



Legislative Update - Week 2

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It's the busiest time of the year for our legislative staff, as session is now in full swing. The efforts of our government affairs team would not be possible without your membership and involvement, and for that we are thankful. Your involvement and vigilance is more important than ever this session, and we ask for your continued support as our team fights for our patients every day at the Capitol. Scope of practice expansion, health care affordability, and tort reform issues are all on the table for this session. Stay in contact with your local legislators, let us know how you would like to be involved, and stay tuned as our legislative team continues to provide updates on this session.
- Paul D. Seltzer, DO, FOMA Legislative Chairman



FOMA Leadership in the Capitol

After a long weekend, the Legislature began the week with several committee meetings on Tuesday. We were honored to be joined this week by Dr. Eric Goldsmith, the FOMA Board President, and Dr. Joshua Lenchus, Immediate Past President of the FOMA.

Dr. Goldsmith and the FOMA legislative team participated in a discussion with the

Council of Florida Medical School Deans on the legislative process and what to expect in the 2020 Legislative Session. Senator Harrell, the Senate Health Policy Chair, was also in attendance. Senator Harrell is the sponsor of Senate Bill 218, which updates the Florida Statute to allow osteopathic medical students to take advantage of the upcoming merger of the AOA and ACGME accreditation programs.

Dr. Lenchus was featured as the Legislative Doctor of the Day on Wednesday, treating legislators, staff, and other Capitol visitors throughout the day.

Legislative Links

Takeaways from Tallahassee

This week, the FOMA legislative team was very busy, with several bills being heard on Tuesday. Included in these bills are several measures which address pharmacy benefits managers and medical billing. In Appropriations on Thursday, the Governor's Office presented the Governor's budget recommendations for the 2020-21 fiscal year.



PBM Reform on the Menu

On Tuesday, the Senate and House were scheduled to hear legislation which institute greater transparency for pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs). Independent pharmacists from all over the state converged on the Capitol to urge legislators to increase oversight and regulation of PBMs.

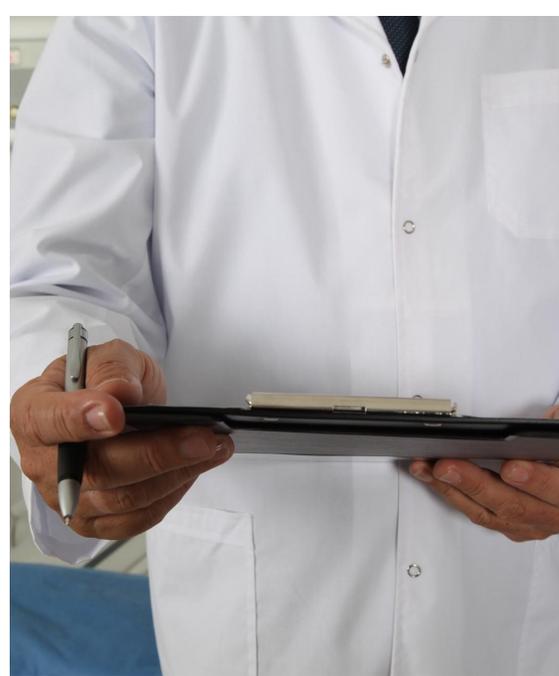
The House measure, a proposed committee bill presented by Representative Alex Andrade, creates reporting requirements for pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMS, and gives the Office of Insurance Regulation authority to enforce audit-related provisions of the Florida Pharmacy Act.

The bill passed out of the House Health Market Reform Committee on Tuesday. Senate Bill 1338, by Senator Wright, was temporarily postponed and will be heard on Tuesday.

Price Transparency Measure Moves Forward

HB 1205, by Representative Anthony Rodriguez, prohibits a health insurer from limiting a health care provider's ability to disclose whether a patient's cost-sharing obligation under his or her health insurance exceeds the cash price for a covered service, and allows providers to communicate the availability of more affordable services to insured patients.

This bill passed the Health Market Reform Committee on Tuesday and will now go to the House Insurance and Banking Committee.



Governor's Budget Presentation

The FOMA Legislative Team was in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday for a presentation on the Governor's budget recommendations for the 2020-21 Fiscal Year.

The Governor's budget proposal totals \$91.4 Billion, a \$.41 Billion increase over the 2019-20 budget. Of the \$91.4 Billion, Health and Human Services is the largest portion of the budget, comprising 42.4%.

The budget includes \$246.7M towards graduate medical education, an increase of over \$4M from this year's budget.

For more information, and a complete list of all the bills we are tracking, click the button below to visit our bill tracking website.

[Bill Tracking](#)

In the News

[Nurse Get Legislative Support for Independence](#)

[Drugmakers Rush to Provide Vaccine for Coronavirus](#)

[DNA Privacy Proposal Moves Forward](#)

[Drug Rebates Impact on Government Spending](#)

With the 2020 Legislative Session heating up, and issues such as scope of practice coming to the forefront, it is more important than ever to look ahead to the 2020 election cycle. The FOMA needs your help to continue supporting candidates that put patients first. Every dollar to our Political Action Committee goes towards supporting our mission of protecting Florida's patients. To donate, click the button below.

[FOMA PAC](#)

