2415](https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2025/pdf/SB/2400-2499/SB2415IN.pdf) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Walter Michel (R), SB 2415 requires health insurer to provide reimbursement parity between in-person and telemedicine services until 2029. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[SB 2672](https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2025/pdf/SB/2600-2699/SB2672IN.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Kevin Blackwell (R), SB 2672 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after maintaining a collaborative relationship for 3,600 hours. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

[SB 2673](https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2025/pdf/SB/2600-2699/SB2673IN.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Kevin Blackwell (R), SB 2673 allows certified registered nurse anesthetists with at least 8,000 hours clinical practice hours to practice independently. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

[SB 2826](https://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2025/pdf/SB/2800-2899/SB2826IN.pdf) – Trauma Funding

Introduced by Senator Briggs Hopson (R), SB 2826 establishes additional fees on distinctive license tags; $44 of each additional fee collected will go toward the trauma care systems fund. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

**MISSOURI**

[HB 226](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/0754H.01I.pdf) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Representative Brenda Shields (R), HB 266 requires the implementation of bleeding control kits in public schools; requires inclusion in emergency plans, and annual training for designated school personnel in their use; schools are required to inspect and restock kits annually or after each use; provides Good Samaritan protections. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 327](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/0987H.01I.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative David Casteel (R), HB 327 allows advanced practice registered nurses to prescribe Schedule II controlled substances benzodiazepines, stimulants, and Schedule III narcotics under a collaborative agreement with a physician. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 392](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/1137H.02I.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Dave Hinman (R), HB 392 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after completing 4,000 hours in a collaborative practice arrangement or have received licensure by endorsement with equivalent experience. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 398](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/1390H.01I.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Tara Peters (R), HB 398 removes the requirement for mammography centers to notify patients about dense breast tissue and its implications. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 416](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/1498H.01I.pdf) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Representative Brenda Shields (R), HB 416 mandates the development of a traumatic blood loss protocol and the placement of bleeding control kits in schools; school personnel must receive annual training in the use of kits. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 618](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/0990H.01I.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Melanie Stinnett (R), HB 618 establishes a gold card program for prior authorizations (PA); prohibits PA for procedures approved at least 90% of the time from a health care provider during the most recent evaluation period. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[HB 984](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/2381H.01I.pdf) – Trauma Designation

Introduced by Representative Mark Sharp (D), HB 984 establishes criteria and procedures for designating hospitals as trauma centers based on peer reviewed and evidence-based guidelines from recognized organizations like the American College of Surgeons; prohibits the denial of trauma center designation based solely on the distance between centers. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[HB 1023](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/2450H.01I.pdf) – Trauma Designation

Introduced by Representative Pattie Mansur (D), HB 1023 establishes criteria and procedures for designating hospitals as trauma centers, using peer-reviewed and evidence-based guidelines from recognized organizations such as the American College of Surgeons. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

[HB 1126](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/2118H.01I.pdf) – Insurance

Introduced by Representative George Hruza (R), HB 1126 mandates health insurers cover anesthesia services. The bill was introduced in the House and read.

[SB 94](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB94.pdf) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Patty Lewis (D), SB 94 defines telemedicine and includes the use of audio-only technologies as telehealth; health care providers must be fully licensed within the state to treat patients via telehealth. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Families, Seniors and Health Committee.

[SB 108](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB108.pdf) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Justin Brown (R), SB 108 requires a valid physician-patient relationship before telemedicine services are provided. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Families, Seniors, and Health Committee.

[SB 144](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB144.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Nick Schroer (R), SB 144 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after completing 2,000 hours of documented collaborative practice. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Emerging Issues and Professional Registration Committee.

[SB 179](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB179.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Patty Lewis (D), SB 179 allows advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) with a certificate of controlled substance prescriptive authority to prescribe medications in Schedules III, IV, and V; allows APRNs to practice independently after completing 2,000 hours in a collaborative practice arrangement. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Emerging Issues and Professional Registration Committee.

