

ADVOCACY

Advocating for Wyoming Doctors and their Patients Since 1903

New Bills To Watch

- [HB265 - Plant derived medication](#) would allow for physicians to write prescriptions for plant-derived medications if the client is 18 or older.
- [HB250 - Public Health Statutory Amendments](#) prohibits the sale or purchase of human, fetal tissue, or embryonic organs or parts for research or commercial use.
- [HB247 - Medical Marihuana Reciprocity](#) allows those who have medical marihuana cards from other states to possess medical marihuana in Wyoming.
- [SF143 - CHIP Management](#) would move CHIP administration from Department of Health to Department of Family Services.



WMS Shines in Week Three

A strong showing by the Wyoming Medical Society (WMS) in week three was highlighted by two bills which either died or saw significant alterations thanks to input by WMS members and work by WMS staff at the State Capitol.

House Bill 107 came up before The House Minerals Committee on Monday morning. The bill would allow the state's chiropractors to call themselves Chiropractic Physicians for the purposes of expanding their access to insurance codes. WMS Executive Director Sheila Bush offered testimony against the bill, which died in committee.

On Tuesday the Corporations Committee of the House heard testimony on HB165 - The Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine Practice Act. With help from WMS physician members who use acupuncture as a modality of care, WMS was able to get licensed physicians exempted from licensure requirements of an acupuncture board, while helping to remove a proposed Oriental Board of Medicine from the bill.

WMS' clout on HB165 was noted when a House member openly suggested during committee debate that, "any bill that is opposed by the Medical Society doesn't stand much of a chance on the floor."



WMS Doc of the Day

Thank you to our volunteers who serve the Wyoming Legislature and staff during the session. WMS is proud of our physicians who care for our Senators and Representatives.

- Evan Norby, DO
- Doug Parks, MD

WMS still needs Docs of the Day on the following dates:

- Jan. 30
- Jan. 31
- Feb. 24
- March 2

For more information on the program, click [here](#). To volunteer click [here](#).

Keeping you connected

To keep an eye on the latest bills the WMS is following, check out: <https://www.wyomed.org/2017legislative-session>.

To listen to debate in the House or the Senate click [here](#).

Movement on other bills of note this week include:

SF21 - Death Certificates moved through the Senate this week. This bill would allow Nurse Practitioners as well as Physician Assistants to sign death certificates.

SF67 - CHIP Program Amendments has flown through the Senate and will be headed to the House. It would allow for Blue Cross/Blue Shield to re-apply for management of the program.

SF82 - CPR graduation requirement would have made students in Wyoming schools complete instruction in basic CPR to graduate high school. After first passing third reading in the Senate was recalled and killed on the floor of the Senate in surprising fashion.

SF88 - Palliative Care Task Force passed the Senate.

HB62 - Immunity for Drug Overdose Reporting is through the House.

HB112 - EMS Interstate Compact is through the House after a change which will require EMS workers to pay licensure fees to cover state costs to enter into the compact.

HB148 - Tobacco Cessation and Treatment programs would have forced the Wyoming Tobacco Quitline workers to suggest other forms of tobacco offering “harm reduction,” from cigarettes such as vaping. That died in committee on Wednesday.

HB151 - Tobacco Tax: An increase of \$.30 per pack tax increase was pushed forward while HB168, which would have moved the tax to \$1.15 per pack was defeated. For more on that debate click [here](#).

Expect fireworks on Monday when four abortion-related bills are brought before the Senate Labor, Health, and Human Services Committee. Those bills include HB182 - Abortion - ultrasound information; HB132 - Abortion reporting; and HB116 - Abortion Amendments. HB250, will also be heard on Monday at 4:30 p.m.



WMS Executive Director Sheila Bush testifies to the Joint Corporations Committee regarding HB165 - Tuesday in Cheyenne.