**ACS State Affairs Legislative Update – March 28, 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**

California: April 9, Sacramento, California

District of Columbia: May 17, District of Columbia

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

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

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

**ALASKA**

[HB 144](https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/34/Bills/HB0144A.PDF) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Justin Ruffridge (R). HB 144 requires health insurers to respond to prior authorization requests within 72 hours for non-urgent requests, 24 hours for urgent requests; allows patients to request exceptions for step-therapy for previous ineffective treatments or adverse reactions. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Social Services Committee.

**ARKANSAS**

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

Introduced by Representative Ryan Rose (R), HB 1309 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing breast cancer screenings and diagnostic services. Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders signed the bill into law March 12.

[HB 1859](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1859.pdf) – Insurance

Introduced by Representative Ryan Rose (R), HB 1859 requires health insurers to provide medical and surgical benefits for a minimum hospital stay of 48 hours for any patient receiving a mastectomy; requires health insurers to provide coverage for breast reconstruction surgery, including surgery on the non-affected breast for symmetry, prostheses, and treatment for complications; prohibits insurers from denying or limiting coverage. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Commerce Committee.

[SB 139](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FSB139.pdf) – Restrictive Covenant **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Justin Boyd (R), SB 139 voids restrictive covenant agreements in a physician's employment contract. Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders (R) signed the bill into law March 4.

**CALIFORNIA**

[AB 985](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billPdf.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB985&version=20250AB98598AMD) – Licensure

Introduced by Assemblymember Patrick Ahrens (D), AB 985 prohibits individuals from using the title "doctor" or the prefix "Dr." on their nametags unless they are authorized to do so under existing laws; requires health care practitioners to disclose their name and license status on name tags. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee.

[SB 351](https://legiscan.com/CA/text/SB351/id/3117237) – Corporate Practice of Medicine

Introduced by Senator Christopher Cabaldon (D), SB 351 prevents private equity (PE) groups from interfering with the professional judgment of physicians, such as diagnostic tests, referrals, patient care responsibilities, and medical equipment selection; PE may not control or influence the hiring and firing of medical staff, the content of patient records, or contracts with third-party payers. The Bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[SB 503](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billPdf.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB503&version=20250SB50398AMD) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Senator Weber Pierson (D), SB 503 establishes an advisory board related to the use of artificial intelligence in health care services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules Committee.

[SB 861](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billPdf.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB861&version=20250SB86199INT) – Licensure

Introduced by the Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee, SB 861 eliminates the requirement for physicians from Mexico pass a board review course with a score equivalent to that of U.S applicants to participate in the physicians from Mexico program. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Business, Professions, and Economic Development Committee.

**CONNECTICUT**

[HB 6895](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/H/PDF/2025HB-06895-R01-HB.PDF) – Biomarker

Introduced by the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, HB 6895 requires health insurers to provide coverage for biomarker testing; establishes a health benefit review program to evaluate the quality and cost impacts of mandated health benefits. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance and Real Estate Committee.

[SB 1452](https://www.cga.ct.gov/2025/TOB/S/PDF/2025SB-01452-R00-SB.PDF) – Hospital

Introduced by the Public Health Committee, SB 1452 limits the number of patients a hospital attending physician can be assigned during a twelve hour shift to 18, unless the hospital compensates the physician at a rate of one and a half times their hourly rate or based on a relative value unit payment methodology, whichever is greater; requires health systems to consult with physician members or seek approval from the Commissioner of Health Strategy before making any staffing changes. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health Committee.

**FLORIDA**

[SB 7028](https://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/7028/BillText/pb/PDF) – Cancer

Introduced by the Health Policy Committee, SB 7028 establishes the Cancer Connect Collaborative to advise on cancer research funding and policy; prioritizes grant applications to expand cancer screenings and treatments in underserved areas. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Policy Committee.

**GEORGIA**

[SR 344](https://www.legis.ga.gov/api/legislation/document/20252026/235101) – Single Payer

Introduced by Senator Nan Orrock (D), SR 344 creates a committee to study the feasibility and potential benefits of a single-payer health care system. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**IDAHO**

[H 59](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2025/legislation/H0059E1.pdf) – Moral Conscience **ENACTED**

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. Governor Brad Little (R) signed the bill into law March 19.

[H 134](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2025/legislation/H0134.pdf) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by The Health and Welfare Committee, H 134 mandates health insurers provide coverage for breast imaging for those with a personal or family history of breast cancer, genetic predispositions, prior radiation therapy, or specific breast tissue density categories. Governor Brad Little (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

**ILLINOIS**

[HB 3850](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/HB/PDF/10400HB3850.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Hoan Huynh (D), HB 3850 requires the department of professional regulation to incorporate simulation training into the 50 hours of continuing education curriculum per year for medical professionals. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Rules Committee.

