

## **POMA BILL TRACKING**

Following are some bills POMA is tracking and recently saw action and are being shared in the February 2, 2024 issue of *Under the Dome*.



HB1825 (T) - An Act amending the act of May 22, 1951 (P.L.317, No.69), known as The Professional Nursing Law, further providing for title, for definitions, for State Board of Nursing, for dietitian-nutritionist license required, for unauthorized practices and acts not prohibited, for temporary practice permit, for graduates of schools of other states, territories or Dominion of Canada, for persons entitled to practice, for certified registered nurse practitioners and qualifications, for scope of practice for certified registered nurse practitioners, for prescriptive authority for certified registered nurse practitioners, for Drug Review Committee, for professional liability, for reporting of multiple licensure, for continuing nursing education, for punishment for violations, for refusal, suspension or revocation of licenses, for reinstatement of license and for injunction or other process; and providing for the expiration of the State Board of Nursing's power to license certified registered nurse practitioners.

Sponsor - Rep. Nancy Guentz (D)

Bill Text

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HB1950 (T) - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school health services, establishing the School Bus Driver Epinephrine Auto-injector Training and Grant Program; and imposing duties on the Department of Education.

Sponsor - Rep. Kristin Marcell (R)

Summary

(PN 2484) Amends the Public School Code, in school health services, establishing the School Bus Driver Epinephrine Auto-injector Training and Grant Program; and imposing duties on the Department of Education. Allows school entities to require school vehicle drivers to complete epinephrine auto-injector training. Requires the department to establish eligibility criteria, application directives and funding requirements for the grant program. Establishes school entity requirements in carrying out powers and duties relating to the section. Provides definitions. Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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HB1954 (T) - An Act establishing a moratorium on for-profit hospital ownership; and directing the Joint State Government Commission to study and issue a report on for-profit hospitals.

Sponsor - Rep. Jennifer O'Mara (D)

Summary

(PN 2490) The For-Profit Hospital Moratorium Act establishes a moratorium on for-profit hospital ownership; and directs the Joint State Government Commission to study and issue a report on for-profit hospitals. Establishes a moratorium for 24 months on the transfer of ownership of a hospital or health system in Pennsylvania if the acquiree or the other acquirer is a for-profit entity. Directs the Joint State Government Commission to conduct a study of for-profit hospitals and health systems ownership in

Pennsylvania and outlines content requirements. Establishes reporting requirements of the study findings within 18 months of the effective date. Establishes an expiration date of the act 14 months after the section's effective date. Effective immediately.

Bill Text

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HB1956 (T) - An Act amending the act of October 24, 2018 (P.L.719, No.112), known as the Patient Test Result Information Act, further providing for definitions, for test results and for duties of Department of Health.

Sponsor - Rep. Bridget M. Kosierowski (D)

Summary

(PN 2487) Amends the Patient Test Result Information Act, further providing for definitions, for test results and for duties of Department of Health (DOH). Defines chronic condition. Provides further criteria for diagnostic imaging service. Requires the entity performing the diagnostic imaging service to provide written notice with a statement at the time of service to the patient or their designee. Provides exceptions for the written notice including routine obstetrical ultrasounds to monitor fetus development, diagnostic imaging services performed on a patient who is treated on an inpatient basis in an emergency department or observation unit in a hospital, diagnostic radiographs, diagnostic imaging services performed on a patient with a chronic condition if the patient has been diagnosed already and when test results are provided to a patient or designee at the time of the test. Establishes disclosure of test results will not be given until 72 hours after the results are finalized unless the healthcare practitioner directs the release before the end of that time period. Provides the results may be released early if they are pathology or radiology reports that have reasonable likelihood of showing a malignancy and tests that could reveal genetic markers. Provides the duties of DOH include conducting compliance reviews of healthcare facilities licensed by the department as part of an inspection performed when investigating complaints, establishing a complaint procedure made available on the internet and coordinating with state licensing boards for complaints received by the department relating to the performance of diagnostic imaging services by entities not under the department's jurisdiction and how they will be referred for review. Provides DOH can exempt other tests. Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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HB1979 (T) - An Act amending Title 61 (Prisons and Parole) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in medical services, repealing provisions relating to the Medical Services Program and providing for copays and fees prohibited; and abrogating regulations.

Sponsor - Rep. Amen Brown (D)

Summary

(PN 2514) Amends Title 61 (Prisons and Parole), in medical services, repealing provisions relating to the Medical Services Program and providing for copays and fees prohibited; and abrogating regulations. Repeals sections 3301, 3302, 3304, 3305, 3306 and 3307 regarding short title of the chapter, definitions, medical services program, costs outstanding upon release, report to General Assembly and applicability, respectively. Prohibits the department from requiring an inmate to pay a copay or any other fee for medical services. Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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HB1985 (T) - An Act amending the act of September 27, 1961 (P.L.1700, No.699), known as the Pharmacy Act, providing for medication error prevention training.

Sponsor - Rep. Manuel Guzman (D)

Bill Text

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HB1990 (T) - An Act amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, in school health services, further providing for seizure recognition and related first aid training.

Sponsor - Rep. Carol Kazeem (D)

Bill Text

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HB1992 (T) - An Act amending the act of July 9, 1976 (P.L.817, No.143), known as the Mental Health Procedures Act, in general provisions, further providing for mental health review officer.

