

In the latter part of the week, a number of things happened specific to APRN's in the Capitol. As mentioned in the call to action that was sent out on Friday, two APRN bills were scheduled for a committee hearing on Monday. HB 1816 sponsored by Rep. Hannah Kelly that removes the geographic proximity restriction for APRN's in rural areas will be heard in the House Health and Mental Health Policy Committee at 12PM on Monday in House Hearing Room 7 in the basement of the Capitol. SB 942 sponsored by Sen. Jeanie Riddle that prohibits NP's from using the abbreviated title of Dr., forces NP's to wear a name tag identifying yourself as an APRN, and prohibits NP's from performing minor surgical procedures will be heard at 2PM in the Senate Lounge on the 3rd Floor. As mentioned in the announcement sent out, we need as many NP's as possible to testify in support of HB 1816 and in opposition to SB 942. If you are unable to make it to Jefferson City to testify on either bill, please send us your written testimony to nursepractitioners@missourinp.org

In addition to SB 942, APRN's continue to be under attack because our opponents sense growing momentum for support for APRN priorities. On Friday, Sen. Bob Onder filed SB 1078 which places APRN's under the Board of Healing Arts rather than the Board of Nursing. This is yet another attempt to control the practice of APRN's and something that AMNP adamantly opposes. At this time the bill has simply been filed and has received no other action. We expect that the bill will be heard in committee at some point but will work to ensure that it goes no further.

Also this week, Rep. Shane Roden offered an amendment on the House floor to amend HB 1896 to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe medical marijuana. The measure failed on a voice vote (even with some staunch NP supporters voting against the amendment) as it was seen as a larger effort to derail the bill just like other amendments offered during debate. Nevertheless, the floor time gave Rep. Roden an opportunity to discuss why Missouri's NP's are so vital to the health care delivery system in Missouri.

In other action this week, the Capitol was extraordinarily busy on both sides of the building. Candidate filing for the August Primary election began this week, with 350 candidates registering to run for various offices throughout the state. At the top of the ticket, Republican Gov. Mike Parson filed to run for office for a final time. His likely challenger will be Democrat Auditor Nicole Galloway. Lt. Gov Mike Kehoe has filed to run for Lt. Governor for the first time (his is currently Lt. Governor since he was appointed by Gov. Parson following former governor Eric Greitens resignation). Thus far, Kehoe has drawn only token opposition for the primary and the general election. Numerous candidates filed for House and Senate seats, some filing for their final term in the

Missouri legislature. A full election preview will be provided to AMNP members in advance of the general and primary election and a candidate survey will be sent to candidates for office in advance of the general election to determine endorsements.

In House activity this week, there was a slower pace on perfecting bills, but they nevertheless were able to crank out 10 through the week including HB 1289 & HB 1293 (both bills dealing with sex offenders), HB 1331, HB 1333, HB 1421, HB 1559, HB 1683, HB 1694, HB 1896, and HB 1912. A total of 12 House bills perfected were sent to the Senate as well including HB 1387 which authorizes electronic monitoring in long term care facilities.

On the Senate side, Democrats waged a 20-hour long filibuster through the night on Tuesday and late into Wednesday on Sen. Bill Eigel's SB 575 (an asbestos litigation bill that caps penalties for those affected by asbestos related diseases). The filibuster was led largely by Sen. Gina Walsh, the Senate Minority leader who is a retired union sheetmetal worker who regularly dealt with asbestos issues. After Walsh, Sens. Wiliams, Arthur, and Sifton chipped in on the filibuster, Eigel laid the bill over and the Senate immediately went to another highly controversial bill that saw quick passage due to the exhaustion from filibustering. SB 591 is the punitive damage tort reform bill that also includes the Merchandising Practices Act. Both bills were defeated last year due to extended filibusters, but the Republican majority timed the measure so as to enable easy passage. In other floor activity, the Senate perfected 3 other bills, including SB 689 (a professional registration bill that prohibits state agencies from using licensing fees for the purposes of offering continuing education), SB 617 (a bill requiring DHSS to provide epi-pens to fire protection districts), and SB 631 (a bill allowing merit employees of the State of Missouri to run for office). The Senate only managed to send 2 bills to the House this week including the aforementioned SB 689 and SB 552 (a bill excluding legislative liaisons of state agencies from being considered a lobbyist).

In committee activity this week, the Senate Judiciary Committee passed HB 1693, the controversial Prescription Drug Monitoring Program bill from Rep. Holly Rehder. The measure still faces an uncertain future as several members of the Senate Conservative Caucus have vowed to filibuster the measure if it comes to the floor. Additionally, the House Professional Registration and Licensing Committee heard testimony on HB 1869 this week which permits direct access to physical therapists rather than a patient needing to get a script.