**IOWA**

[HF 972](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/HF972.pdf) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by the Appropriations Committee, HF 972 establishes an incentive program with income bonuses or loan repayments for physicians who practice in underserved areas. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Appropriations Committee.

[HSB 288](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/HSB288.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by the Judiciary Committee, HSB 288 allows evidence of medical expenses to be introduced by the defendant if the claimant does not provide as evidence; limits evidence of past medical expenses to the amounts actually paid by health insurers; requires plaintiffs to provide a waiver for the release of medical records if their physical or mental condition is a factor. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**LOUISIANA**

[HB 114](https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/ViewDocument.aspx?d=1398300) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Jessica Domangue (R), HB 114 authorizes health care providers to use artificial intelligence (AI) for administrative and analytical tasks; prohibits the use of AI for making treatment or diagnosis decisions without a licensed health care professional’s review; violations can result in civil penalties. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

**MAINE**

[LD 107](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0072&item=1&snum=132) – Biomarker

Introduced by Representative Samuel Zager (D), LD 107 requires health insurers to provide coverage for biomarker testing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Coverage Committee.

[LD 765](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0495&item=1&snum=132) – Telemedicine

Introduced by Representative Michele Meyer (D), LD 765 allows physicians to prescribe controlled substances via telehealth. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[LD 975](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0635&item=1&snum=132) – Criminalization

Introduced by Representative Abigail Griffin (R), LD 975 holds health care professionals who provide abortions criminally liable. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

[LD 1166](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=HP0771&item=1&snum=132) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Kristen Cloutier (D), LD 1166 changes the title of "physician assistant" to "physician associate.” The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[LD 1301](https://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/bills/getPDF.asp?paper=SP0531&item=1&snum=132) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Senator Mike Tipping (D), LD 1301 prohibits health insurers from using artificial intelligence (AI) to deny claims; AI determinations must be based on an enrollee's medical history and clinical circumstances; any denial, delay, modification, or adjustment based on medical necessity must be made by a clinical peer who is competent to evaluate the specific clinical issues involved. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

[HD 3029](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/194/HD3029) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Kate Lipper-Garabedian (D), HD 3029 prohibits contracts with physicians from restricting their ability to testify in administrative or judicial hearings, including medical malpractice cases. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

**MINNESOTA**

[HF 2555](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=HF2555&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Danny Nadeau (R), HF 2555 establishes a pilot program to evaluate the efficiency, costs, and benefits of using retrospective utilization review compared to prior authorization for health care services. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the State Government Finance and Policy Committee.

[SF 2743](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF2743&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Telemedicine

Introduced by Senator Paul Utke (R), SF 2743 extends Medicaid coverage to include audio-only telehealth services; establishes reimbursement parity between telehealth and in-person services. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**MISSOURI**

[HB 1010](https://documents.house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills251/hlrbillspdf/0776H.01I.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Matthew Overcast (R), HB 1010 establishes a pathway for assistant physicians to become fully licensed physicians. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Professional Registration and Licensing Committee.

[SB 79](https://www.senate.mo.gov/25info/pdf-bill/perf/SB79.pdf) – Telemedicine/Cancer

Introduced by Senator David Gregory (R), SB 79 prohibits limiting the platforms health care providers use to deliver telehealth services; repeals requirement for mammography facilities to provide specific notices about dense breast tissue. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Insurance and Banking Committee.

**NEVADA**

[AB 483](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/AB/AB483.pdf) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by the Health and Human Services Committee, AB 483 requires health care licensing boards to prioritize licensure applications for professionals intending to work in historically underserved communities. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 434](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/83rd2025/Bills/SB/SB434.pdf) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by Senator Nicole Cannizzaro (D), SB 434 establishes a grant program to address health care provider shortages, funded by a dedicated state account with an initial $50 million appropriation; health care professionals may apply for the grants, provided they secure matching funds. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**NEW JERSEY**

[S 4286](https://pub.njleg.state.nj.us/Bills/2024/S4500/4286_I1.PDF) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Vin Gopal (D), S 4286 prohibits state boards and agencies from inquiring into an applicant's history of receiving behavioral health care during the licensing or renewal process; behavioral health care responses must remain confidential and cannot be used as the sole basis for denying licensure. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health Committee.