[SB 219](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB219.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Rusty Black (R), SB 219 allows optometrists to perform surgical and non-surgical prevention and treatment of the eye; prohibits optometrists from conducting surgeries involving lasers. The bill was introduced in the Senate and is pending referral to a committee.

[SB 230](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB230.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Ben Brown (R), SB 230 prohibits prior authorization (PA) unless the health insurer determines that less than 90% of PA requests from a provider were approved in the most recent evaluation period. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SB 232](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB232.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Tracy McCreery (D), SB 232 repeals the requirement for mammography facilities to notify patients about dense breast tissue and its implications. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SB 635](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SB635.pdf) – Student Loan Repayment

Introduced by Senator David Gregory (R), SB 635 establishes a loan repayment assistance service for healthcare professionals. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SJR 5](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SJR5.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Rick Brattin (R), SJR 5 clarifies the right to reproductive freedom does not exempt individuals or entities from civil liability for medical malpractice, negligence, or wrongful death; proposed changes will be voted on at the next general election in November 2026. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SJR 9](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SJR9.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Mike Moon (R), SJR 9 clarifies the right to reproductive freedom does not exempt individuals or entities from civil liability for medical malpractice, negligence, or wrongful death; proposed changes will be voted on at the next general election in November 2026. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SJR 28](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/intro/SJR28.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Jill Carter (R), SJR 28 clarifies the right to reproductive freedom does not exempt individuals or entities from civil liability for medical malpractice, negligence, or wrongful death; proposed changes will be voted on at the next general election in November 2026. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

**MONTANA**

[HB 195](https://docs.legmt.gov/download-ticket?ticketId=e2c37c0a-80a0-40f3-8be0-efad24b14f9d) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Wendy McKamey (R), HB 195 increases the cap for professional liability cases from $250,000 to $300,000 with annual increments. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Business and Labor Committee.

[HB 342](https://docs.legmt.gov/download-ticket?ticketId=041284dd-2763-4edd-8d96-a9b6dc557b58) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Steve Fitzpatrick (R), HB 342 establishes the foreseeability of risks does not increase the duty of care beyond the reasonable standard in professional liability cases. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

**NEBRASKA**

[LB 535](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/109/PDF/Intro/LB535.pdf) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Senator Kathleen Kauth (R), LB 535 enhances penalties for assaults on health care workers; classifies assault on a health care worker as a first, second-, or third-degree assault; mandates posting warning signs around health care facilities. The bill was introduced in the Legislature and is pending referral to a committee.

**NEVADA**

[SB 9](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB9.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by the Senate Commerce Labor Committee, SB 9 requires health insurers to respond to Medicaid-related claims within 60 days; prohibits denial of claims based on lack of prior authorization. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Labor Committee.

[SB 29](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB29.pdf) – Medicaid

Introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee, SB 29 increases Medicaid reimbursement rates for physicians by varying percentages: from eight percent to eleven percent, depending on the county's population and payment arrangement type. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 124](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB124.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Fabian Donate (D), SB 124 allows graduates of qualified foreign medical schools who hold an unrestricted license in a foreign country to gain a limited license; after two years of full-time practice under the limited license and in good standing, the holder may apply for an unrestricted license. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Labor Committee.

[SB 128](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB128.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Senator Dina Neal (D), SB 128 prohibits health insurers from using artificial intelligence to deny, modify, or reduce requests for prior authorization for medical care; mandates decisions must be made by a licensed healthcare professional with the necessary expertise. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Labor Committee.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

[SB 120](https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/legacy/bs2016/billText.aspx?sy=2025&id=930&txtFormat=pdf&v=current) – Biomarker

Introduced by Senator Daniel Innis (R), SB 120 mandates health insurers and Medicaid plans cover biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 285](https://gc.nh.gov/lsr_search/billText.aspx?id=1086&type=3) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator David Rochefort (R), SB 285 changes the title "physician assistant" to "physician associate." The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Executive Departments and Administration Committee.

