



*****Don't forget about AMNP's Advocacy Day this coming Wednesday, February 12th*****

AMNP will host the first Advocacy Day of the 2020 legislative session this coming Wednesday, February 12th at 10:30AM at the Missouri State Capitol. In addition to a legislative briefing promptly at 10:30, the AMNP lobbying team will hold webinars to explain the legislative process and the current status of bills on February 11th at 7PM. If you haven't yet signed up, please visit www.missourinp.org

If you are a member of AMNP or St. Louis Nurses in Advanced Practice (SNAP), SNAP has arranged for free transportation to be provided from Ballas Transportation Center and Zumbuhl Road Commuter Lot at 7AM and 7:15AM. Just arrive 15 minutes early to ensure a timely departure. You must be a member of one or both organizations.

In yet another unanticipated short week, both the House and Senate accomplished very little this week as both chambers spent very little time on the floor and cut the week short due to weather and to allow members to attend celebrations for the Super Bowl Champion Kansas City Chiefs. Most activity that occurred this week was done in committees as the calendars to bring bills to the floor begin to fill up with numerous Republican caucus priorities. We expect to see some long days and nights ahead to make up for the short weeks thus far.

In the limited time that the House spent on the floor this week, they sent only one bill to the Senate (HB 1467 dealing with the public school pension system) and debated another four. Bills debated this week in the lower chamber included HB 1296 – a bill dealing with two-way communications in jails, HB 1521 – a bill to establish a police board for Capitol Police, HB 1934 – a bill modifying the pension system for public school teachers, and HB 1963 – a bill to enable the "Hyper Loop" high speed rail system that the governor has lauded for a couple of years.

On the Senate side, the bill that was filibustered by Democrats last week to put the legislative redistricting issue back on the ballot for voters was passed after about 3 hours of debate this week. This measure was the only bill to see floor time in the Senate with the exception of SB 528 (a bill to transfer excess foundation formula funds to the school transportation fund) and SB 599 (a bill increasing limits to linked deposits). Both SB 528 and SB 599 weren't debated but were instead brought up for the last vote to send it to the House.

The bulk of the legislating this week was accomplished in House and Senate committees on Monday afternoon and Tuesday. Budget committees continue to hear

presentations from departments and most standing committees are actively hearing a full slate of bills for their respective issues. From a health care perspective in committee, very little was done this week. The Health and Mental Health Policy committee passed HB 1486 out of committee 16-0. This bill exempts health care entities registered with the Department of Health from a crime for distributing hypodermic needles. It is part of Rep. Holly Rehder's efforts to help combat the spread of disease from intravenous drug use in addition to her continued efforts to establish a PDMP.

In Senate committees this week, the Senate Veterans & Military Affairs committee passed SB 673 sponsored by Sen. Justin Brown which establishes license reciprocity for military spouses much like a number of other House and Senate bills that have been moving this year do. The measure is designed to increase workforce opportunities for skilled professions as well as encourage settlement in Missouri.

The big news of the week specific to APRN's was the filing of SB 965, the Access Improvement for Missourians bill. The bill, filed by Sen. Cindy O'Laughlin, is a product of months of collaborative work between NP leaders throughout Missouri representing a variety of different backgrounds, educational disciplines, and organizations. It is an extraordinarily comprehensive piece of legislation that encompasses a wide range of issues including independent practice after the first six months post-graduation with a APRN or physician, a complete removal of all existing barriers, and the ability for APRN's to practice to their level of education and training. Specifically, the provisions contained within SB 965 are as follows:

- Creates a path to independent practice after a 6-month collaboration period with an APRN or physician
- Expands the range of prescriptive authority to schedules 2 – 5
- Adds APRN services to the list of covered services under MO HealthNet
- Removes requirement for APRN's to be under a collaborative practice arrangement to prescribe buprenorphine
- Removes the requirement for unnecessary information to be included in the collaborative practice arrangement
- Removes the requirement to practice within 75 miles of the collaborating physician
- Removes the requirement for chart reviews
- Nullifies any previously adopted joint rules between the Board of Healing Arts and the Board of Nursing
- Requires the Board of Healing Arts to make the collaborative practice arrangements that they are engaged in public
- Removes the cap on number of NP's/PA's/AP's a physician may collaborate with
- Establishes a license for APRN's
- Defines the scope of practice for APRN's
- Defines the Board of Nursing's rulemaking authority
- Permits renewing RN/APRN license at the same time
- Adds APRN into the pharmacy laws
- Permits APRN's to order restraints for mental health issues

This bill is the highest legislative priority for AMNP and we will be actively seeking adoption of the measure. In addition to our lobbying team, we will be asking our members to engage and help move the bill. Additionally, we will be seeking written and oral testimony when the bill is slated for a hearing. Please consider drafting your thoughts as to why this bill is critical for Missourians.

In other APRN news, Rep Dean Plocher filed HB 2382 this week that restricts the ability of APRN's and other doctorally prepared individuals from utilizing their academic title. More importantly, the bill currently includes prohibitions to certain types of "surgical" procedures that are routinely performed by NP's such as biopsies, excisions, and other routine office practices. This bill is nearly identical to SB 942 that was filed in the Senate a couple of weeks ago. We will be actively opposing these bills.

As always, if you have a question on any House or Senate bill, you'll be visiting the Capitol and would like assistance, or if we can be of service in any other way, please don't hesitate to contact us. You may reach us by phone at 573-533-5062 or by email at nursepractitioners@missourinp.org

ACTION ON BILLS OF INTEREST/BILLS TRACKED

HOUSE BILLS	
1693	Establishes the "Narcotics Control Act"
Passed out of committee	
2311	Prohibits provider-based facilities from charging, billing, or collecting a facility fee for services provided to patients
Referred to Insurance Policy	
2326	Adds provisions relating to noncompete agreements for health care professionals
Referred to Downsizing State Government	
2337	Modifies provisions relating to medication orders
Read Second Time	
2351	Adds provisions relating to epinephrine auto-injectors
Read Second Time	
2379	Modifies provisions for health care for children
Read Second Time	
2380	Modifies provisions relating to immunizations
Read Second Time	
2381	Permits certain health care providers to order restraints on patients in hospitals
Read Second Time	
2382	Modifies provisions relating to titles of certain health care practitioners
Read Second Time	
HJR 106	Proposes an amendment to the Constitution of Missouri relating to health care
Referred to Budget	

SENATE BILLS

523	Relating to the schedules of controlled substances
Passed Senate Health & Pensions Committee	
548	Relating to federal reimbursement allowances
Hearing scheduled for Appropriations Committee on 2/12	
647	Relating to professional registration
Hearing scheduled for General Laws Committee on 2/11	
670	Relating to professional registration for the healing arts
Hearing conducted Senate Professional Registration Committee	
689	Relating to continuing education for professional licensees
Hearing conducted Senate Professional Registration Committee	
957	Enacts provisions relating to the credentialing of health care practitioners by health carriers
Introduced and first read	
965	Permits the Missouri State Board of Nursing to establish rules setting forth the licensure, renewal procedures, required fees, and discipline of advanced practice registered nurses
Introduced and first read	
971	Enacts provisions relating to payments for prescription drugs
Introduced and first read	