**NEW MEXICO**

[HB 243](https://www.nmlegis.gov/Sessions/25%20Regular/Amendments_In_Context/HB0243.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Marian Matthews (D), HB 243 enters the state into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**NEW YORK**

[A 7239](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/A7239) – Insurance

Introduced by Assemblymember Monique Chandler-Waterman (D), A 7239 requires Medicare and Medicaid managed care providers to cover medical treatment from an out-of-network provider if the patient has an established long-term relationship with the health care professional. The bill was introduced in the Assembly and referred to the Health Committee.

[S 6662](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S6662) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Senator Joseph Griffo (R), S 6662 amends state law to include physicians protected under assault provisions; makes it a criminal offense to intentionally prevent physicians from performing their lawful duties. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Codes Committee.

[S 6693](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S6693) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Robert Jackson (D), S 6693 expands podiatry to include diagnosing, testing, operating, and prescribing for conditions affecting the foot, ankle, and the skin of the leg below the tibial tuberosity; prohibits procedures above the malleoi including the treatment of melanoma, Mohs surgery, and muscle flaps or microvascular anastomoses. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Higher Education Committee.

[S 6749](https://legislation.nysenate.gov/pdf/bills/2025/S6749) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Lea Webb (D), S 6749 requires health insurers to cover annual medical exams for insured firefighters which includes cervical exam, breast exam, mammograms, and low dose computed tomography. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Insurance Committee.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

[H 480](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/House/PDF/H480v0.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Grant Campbell (R), H 480 creates a license by endorsement for an applicant who has an unrestricted license in another U.S. jurisdiction for at least five years, has a full-time employment offer, and is in good standing; raises licensure fee application costs from $400 to $550 The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[H 502](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/House/PDF/H502v0.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Allison Dahle (D), H 502 requires health care professionals to undergo continuing education focused on cultural competency and specialized training for LGBTQ patients. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[H 514](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/House/PDF/H514v0.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Donna White (R), H 514 allows advanced practice registered nurses to diagnose and treat diseases. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[S 332](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S332v1.pdf) – Truth in Advertising

Introduced by Senator Amy Galey (R), S 332 requires transparency in health care practitioner advertising; advertisements must clearly identify practitioners’ type of license, certification, and registration; prohibits any deceptive or misleading information. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules and Operations Committee.

[S 336](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S336v1.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Brenton Sawrey (R), S 336 enters the state into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact; introduces an internationally trained physician employee license for international medical graduates who meet requirements and receive full-time employment in a hospital or rural practice setting. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Rules and Operations Committee.

[S 370](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S370v0.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Senator Brenton Sawrey (R), S 370 repeals certificate of need requirements. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 396](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S396v0.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Danny Britt (R), S 396 creates a license by endorsement for an applicant who has an unrestricted license in another U.S. jurisdiction for at least five years, has a full-time employment offer, and is in good standing; raises licensure fee application costs from $400 to $550 The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 494](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S494v0.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Senator Steve Jarivs (R), S 494 eliminates certificate of need requirements in all counties except those with a population of less than 100,000 people and at least one functional hospital. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 509](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S509v0.pdf) – Criminalization

Introduced by Senator Ralph Hise (R), S 509 mandates physicians to connect to the Health Information Exchange Network to submit demographic and clinical data for state funded health care; introduces civil penalties for submitting false information. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 537](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S537v0.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Ralph Hise (R), S 537 allows advanced practice registered nurses to practice independently; allows certified registered nurse anesthetists to select, order, procure, prescribe, and administer drugs; order diagnostic studies and supervise procedures. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 553](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S553v0.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Sydney Batch (D), S 553 requires health insurers to provide coverage for breast and cervical cancer screenings; ensures cost-sharing requirements for diagnostic and supplemental breast cancer exams are no less favorable than those for screening exams. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[S 673](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/Senate/PDF/S673v0.pdf) – Restrictive Covenants

Introduced by Senator Jim Burgin (R), S 673 prohibits restrictive covenants in contracts between a health care professional and a hospital; prohibits adverse actions against health care professionals after reporting violations of medical staff bylaws to appropriate authorities. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**OHIO**

[HB 452](https://search-prod.lis.state.oh.us/api/v2/general_assembly_135/legislation/hb452/05_EN/pdf/) – Workplace Violence **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Andrea White (R), HB 452 requires each hospital system to establish a security plan for preventing workplace violence and managing aggressive behaviors; the plan must involve a team that includes its health care employees who provide direct patient care. Governor Mike DeWine (R) signed the bill into law January 8.