**NEW JERSEY**

[A 920](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A1000/920_R1.PDF) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Assemblymember Verlina Reynolds-Jackson (D), A 920 allows optometrists to remove superficial foreign bodies, and laser procedures like trabeculoplasty, capsulotomy, and iridotomy performed with topical anesthesia. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Regulated Professions Committee.

[A 985](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A1000/985_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Assemblymember Nancy Munoz (R), A 985 exempts the primary residence of healthcare providers from being seized or sold to satisfy medical malpractice judgments. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[A 1008](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A1500/1008_I1.PDF) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Assemblymember Nancy Munoz (R), A 1008 authorizes visiting advanced practice nurses to prescribe medications with approval from the Board of Medicine. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Health Committee.

[A 1640](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A2000/1640_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Assemblymember Pamela Lampitt (D), A 1640 requires plaintiffs to obtain an affidavit of merit in professional liability cases. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[A 1688](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A2000/1688_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Assemblymember Reginald Atkins (D), A 1688 allows lawsuits against abusive litigation that interferes with legally protected health care activities or reproductive health care services. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[A 1825](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A2000/1825_R1.PDF) – Step Therapy

Introduced by Assemblymember Herb Conaway (D), A 1825 mandates health insurers provide clear processes for requesting step therapy exceptions; insurers must grant exceptions when a drug is expected to be ineffective or not in the patient's best interest; insurers must respond to step therapy requests within 72 hours for a standard request and 24 hours for an urgent request. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Health Committee.

[A 2652](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A3000/2652_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Assemblymember Jay Webber (R), A 2652 caps non-economic damages in professional liability cases at $250,000 for physicians who provide at least 10% of their care without compensation. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[A 2658](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/A3000/2658_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Assemblymember Jay Webber (R), A 2658 caps non-economic damages in professional liability cases at $250,000. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[S 54](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S0500/54_I1.PDF) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Nilsa Cruz-Perez (D), S 54 requires plaintiffs to obtain an affidavit of merit in professional liability cases. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[S 354](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S0500/354_R1.PDF) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Patrick Diegnan (D), S 354 allows optometrists to remove superficial foreign bodies, and laser procedures like trabeculoplasty, capsulotomy, and iridotomy performed with topical anesthesia. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

[S 523](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S1000/523_I1.PDF) – Collective Bargaining

Introduced by Senator Jon Bramnick (R), S 523 allows independent physicians to jointly negotiate with health insurers on contract terms. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce Committee.

[S 530](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S1000/530_I1.PDF) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Jon Bramnick (R), S 530 requires health insurers to respond to prior authorization requests within 48 hours; if insurers require more information, they must notify the hospital or physician within the same 48-hour period and have an additional 48 hours to respond once more information is received. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce Committee.

[S 914](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S1000/914_I1.PDF) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Kristin Corrado (R), S 914 mandates reimbursement parity for telemedicine and in-person services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

[S 1597](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2000/1597_I1.PDF) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Andrew Zwicker (D), S 1597 allows out-of-state health care providers to offer telehealth services to in-state residents, provided they are licensed in the state and adhere to the same standards of care as in person services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee.

[S 1832](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2000/1832_I1.PDF) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by Senator Angela McKnight (D), S 1832 establishes a licensure framework for graduate physicians to practice primary care under a collaborative agreement with a licensed physician in medically underserved areas. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

[S 1954](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2000/1954_I1.PDF) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Senator Joseph Vitale (D), S 1954 requires high schools to include bleeding control training in their health curriculum. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Education Committee.

[S 1983](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2000/1983_I1.PDF) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Joseph Vitale (D), S 1983 allows advanced practice nurses with more than 24 months or 2,400 hours of practice to practice independently. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee.

[S 2370](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2500/2370_I1.PDF) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Senator James Beach (D), S 2370 upgrades penalties for assaults on health care support staff and security guards, clarifying such assaults as aggravated assault with varying degrees of punishment based on the injury sustained. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Law and Public Safety Committee.