Expect the pace of committee and floor activity to continue to be brisk in the weeks leading up to the unofficial midpoint of the 2020 legislative session and prepare to engage at a moment's notice. In fact, we'd recommend that you put together your perspective in writing in advance about your experiences and then tailor your correspondence to elected officials based upon the content of the bill we're sending. This would enable quick action should we need you to engage.

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		
1387	Establishes the "Authorized Electronic Monitoring in Long-Term Care Facilities Act"	
	Reported to the Senate and First Read (S)	
1442	Modifies and adds provisions relating to professional licensure	
	Voted Do Pass (H)	
1511	Modifies provisions relating to professional licensing reciprocity	
	Voted Do Pass (S)	
1693	Establishes the "Narcotics Control Act"	
	Executive Session Held (S)	
1775	Adds provisions relating to prescriptions for ephedrine	
	Public Hearing Completed (H)	
1816	Removes the geographic proximity requirements for APRN's	
	Hearing Scheduled for Monday at 12PM	
1869	Modifies provisions relating to the scope of practice for physical therapists	
	Public Hearing Completed (H)	
1974	Establishes the "Missouri Any Willing Provider Act"	
	Public Hearing Completed (H)	
2046	Modifies provisions relating to professional license reciprocity	
	Public Hearing Held (S)	
2305	Modifies provisions relating to the MO HealthNet drug utilization review board	
Referred: Rules - Legislative Oversight		
2311	Prohibits provider-based facilities from charging, billing, or collecting a facility fee for services provided to patients	
Public Hearing Completed (H)		
2326	Adds provisions relating to noncompete agreements for health care professionals	
	Referred: Rules - Legislative Oversight	
2379	Modifies provisions for health care for children	
	Public Hearing Completed (H)	
2412	Enacts provisions relating to payments for prescription drugs	
	Public Hearing Continued (H)	
2464	Enacts an opt out patient consent model for health information exchange supporting health care providers	
	Referred: Insurance Policy	
2468	Modifies an insurance mandate relating to breast cancer screening and evaluation	
	Referred: Special Committee on Disease Control and Prevention	
2527	Enacts provisions relating to prescription drug costs	
	Referred: Health and Mental Health Policy	
2566	Modifies provisions relating to telehealth services	

2571 Modifies provisions for step therapy Read Second Time (H) 2575 Modifies provisions relating to the practice of certain occupations Read Second Time (H) 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 Read Second Time (H) 2588 Enacts "Will's Law" providing for individualized health care plans for students with epilepsy or a seizure disorder Read Second Time (H) Adds provisions relating to requiring health care providers who contract to practice at health care facilities to contract with all health benefit plans accepted by such facilities Read Second Time (H)		
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Prohibits health care providers from requiring pelvic examinations prior to performing an abortion, except when medically necessary and when performed at the medically appropriate time.		
Read Second Time (H)		
Requires health care providers to participate in the same health carrier plans and the health care facility where they provide care		
Read Second Time (H)		
Prohibits health care providers from requiring pelvic examinations prior to performing an abortion, except when medically necessary and when performed at the medically appropriate time		
Read Second Time (H)		

SENATE BILLS		
689	Relating to continuing education for professional licensees	
Passed Senate and sent to House		
866	Permits physician assistants to serve as staff on ambulances	
Hearing Conducted		
893	Modifies provisions relating to professional registration	
Referred to Senate Professional Registration		
898	Modifies provisions relating to occupancy rates of health care facilities	
Referred to Senate Health & Pensions		
918	Modifies provisions relating to the confidentiality of certain health records	
Referred to Senate Health & Pensions		
928	Modifies provisions relating to the administration of certain controlled substances	
Referred to Senate Health & Pensions		
930	Prohibits certain forms of administrative fees for voluntary hospital federal reimbursement allowance arrangements	
Referred to Senate Rules		

932	Prohibits certain restrictive covenants between physicians and advanced practice registered nurses and nonprofit hospitals and health systems		
	Referred to Senate Professional Registration		
934	Prohibits Medicaid payments to health care providers for services for non-Missouri residents		
Referred to Senate Health & Pensions			
938	Modifies the process for the credentialing of health care practitioners by health carriers		
Referred to Senate Insurance & Banking			
942	Modifies licensing requirements for certain health care providers		
Hearing scheduled for Monday at 2PM			
943	Permits certain health care providers to order restraints on patients in hospitals		
Referred to Senate Health & Pensions			
1032	Provides that only certain health care professionals shall perform radiation therapy procedures on humans		
First Read			
1049	Enacts new provisions relating to health information exchanges		
First Read			
1078	Provides that advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) shall be licensed and regulated by the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts, rather than by the State Board of Nursing		
	First Read		