**PENNSLYVANIA**

[HR 100](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/HR0100/PN0837) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Natalie Mihalek (R), HR 100 designates March as Colorectal Cancer awareness month. The resolution was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

**RHODE ISLAND**

[SB 846](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0846.pdf) – Insurance

Introduced by Senator David Tikoian (D), SB 846 prohibits health insurers from denying payment of medical bills due to third-party claims; health insurers must complete claims for covered services within 40 days for written claims and 30 days for electronic claims. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SR 873](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0873.pdf) – Medicaid

Introduced by Senator Jacob Bissaillon (D), SR 873 appropriates $90,000,000 to increase reimbursement rates for all physicians in the Medicaid program. The resolution was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

[H 4189](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/4189_20250320.htm) – Trauma Funding

Introduced by Representative Sylleste Davis (R), H 4189 establishes standards and regulations for the creation of a state trauma care system; allocates funding for trauma research, injury prevention, education, and planning. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Medical, Military, Public, and Municipal Affairs Committee.

**TEXAS**

[HB 1869](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB01869I.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Tom Oliverson (R), HB 1869 prohibits health care facilities from discriminating against physicians with alternate board certifications when making employment or privilege decisions; facilities violating the act will have their license revoked; medical board is responsible for implementation. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Public Health Committee.

[HB 4806](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB04806I.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Greg Bonnen (R), HB 4806 requires unanimous jury findings on noneconomic damages and prohibits punitive damages in those awards; limits economic damages for health care expenses to amounts paid out of pocket by the plaintiff and third-party payors. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 30](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB00030I.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Charles Schwertner (R), SB 30 requires unanimous jury findings on noneconomic damages and prohibits punitive damages in those awards; limits economic damages for health care expenses to amounts paid by third-party payors. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Business and Commerce Committee.

[SB 881](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB00881I.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Kevin Sparks (R), SB 881 introduces a provisional license for foreign medical graduates with a medical degree, a license in good standing, and an employment offer; provisional licenses are valid up to three years, during which a licensee must practice under supervision of a sponsoring physician; provides a path to an unrestricted license. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 902](https://capitol.texas.gov/Search/DocViewer.aspx?DocId=89RSB009021B&AllWords=&AnyWords=&ExactWords=&CustomWords=sb+902&DocType=B) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Kevin Sparks (R), SB 902 prohibits health care facilities from discriminating against physicians with alternate board certifications in employment or privilege decisions; violators will have their license revoked; medical board is responsible for implementation and must allow alternate board certifications for applicants who meet all eligibility requirements. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[SB 2339](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB02339I.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Bryan Hughes (R), SB 2339 prohibits employment discrimination of a physician based on approved medical education and board certification; violators may have their facility license revoked. The bill was introduced in the Senate and filed.

[SB 2695](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB02695I.pdf) – Rural Health Workforce

Introduced by Senator Lois Kolkhorst (R), SB 2695 establishes programs to support students from counties with populations under 25,000 pursuing medical education through scholarships, stipends, and guaranteed admission to participating medical schools; provides pathway for advanced practice registered nurses with seven years’ experience to become physicians. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**UTAH**

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

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. Governor Spencer Cox (R) signed the bill into law March 25.

[HB 146](https://le.utah.gov/Session/2025/bills/enrolled/HB0146.pdf) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by Representative Katy Hall (R), HB 146 repeals the women's cancer screening notification regarding dense breast tissue. Governor Spencer Cox (R) signed the bill March 24.

**VERMONT**

[H 71](https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2026/Docs/BILLS/H-0071/H-0071%20As%20Introduced.pdf) – Corporate Practice of Medicine

Introduced by Representative Tiff Bluemle (D), H 71 prohibits corporations from practicing medicine or interfering with health care providers' professional judgement; requires public reporting on the ownership and control of health care entities; establishes a review process for transactions that may significantly affect market competition or health care services. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Care Committee.

**VIRGINIA**

[HB 1649](https://s3.amazonaws.com/state-bill-supporting-docs/c40151d20f351c2e0b5f3ea21ab827d6) [– Licensure](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1066859.PDF) **[RETURNED WITH AMENDMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1066859.PDF)**

[Introduced by Delegate C.E. Cliff Hayes, Jr., HB 1649 requires physicians to complete continuing education on unconscious bias and cultural competency for license renewal. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) returned the bill with an amendment.](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1066859.PDF)