[S 2448](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S2500/2448_I1.PDF) – Insurance

Introduced by Senator Anthony Bucco (R), S 2448 requires health insurers to cover obesity treatments, including bariatric surgery, with the same coverage as other medical conditions. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce Committee.

**NEW MEXICO**

[HB 226](https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/25%20Regular/bills/house/HB0226.pdf) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by Representative Alan Martinez (R), HB 226 increases the tax credit for physicians from $5,000 to $15,000 working in rural areas of the state. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Rural Development, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Committee.

[SB 78](https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/25%20Regular/bills/senate/SB0078.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Michael Padilla (D), SB 78 allows certified registered nurse anesthetists to practice independently. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Public Affairs Committee.

[SB 176](https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/25%20Regular/bills/senate/SB0176.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Martin Hickey (D), SB 176 imposes limits on attorney fees in professional liability claims, capping them at 25 percent for settlements reached before trial and 33 percent for those resolved after trial. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Senate Commerce Committee.

**NEW YORK**

[A 2715](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/A2715) – Medicaid

Introduced by Assemblymember Karines Reyes (D), A 2715 expands Medicaid coverage to include bariatric surgery. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Health Committee.

[A 3265](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/A3265) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Assemblymember Clyde Vanel (D), A 3265 mandates notifications when artificial intelligence is used in health care decisions; mandates protections against algorithmic discrimination and the right to data privacy. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Science and Technology Committee.

[A 3554](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/A3544) – Licensure

Introduced by Assemblymember Michaelle Solages (D), A 3544 requires health care providers on probation to disclose their status to patients; violations can result in a $2,000 penalty and license suspension. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Higher Education Committee.

[S 309](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S309) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Senator Steven Rhoads (R), S 309 requires schools to implement a bleeding control program which includes placing bleeding control kits in schools and integrating bleeding control kits into emergency planning; schools must conduct annual inspections of kits and replace components after use; provides Good Samaritan protections. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Education Committee.

[S 310](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S310) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Steven Rhoads (R), S 310 mandates coverage for breast cancer detection procedures including mammography and breast tomosynthesis; removes the age requirement for annual mammograms; mandates coverage for sonograms and breast ultrasounds when recommended by nationally recognized clinical practice guidelines. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[S 317](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S317) – Diversity Equity and Inclusion

Introduced by Senator Julia Salazar (D), S 317 requires bias awareness and elimination training for medical students and residents. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

[S 354](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S354) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Gustavo Rivera (D), S 354 requires reimbursement parity between in-person and telehealth services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

[S 2676](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S2676) – Step Therapy

Introduced by Senator Jamaal Bailey (D), S 2676 prohibits step therapy protocols for the use of drugs not approved by the FDA for the specific condition being treated; limits the duration of using a step therapy drug to no more than thirty days unless supported by treatment guidelines; prohibits step therapy if a drug was covered in the past year. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules Committee.

[S 3104](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3104) – Insurance

Introduced by Senator Jeremy Cooney (D), S 3104 requires health insurers to provide coverage for bariatric surgery. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[S 3186](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3186) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Roxanne Persaud (D), S 3186 requires health care providers on probation to disclose their status and related details to patients; providers must obtain a signed receipt from patients acknowledging the disclosure; violations can result in a $2,000 fine and license suspension. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Higher Education Committee.

[S 3242](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3242) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Jeremy Cooney (D), S 3242 allows discovery of testimony for parties involved in legal actions related to medical review meetings. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Higher Education Committee.

[S 3359](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3359) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Gustavo Rivera (D), S 3359 requires reimbursement parity between telehealth and in person services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

[S 3425](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3425) – Single Payer

Introduced by Senator Gustavo Rivera (D), S 3425 establishes a universal single-payer health care system. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

[S 3559](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S3559) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Cordell Cleare (D), S 3559 requires mammography providers to notify patients of dense breast tissue to qualify as a medical necessity for health insurers to cover a breast ultrasound. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

[SB 2076](https://ndlegis.gov/assembly/69-2025/regular/documents/25-8085-01000.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by the Human Services Committee, SB 2076 mandates prior authorization is allowed exclusively for drugs where non-authorized alternatives are ineffective, cause adverse reactions, or are not supported by medical research. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Human Services Committee.

