**ACS State Affairs Legislative Update – February 14, 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**

Tennessee: March 4, Nashville, Tennessee

California: April 9, Sacramento, California

**STATE REGULATIONS**

**FLORIDA**

The Board of Medicine and Board of Osteopathic Medicine issued proposed rules updating office-based surgery requirements. The rules require a pre-registration inspection for office-based surgery facilities and for facilities to provide notification to the department of health within ten days if the designated physician is terminated with an indicated replacement designated physician, otherwise the facility must cease any performance of office-based surgeries. Read the proposed rules for [medical](https://track.govhawk.com/public/registers/wlbGl) and [osteopathic](https://track.govhawk.com/public/registers/72gx4) boards.

**STATUS OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS**

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

**LEGISLATIVE TRACKING**

**ALASKA**

[SB 89](https://www.akleg.gov/PDF/34/Bills/SB0089A.PDF) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Loki Tobin (D), SB 89 allows physician assistants (PA) to obtain temporary permits and be recognized as an “attending physician”; requires PAs with under 4,000 post graduate clinical hours to work under a collaborative agreement; allows supervision through telecommunications; prohibits restrictive covenants; the medical board is responsible for establishing a scope of practice for PAs which excludes surgery. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Social Services Committee.

**ARKANSAS**

[HB 1244](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FHB1244.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Representative Karilyn Brown (R), HB 1244 reduces the number of hours certified nurse practitioners (CNPs) and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) need to practice independently from 6,240 hours to 2,000 hours; recognizes hours from other states, territories, or foreign countries where CNP or CNS has a license in good standing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

[SB 117](https://arkleg.state.ar.us/Home/FTPDocument?path=%2FBills%2F2025R%2FPublic%2FSB117.pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Clint Penzo (R), SB 117 establishes licensure for naturopaths; allows minor surgical care and procedures such as superficial laceration and removal of foreign bodies located in superficial structures. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committee.

**COLORADO**

[SB 152](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2025A/bills/2025a_152_01.pdf) – Truth in Advertising

Introduced by Senator Lisa Frizell (R), SB 152 mandates health care professionals display their credentials on ID name tags without abbreviations and to verbally communicate their credentials and when establishing a patient relationship. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**FLORIDA**

[HB 475](https://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/475/BillText/Filed/PDF) – Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Introduced by Representative Tiffany Esposito (R), HB 475 mandates licensure and provides criminal and administrative penalties for an ambulatory surgical center (ASC) operating without a license; ; ASCs are required to adopt patient safety plans and protocols for handling adverse incidents; ASCs must ensure sufficient staffing, infection control, and emergency management plans; ASCs must maintain inspection records and construction standards and submit plans for review and approval. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

**HAWAII**

[HB 817](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2025/bills/HB817_.PDF) – Ambulatory Surgical Centers

Introduced by Representative Keohokapu-Lee Loy (D), HB 817 allows physicians to practice at an ambulatory health care facility without needing hospital privileges or written transfer agreement. The bill was introduced and referred to the Health, Consumer Protection, and Commerce Committee.

**IDAHO**

[H 77](https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2025/legislation/H0077.pdf) – Assistant Physicians

Introduced by the House Health and Welfare Committee, H 77 establishes a limited licensure system for assistant physicians (AP), defined as individuals within three years of graduating from an accredited medical school in the US; the limited license is renewable for up to three years; APs must practice under the supervision of a licensed physician; APs have prescriptive authority; APs subject to same professional liability responsibilities as a fully licensed physician; APs can become fully licensed if they pass the third step of the USMLE, complete 36 months of collaborative practice; fulfill CME requirements. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Welfare Committee.

**ILLINOIS**

[HB 3001](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/HB/PDF/10400HB3001.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Norine Hammond (R), HB 3001 requires health insurers to provide no-cost sharing ovarian cancer screenings, including ovarian cancer surveillance tests. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Rules Committee.