[HB 1700](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1066859.PDF) – STOP THE BLEED® **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Nadarius Clark (D), HB 1700 mandates the development and implementation of bleeding control programs and kits in all public elementary and secondary schools; including the placement of bleeding control kits in accessible locations; each school board shall develop and implement a bleeding control program in each public elementary and secondary school; provides Good Samaritan protection. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[HB 1828](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1052455.PDF) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Shelly Simonds (D), HB 1828 eliminates cost-sharing for diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[HB 1861](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1060978.PDF) – Licensure **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Marcia Price (D), HB 1861 requires the board of medicine to create a licensure by endorsement pathway. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[HB 1898](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1061124.PDF) – Scope of Practice **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Rodney Willett (D), HB 1898 allows optometrists with a therapeutic pharmaceutical agent certification to prescribe and administer Schedule II-V controlled substances. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[HB 2085](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1052459.PDF) – Insurance **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Irene Shin (D), HB 2085 requires carriers pay claims within 40 days of receipt; carriers must notify claim submitters of any defects within 30 days; carriers must offer alternative payment methods that do not impose transaction fees if a credit card or electronic fund transfer is used; carriers must disclose bundling and down coding policies to providers. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[HB 2097](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1052471.PDF) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Terry Austin (R), HB 2097 extends no cost sharing prostate cancer screenings to individuals aged 50 and over at risk; 45 and over at high risk; and 40 and over at higher risk; mandates coverage for mammograms. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[HB 2099](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1071014.PDF) – Prior Authorization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Michelle Maldonado (D), HB 2099 requires carriers pay claims within 40 days of receipt; carriers must notify claim submitters of any defects within 30 days; carriers must offer alternative payment methods that do not impose transaction fees if a credit card or electronic fund transfer is used; carriers must disclose bundling and down coding policies to providers. Governor Glenn Youngkin signed the bill into law March 18.

[HB 2119](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1061783.PDF) – Certificate of Need **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Wendell Walker (R), HB 2119 expedites the certificate of need process for health care projects in medical deserts and defining criteria for such areas. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[HB 2525](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1066554.PDF) – Prior Authorization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Delegate Hyland Fowler, Jr (R), HB 2525 requires health insurers to accept electronic submissions of prior authorization (PA) requests; maintain a tracking system of all requests; carriers must honor PAs from other carriers for 90 days; establishes maximum response times for PA requests. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[SB 882](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1062193.PDF) – Licensure **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Mamie Locke (D), SB 882 establishes a licensing framework for anesthesiologist assistants in Virginia. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[SB 892](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1062206.PDF) – Professional Liability **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Glen Sturtevant (R), SB 892 requires medical malpractice plaintiffs’ cases to obtain a written expert opinion certifying a deviation from the standard of care. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[SB 925](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1047298.PDF) – Insurance **ENACTED**

Introduced by the Senate Commerce Labor Committee, SB 925 requires health insurers include fair standards for processing and paying claims; requires payment of claims within 40 days, unless there is a dispute; health insurers have 30 days for claim defect notification; prohibits retroactive denials; requires alternate payment methods without transaction fees; electronic verification of enrollee coverage; allows providers to seek damages for violations and prohibits insurers from penalizing providers for exercising their rights. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 21.

[SB 1203](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1054570.PDF) – Certificate of Need **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Christopher Head (R), SB 1203 establishes an expedited application and review process for certificate of need applications in areas designated as medical deserts. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

[SB 1215](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1071018.PDF) – Prior Authorization **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Stella Pekarsky (D), SB 1215 requires health insurers to make decisions on prior authorization (PA) requests within 72 hours, including weekend hours, non-urgent decisions within seven days; mandates carriers accept electronic PA; carriers must make a list of services which require PA publicly available and post annual statistics on request outcomes. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 18.

[SB 1436](https://lis.blob.core.windows.net/files/1047290.PDF) – Cancer **ENACTED**

Introduced by Senator Russet Perry (D), SB 1436 requires health insurers to provide no cost sharing breast cancer screenings, including mammograms, breast magnetic resonance imaging, or breast ultrasound. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Labor Committee. Governor Glenn Youngkin (R) signed the bill into law March 24.

**WEST VIRGINIA**

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

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. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Government Organization Committee.

[SB 833](http://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2025_SESSIONS/RS/bills/sb833%20intr.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Laura Chapman (R), SB 833 excludes pharmaceutical medication from prior authorization gold card processes. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Finance Committee.

**WYOMING**

[SF 155](https://wyoleg.gov/2025/Engross/SF0155.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Senator Ogden Driskill (R), SF 155 allows the board of medicine to issue provisional medical licenses to international medical graduates, with at least five years of practice post-residency and English fluency; provisional licensure is contingent on whether the physician has employment and has the necessary federal immigration status; provisional license holders may apply for a full license after three years. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Labor Committee.