**OHIO**

[HB 8](https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/api/v2/general_assembly_136/legislation/hb8/00_IN/pdf/) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Andrea White (R), HB 8 requires health insurers to cover biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

[SB 11](https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/api/v2/general_assembly_136/legislation/sb11/00_IN/pdf/) – Restrictive Covenants

Introduced by Senator Louis Blessing (R), SB 11 prohibits non-compete clauses in agreements between a worker and an employer; prohibits agreements imposing financial penalties for leaving employments; allows a worker to bring a civil action against an employer for violations; attorney general and director of commerce are responsible for investigating complaints; worker is defined as someone who provides services for an employer, including independent contractors.

[SB 36](https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/api/v2/general_assembly_136/legislation/sb36/00_IN/pdf/) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Jerry Cirino (R), SB 36 allows optometrists to perform incision and curettage of chalazions, removal and biopsy of low-risk skin lesions, and laser surgeries; allows optometrists to prescribe and dispense vision correction devices that deliver drugs. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

**OKLAHOMA**

[SB 1064](https://www3.oklegislature.gov/cf_pdf/2025-26%20INT/SB/SB1064%20INT.PDF) – Step-Therapy

Introduced by Senator Paul Rosino (R), SB 1064 requires health insurers to use step-therapy protocols based on evidence-based and peer-review clinical practice guidelines, if available; requires a clear process to request exceptions to step-therapy, which must be granted if a drug is contraindicated or ineffective; health insurers must respond to an exception request within 72 hours for non-urgent, 24 hours for urgent requests. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read for the 2025 legislative session.

**OREGON**

[HB 3421](https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/HB3421/Introduced) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Dacia Grayber (D), HB 3421 requires health insurers cover biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

[HB 281](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/HB0281/PN0224) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Jeanne McNeill (D), HB 281 requires health insurers provide no cost-sharing annual prostate cancer screenings for high-risk individuals aged 40 and above. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee

**RHODE ISLAND**

[H 5108](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H5108.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Joseph Solomon (D), H 5108 allows internationally trained physicians to practice at health care facilities in rural and underserved communities; provides a mentorship alternative to the residency requirement; creates pathways to licensure. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Corporations Committee.

[H 5119](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H5119.pdf) – Step Therapy

Introduced by Representative Michelle McGaw (D), H 5119 establishes exceptions to step therapy requirements, including when an adverse reaction is expected. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[H 5172](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H5172.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Susan Donovan (D), H 5172 mandates health insurers document artificial intelligence (AI) usage for at least five years and notify enrollees and health care providers when AI is used to issue adverse determinations; prohibits health insurers from relying solely on AI to deny or alter coverage. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[H 5174](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H5174.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative David Bennett (D), H 5174 establishes a licensure framework for surgical assistants; creates a board of licensure for certified surgical assistants. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[H 5179](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/HouseText25/H5179.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Alex Finkelman (D), H 5179 revises the interest calculation on civil action damages; removes previous exclusion of the new interest calculation method for medical malpractice actions. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[S 13](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0013.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Senator Linda Ujifusa (D), S 13 mandates health insurers to publicly disclose their use of artificial intelligence (AI), maintain documentation of AI decisions for five years, and notify enrollees and healthcare providers when AI is used to issue adverse determinations. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies Committee.

[S 66](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0066.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Pamela Lauria (D), S 66 makes expressions of apology or sympathy by health care providers inadmissible as evidence of liability in legal proceedings. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

[H 3109](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3109_20241205.htm) – Insurance

Introduced by Representative Kambrell Garvin (D), H 3109 expands Medicaid for adults under 65 with low incomes. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

[H 3202](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3202_20241205.htm) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Sylleste Davis (R), H 3202 requires health insurers to provide no cost sharing screenings for diagnostic and supplemental breast exams. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Labor, Commerce and Industry Committee.

