



LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY REPORT



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Regulatory Services

January 4, 2019

RLA-2019-01

State or Federal Issues Contacts: Please refer to the list of State Relations Executives at the end of this report.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY—LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES

This report includes descriptions and/or excerpts of relevant bills that passed the first chamber, passed the second chamber, or were enacted during the specific periods. In addition, a recap of significant legislative and judicial activity impacting the workers compensation system is included in the first report published each month. This report is issued on a weekly basis throughout the legislative season and provides updates on the content of these bills if and when they progress through the legislative process. This report covers bills from states where NCCI provides ratemaking services (see state list under Contact Information) and the US Congress.

BILLS ENACTED

There were no relevant workers compensation-related bills enacted within the one-week period ending December 28, 2018.

BILLS PASSING SECOND CHAMBER

There were no relevant workers compensation-related bills that passed the second chamber within the one-week period ending December 28, 2018.

BILLS PASSING FIRST CHAMBER

There were no relevant workers compensation-related bills that passed the first chamber within the one-week period ending December 28, 2018.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

State	Update
Alaska	<p>The Workers Compensation Board is scheduled to meet January 24–25, 2019, in Anchorage. The board will consider several proposed regulations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarifying hearing procedures • Updating fee schedule material • Changing how compensation may be offset • Removing the regulatory definition of employee status <p>The 2018 Alaska Supreme Court and Workers' Compensation Appeals Commission case law year in review will also be presented.</p>
Oregon	The Oregon Workers' Compensation Division adopted a new Workers' Benefit Fund Assessment effective January 1, 2019. OAR 436-070-0010 reduced the employer assessment rate from 2.8 to 2.4 cents per hour.
Utah	As part of the Utah Labor Commission's annual review of the adequacy of employer assessments to fund the Uninsured Employers' Fund (UEF) and Employers Reinsurance Fund (ERF), it updated the assessment rates for 2019. The assessment for the UEF remains unchanged at 0.25%. However, the assessment rate for the ERF was reduced a full percentage point to 2% (from 3%). The new assessment rates are effective January 1, 2019.
Wyoming	On November 27, 2018, in the case <i>Air Methods v. Department of Workforce Services</i> , the Supreme Court of Wyoming affirmed the judgment of the Office of Administrative Hearings that the Wyoming Workers' Compensation Division was required to pay the full amount billed by air ambulance service companies. The court confirmed that the Federal Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 preempted the Wyoming Workers' Compensation Division's air ambulance fee schedule.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about the legislation or proposals mentioned, please contact the appropriate NCCI state relations executive (listed below) or a representative of your local insurance trade association.

State	State Relations Executive	Phone Number
IN, NC, SC, TN	Amy Quinn	561-893-3812
HI, NM, NV, UT	Brett Barratt	801-401-6464
IL, MO, OK	Carla Townsend	561-893-3819
AZ, KS, KY	Clarissa Preston	561-945-4517
DC, MD, VA, WV	David Benedict	804-380-3005
CO, FL	Dawn Ingham	561-893-3165
CT, ME, NH, RI	Justin Moulton	860-969-7903
VT	Laura Backus Hall	802-454-1800
AL, GA, LA, MS	Laura Hart Bryan	225-635-4481
IA, NE, SD	Stephanie Paswaters	303-200-6728
AR, TX	Terri Robinson	501-333-2835
Federal Issues	Tim Tucker	202-403-8526
AK, ID, MT, OR	Todd Johnson	503-892-8919

This report is informational and is not intended to provide an interpretation of state and federal legislation.