Sponsor - Rep. Gregory Scott (D)

Bill Text

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SB1000 (T) - An Act amending the act of November 21, 2016 (P.L.1318, No.169), known as the Pharmacy Audit Integrity and Transparency Act, further providing for title of act; in preliminary provisions, further providing for short title and for definitions; in pharmacy audits, further providing for limitations; and providing for pharmacy benefits manager contract requirements and prohibited acts.

Sponsor - Sen. Judy Ward (R)

Summary

(PN 1314) Amends the Pharmacy Audit Integrity and Transparency Act, further providing for title of act to provide for pharmacy benefit managers contract requirements and prohibited activities; in preliminary provisions, further providing for the short title of the act to be known as the Community Pharmacy Protection Act and for the definitions of brand effective rate, effective rate contract, generic effective rate, patient steering and spread pricing; in pharmacy audits, further providing for limitations to assert that a scrivener error made by a pharmacy not attributed to fraud, waste, or abuse that is discovered during an audit of the pharmacy by the PBM shall result in the PBM recouping the dispensing fee for that particular transaction, not the entire amount of the medication received by the patient; and adding a chapter to provide for pharmacy benefits manager contract requirements and prohibited acts. Provides for contract provisions, prohibits a pharmacy benefit manager from conducting or participating in spread pricing and prohibits a pharmacy benefit manager from conducting or participating in patient steering. Provides for duties of the department. Establishes a PBM hired for the State Employee Health Plan shall have a transparent reimbursement methodology based on the National Average Drug Acquisition Cost guidelines developed under section 604(3) and dispensing a fee equal to or greater than the maximum prevailing fee for service or PACE rate in this commonwealth. Provides for reports by PBM. Effective in 60 days.

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SB1028 (T) - An Act amending the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for prohibited acts and penalties.

Sponsor - Sen. Sharif Street (D)

Summary

(PN 1325) Amends the Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, further providing for prohibited acts and penalties to add language to include the smoking of a small amount of marijuana in a public space. Defines public space, small amount of marijuana and smoking. Provides that any person who violates the clauses of subsection (a) is guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof shall be ordered to pay a fine not exceeding \$25, any person who violates clauses (21)(iv) of subsection (a) is guilty of a summary offense and upon conviction thereof shall be ordered to pay a fine not exceeding \$100 and a conviction under this subsection shall not trigger application of the mandatory license suspension provisions under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1532(c). Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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SB1036 (T) - An Act amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, providing for Office of Child Advocate, the Coalition of Trauma Prevention and Intervention and the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman; and imposing duties on the Department of Human Services.

Sponsor - Sen. Michele Brooks (R)

Summary

(PN 1313) Amends the Human Services Code, adding an article to provide for Office of Child Advocate. Specifies definitions. Establishes the Office of Child Advocate and provides for appointment and qualifications, compensation, limitation and service and employees. Details the powers and duties the Child Advocate shall have. Provides for the relationship to department and county agency powers and duties. Specifies that upon request of the office, an executive agency or local government shall furnish information, records or documents under a child health, safety and welfare program to the Child Advocate, or an authorized designee. Provides for immunity and confidentiality. Establishes the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman within the office which shall report to and be under the direction of the Child Advocate. Details the purposes for which the office shall designate an individual to serve as the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman. Specifies the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman shall serve for a term of four years and shall continue to hold office until a successor is appointed, providing for reappointment and removal. Asserts that the office, in consultation with the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman and the deputy secretary for the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, shall establish policies and procedures to facilitate the purposes of the Statewide Children's Mental Health Ombudsman, providing what the policies and procedures shall include. Provides for the Coalition of Trauma Prevention and Intervention, establishing the coalition within the office and stating it shall be under the direction of the Child Advocate. Provides that the purpose of the coalition is to advance the Trauma Informed Pennsylvania Plan to prevent and respond to mental health crisis by promoting trauma-informed policies and practices across all commonwealth systems. Specifies that the coalition shall operate as a multisectoral and multidisciplinary collaborative sponsored by the office and details who the coalition shall consist of. Provides for meetings of the coalition. Imposes duties on the Department of Human Services. Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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SB1042 (T) - An Act amending the act of October 10, 1975 (P.L.383, No.110), known as the Physical Therapy Practice Act, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of board, for continuing education and for practice of physical therapy.

Sponsor - Sen. Rosemary M. Brown (R)

Summary

(PN 1340) Amends the Physical Therapy Practice Act, further providing for definitions, for powers and duties of board, for continuing education and for practice of physical therapy. Eliminates language that allows certificates of authorization to meet continuing education requirements for license renewal. Doubles

the amount of time during which a physical therapist may treat an individual without a referral as provided for in subsection (b) from 30 days to 60 days. Effective in 60 days.

Bill Text

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SB1054 (T) - An Act amending the act of November 3, 2022 (P.L.2158, No.158), known as the Overdose Mapping Act, further providing for definitions and for establishment and design; and providing for entry requirements for EMS providers.

Sponsor - Sen. Doug Mastriano (R)

Summary

(PN 1348) Amends the Overdose Mapping Act, further providing for the definitions of EMS provider and information technology platform and for establishment and design to assert that the Department of Health (DOH) shall coordinate with the Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) to ensure that real-time overdose reporting entered by an EMS provider into an information technology platform, other than the overdose information network, is promptly transferred to the overdose information network; and adding a section to provide for entry requirements for EMS providers. Specifies reporting by EMS providers, information reported and other reporting requirements. Effective in six months.

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