[H 3579](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3579_20241212.htm) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Marvin Smith (R), H 3579 allows physician assistants to practice independently; PAs practicing under an attestation statement can perform a wide range of medical services; physician assistants are authorized to prescribe, dispense, order and administer Schedule II-V drugs. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee.

[H 3580](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/3580_20241212.htm) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Marvin Smith (R), H 3580 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after completing 2,000 clinical hours, must possess malpractice insurance, and receive approval from the nursing board. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Medical, Military, and Public and Municipal Affairs Committee.

[S 19](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/19_20250115.htm) – Student Loan Repayment

Introduced by Senator Brad Hutto (D), S 19 establishes a loan forgiveness program for healthcare professionals serving in underserved areas, offering up to $30,000 in debt relief. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Education Committee.

[S 44](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/44_20241211.htm) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Tom Davis (R), S 44 allows physician assistants with over 2,000 hours of postgraduate clinical experience to practice independently; PAs practicing under an attestation statement can perform a wide range of medical services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Medical Affairs Committee.

[S 45](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/45_20241211.htm) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Tom Davis (R), S 45 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after completing 2,000 clinical hours, possessing professional liability insurance, and receiving approval from the nursing board. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Medical Affairs Committee.

**SOUTH DAKOTA**

[HB 112](https://mylrc.sdlegislature.gov/api/Documents/277841.pdf) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Josephine Garcia (R), HB 1112 requires health insurers to cover biomarker testing. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 87](https://mylrc.sdlegislature.gov/api/Documents/276470.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Sydney Davis (R), SB 87 creates exceptions from prior authorizations (PA) when the health care provider has a high approval rate for PA for a specific service. The bill was introduced in the Senate and read.

[SB 102](https://mylrc.sdlegislature.gov/api/Documents/277363.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Leslie Heinemann (R), SB 102 changes the physician/physician assistant relationship from supervising to collaborating; requires the collaborating physician to be physically present at the location where the PA is providing services or immediately available by electronic means; a PA may have a collaborative agreement with more than one physician. The bill was introduced in the Senate and filed for the 2025 legislative session.

**TENNESSEE**

[HB 484](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/HB0484.pdf) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Brock Martin (R), HB 484 mandates health insurers provide coverage for biomarker testing. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 435](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/SB0435.pdf) – Biomarker

Introduced by Senator Shane Reeves (R), SB 435 mandates health insurers provide coverage for biomarker testing. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**TEXAS**

[HB 198](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB00198I.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Benjamin Bumgarner (R), HB 198 requires political subdivisions to provide no cost-sharing colorectal, prostate, lung, and brain cancer screening for firefighters every three years. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 637](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB00637I.pdf) – STOP THE BLEED®

Introduced by Representative Barbara Gervin-Hawkins (D), HB 637 mandates the establishment of bleeding control kits in public schools; bleeding control training on the use of kits is required for school peace officers, security personnel, school resources officers, and armed security officers; mandates students in grade four and above receive annual instruction on using bleeding control stations. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 712](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB00712I.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Philip Cortez (D), HB 712 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing screenings for prostate cancer. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 792](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB00792I.pdf) – Medicaid

Introduced by Representative Diego Bernal (D), HB 792 proposes expanding Medicaid eligibility in counties through a federal waiver. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 1052](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB01052I.pdf) – Telehealth

Introduced by Representative Salman Bhojani (D), HB 1052 mandates health insurers cover telehealth services when the originating site is located outside of the state provided the individual receiving service primarily resides in the state and the health professional is licensed within the state and maintains a physical office there. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 1709](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB01709I.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Giovanni Capriglione (R), HB 1709 allows patients to appeal consequential health care decisions made by artificial intelligence (AI); mandates the right to obtain a meaningful explanation regarding the decision-making procedure and the main elements of the decision taken from the deployer of the AI. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 2038](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB02038I.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Tom Oliverson (R), HB 2038 introduces a provisional licensing system for foreign medical license holders who graduated from a board-recognized accredited medical school or osteopathic medical school in the United States or Canada, or from a medical school recognized by the board; applicant must have English proficiency; applicant must not have been or currently be the subject of disciplinary action by the medical licensing authority of any other jurisdiction; applicant must has a job offer. The bill was filed in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