[HB 3435](https://ilga.gov/legislation/104/HB/PDF/10400HB3435.pdf) – Workplace Violence

Introduced by Representative Natalie Manley (D), HB 3435 requires hospitals, ambulatory surgical treatment centers, and retail health care facilities to establish workplace violence prevention programs; investigations must be made within 48 hours of any violent incident. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

**IOWA**

[HF 217](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/HF217.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Sean Bagniewski (D), HF 217 eliminates the need for prior authorization for cancer treatments recommended by health care providers following National Comprehensive Cancer Network protocols. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[HF 224](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/HF224.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Representative Zach Dieken (R), HF 224 eliminates certificate of need requirements for ambulatory surgical centers. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

[HF 256](https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGi/91/HF256.pdf) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Representative Brian Lohse (R), HF 256 stipulates the six-year statute of limitations for filing a medical malpractice claim does not apply if a health care provider concealed a death. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**KANSAS**

[HB 2296](https://www.kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/measures/documents/hb2296_00_0000.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Representative Sydney Carlin (D), HB 2296 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing breast cancer diagnostic and supplemental exams. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Insurance Committee.

[SB 198](https://www.kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/measures/documents/sb198_00_0000.pdf) – Criminalization

Introduced by the Public Health and Welfare Committee, SB 198 prohibits abortions except in cases where the mother’s life is at risk; provides for a civil action against those who perform abortions in violation of the law with statutory damages of at least $10,000 per violation. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

[SB 219](https://www.kslegislature.gov/li/b2025_26/measures/documents/sb219_00_0000.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Dinah Sykes (D), SB 219 mandates health insurers provide no-cost sharing diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Public Health and Welfare Committee.

**KENTUCKY**

[HB 354](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/recorddocuments/bill/25RS/hb354/orig_bill.pdf) – Certificate of Need

Introduced by Representative Marianne Proctor (R), HB 354 amends state law to allow applicants for a certificate of need to request a public hearing. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Services Committee.

**MARYLAND**

[HB 1086](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1086f.pdf) – Insurance

Introduced by Delegate Ashanti Martinez (D), HB 1086 mandates health insurers provide coverage for anesthesia services for the entire duration of medical procedures without time limits. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Operations Committee.

[HB 1240](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1240f.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Delegate C.T. Wilson (D), HB 1240 prohibits health insurers from using artificial intelligence (AI) if it was designed to reduce costs for a health insurer at the expense of delaying care or denying care; health insurers must post data about AI decisions on their website. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Operations Committee.

[HB 1314](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1314f.pdf) – Prion Authorization

Introduced by Delegate April Miller (R), HB 1314 prohibits health care professionals from charging fees to obtain prior authorization (PA) from health insurers; restricts health insurers from using artificial intelligence to automatically deny PA. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Operations Committee.

[HB 1341](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1341f.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Delegate Jamila Woods (D), HB 1341 requires health insurers to operate a 24-hour call center for prior authorization adverse decisions and appeals; requires health insurers to provide detailed written notices of adverse decisions; denial notices must state the decision is an insurance denial and have a link to a video on navigating the appeals process. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Relations Committee.

[HB 1399](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1399f.pdf) – Criminalization

Introduced by Delegate Lauren Arikan (R), HB 1399 establishes a felony for prescribing gender dysphoria hormones to minors; prescriber is subject to imprisonment up to life. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health and Government Relations Committee.

**MINNESOTA**

[SF 1053](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1053&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Insurance

Introduced by Senator Alice Mann (D), SF 1053 requires health insurers to provide coverage for bariatric surgery. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee.