[HB 2119](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB02119I.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Cassandra Hernandez (D), HB 2119 removes preauthorization requirements for screening mammograms, diagnostic imaging, reconstructive surgeries, prostheses, and inpatient care. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 2190](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB02190I.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Donna Howard (D), HB 2190 provides immunity from criminal liability for harm or damage resulting from acts or omissions related to the provision of healthcare services, except in cases of criminal negligence or intentional harm. The bill filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 117](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB00177I.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Jose Menendez (D), SB 177 requires health insurers 24/7 telephone access for health plan verifications and prior authorization requests; health insurers must respond to these calls as soon as possible, but no later than two hours after the call is received. The bill was filed and is pending introduction in the Senate.

[SB 397](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB00397I.pdf) – Telehealth

Introduced by Senator Kevin Sparks (R), SB 397 requires in-person exams before irreversible procedures. The bill was filed and is pending introduction in the Senate.

[SB 911](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB00911I.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Ceasar Blanco (D), SB 911 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently after completing 3,000 clinical practice hours within the preceding five years. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending referral to a committee.

**UTAH**

[HB 65](https://le.utah.gov/Session/2025/bills/introduced/HB0065.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Casey Snider (R), HB 65 expands the list of cancers presumed to arise from firefighting duties to include bladder, blood, brain, breast and other cancers; mandates no cost-sharing cancer screenings, with the fire department covering expenses. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

[HB 314](https://le.utah.gov/Session/2025/bills/introduced/HB0314.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Jennifer Dailey-Provost (D), HB 314 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing breast cancer screenings. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

**VERMONT**

[H 96](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Docs/BILLS/H-0096/H-0096%20As%20Introduced.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Representative Mari Cordes (D), H 96 increases the monetary threshold for health care projects requiring a certificate of need from $1.5 million to $10 million. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[S 20](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Docs/BILLS/S-0020/S-0020%20As%20Introduced.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Senator Martine Gulick (D), S 20 increases the monetary threshold for health care projects requiring a certificate of need from $1.5 million to $10 million. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

[S 28](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Docs/BILLS/S-0028/S-0028%20As%20Introduced.pdf) – Truth in Advertising

Introduced by Senator Ruth Hardy (D), S 28 prohibits misleading advertising to encompass all health care services; establishes misleading advertising as unprofessional conduct. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

**WASHINGTON**

[HB 1062](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/House%20Bills/1062.pdf) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Monica Stonier (D), HB 1062 mandates health insurers cover biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Care and Wellness Committee.

[HB 1566](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/House%20Bills/1566.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Alicia Rule (D), HB 1566 requires health insurers to respond to electronic PA within three calendar days and expedited PA requests within one calendar day; mandates carriers must report PA statistics on their website; prohibits retroactive denials of care for care that already received PA. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Care and Wellness Committee.

[HB 1706](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/House%20Bills/1706.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Tarra Simmons (D), HB 1706 requires health insurers to provide electronic prior authorization (PA) decisions within three calendar days and expedited electronic requests within one day; standard nonelectronic requests must be responded to within five calendar days, expedited requests must be responded to within two calendar days. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Wellness Committee.

[SB 5118](https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/5118.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Javier Valdez (D), SB 5118 allows the issuance of limited licenses to international medical graduates who are certified by the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, have passed the first two steps of the US Medical Licensing Examination, and have undergone a background check. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Long-Term Care Committee.

**WYOMING**

[HB 76](https://wyoleg.gov/2025/Introduced/HB0076.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Ken Clouston (R), HB 76 mandates prior authorization decisions and appeals must be conducted by state licensed health care providers. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.