[SF 1084](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF1084&version=0&session=ls94&session_year=2025&session_number=0&format=pdf) – Scope of Practice

Introduced by Senator Robert Kupec (D), SF 1084 changes the title of "physician assistant" to "physician associate." The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**MONTANA**

[SB 218](https://docs.legmt.gov/download-ticket?ticketId=f009ceed-3698-4c5e-a14a-d2858e3b8179) – Professional Liability

Introduced by Senator Greg Hertz (R), SB 218 establishes a private cause of action against health care professionals for any physical, psychological, emotional, or physiological harm caused by gender dysphoria treatments 25 years from the discovery of the injury. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

**NEBRASKA**

[LB 77](https://nebraskalegislature.gov/FloorDocs/109/PDF/Intro/LB77.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Eliot Bostar, LB 77 requires health insurers to post prior authorization requirements online; adverse determinations must be made by a licensed physician with appropriate expertise; appeals of an adverse decision must be made by a physician in a similar specialty who was not involved in the initial decision; urgent requests for determination must be made in twelve hours and non-urgent requests within three days; authorizations for chronic conditions valid for at least one year. The bill was introduced in the Legislature and referred to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

[H 67](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2025/Bills/House/PDF/H67v1.pdf) – Licensure

Introduced by Representative Timothy Reeder (R), H 67 enters the state into the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

**PENNSYLVANIA**

[HB 157](https://www.palegis.us/legislation/bills/text/PDF/2025/0/HB0157/PN0475) – Rural Workforce

Introduced by Representative Kathy Rapp (R), HB 157 establishes a grant program for health care professionals. The bill was introduced in the House and referred to the Health Committee.

**RHODE ISLAND**

[S 197](https://webserver.rilegislature.gov/BillText/BillText25/SenateText25/S0197.pdf) – Cancer

Introduced by Senator Samuel Zurier (D), S 197 requires health insurers to provide no cost-sharing diagnostic or supplemental breast exams. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Health and Human Services Committee.

**SOUTH CAROLINA**

[S 323](https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess126_2025-2026/prever/323_20250206.htm) – Criminalization

Introduced by Senator Richard Cash (R), S 323 requires a physician to notify parents within 24 hours if an abortion performed on a pregnant minor resulted in the accidental or unintentional death of the unborn child; violations can result in a misdemeanor charge and up to 30 days in prison or a fine. The bill was introduced in the Senate and referred to the Medical Affairs Committee.

**TENNESSEE**

[HB 1074](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/HB1074.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Jeff Burkhart (R), HB 1074 requires health insurers to inform patients within seven calendar days if they have communicated with the patient's health insurance entity to seek additional information necessary for processing a prior authorization request; requires health insurers to notify enrollees if a health care provider fails to submit the requested additional information within the specified seven-day timeframe. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[HB 1101](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/HB1101.pdf) – Medicaid

Introduced by Representative Gabby Salinas (D), HB 1101 authorizes the governor to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act. The bill was introduced in the House and is pending referral to a committee.

[HB 1382](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/HB1382.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Representative Torrey Harris (D), HB 1382 mandates artificial intelligence (AI) tools must base their determinations on individual clinical circumstances and relevant medical history; health insurers must disclose the use of AI; all determinations of medical necessity must be made by licensed health care professionals. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 1063](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/SB1063.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Shane Reeves (R), SB 1063 mandates that health care providers must inform patients within seven calendar days if they have communicated with the patient's health insurer to seek additional information necessary for processing a prior authorization request; requires a health insurer to notify enrollees if a health care provider fails to submit requested additional information within the specified seven-day timeframe. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

[SB 1261](https://www.capitol.tn.gov/Bills/114/Bill/SB1261.pdf) – Artificial Intelligence

Introduced by Senator Jeff Yarbro (D), SB 1261 mandates artificial intelligence (AI) determinations must be based on clinical circumstances and not solely on group datasets; requires health insurers to disclose the use of AI; AI cannot deny, delay, or modify health care services based on medical necessity. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.

**TEXAS**

[HB 2557](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/HB02557I.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Representative Venton Jones (D), HB 2557 requires prior authorization for prescription drugs for chronic health conditions renew annually. The bill was filed in the House and is pending introduction.

[SB 1142](https://www.capitol.state.tx.us/tlodocs/89R/billtext/pdf/SB01142I.pdf) – Prior Authorization

Introduced by Senator Borris Miles (D), SB 1142 prohibits health insurers from requiring prior authorization for screening mammograms, diagnostic imaging, and reconstructive surgeries. The bill was filed in the Senate and is pending introduction.