**Idaho Academy of Family Physicians**

**2019 Legislative Report**

**Week 5, February 4 – 8**

**Supreme Court issues decision on Medicaid expansion initiative:**

In a relatively quick decision, the Idaho Supreme Court this week rejected the claim that the voter-passed Medicaid expansion initiative is unconstitutional.  The Idaho Freedom Foundation filed suit to get the initiative nullified. The Idaho Secretary of State and the Idaho Medical Association attorneys argued in favor of the initiative.

The legislature will now need to determine parameters under which the expansion will be implemented in Idaho, including funding, whether to add work requirements, and co-pay requirements, etc.

**New Legislation introduced this week:**

[**HB109 – Maternal Mortality Review Commission**](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0109/) – by the Idaho Medical Association:

The IMA introduced a maternal mortality review bill in House Health and Welfare this week.  The bill would create a Maternal Mortality Review Committee, which is a multi-disciplinary peer-review committee to collect information, determine whether a death was preventable and, if so, plot a strategy for educating health care workers to address the issue.  The United States has a higher maternal mortality rate than other countries such as the UK, Germany, France, and Canada.

[**SB1049 – Partial-birth Abortion**](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/S1049/) – by Senator Den Hartog:

Amends Idaho’s partial-birth abortion law to align with federal law and in response to US Supreme Court decision on the issue.

*Status:  Awaiting hearing in Senate State Affairs Committee*

**Status of previous legislation:**

[**HB 9 – Medical Practice Act** – by State Board of Medicine:](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0009/)

*Status:**Passed the Senate Health and Welfare Committee on Thursday, now awaiting action by the full Senate.  It has already passed the House.*

This is a 28-page bill being billed as a housekeeping or cleanup bill by the Board of Medicine.  It updates and modernizes provisions of the Medical Practice Act.  Among other provisions, it also would add a Physician Assistant to the Board of Medicine and adds a physician assistant and a public member to the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee.  It also removes the requirement that medical students be registered with the Board.

[**HB 10 – Pharmacy Practice Act**](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0010/) – by State Board of Pharmacy

*Status: Passed the Senate Health and Welfare Committee this week, awaiting action by the full Senate.  It has already passed the House.*

This is an 18-page bill updating and modernizing the Pharmacy Practice Act.  It also establishes a multistate pharmacy license to increase portability and mobility of practice across state lines.

[**HB11 – Uniform Controlled Substances Act**](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0011/) – by Board of Pharmacy

*Status: Passed the Senate Health and Welfare Committee this week, awaiting action by the full Senate.  It has already passed the House.*

Aligns DEA scheduling decisions by including synthetic opioids in Schedule I.

[**HB64 (formerly HB29) – Abortion ComplicationsReporting**](https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0064/) – by Rep. Greg Chaney

*Status:  Passed the full House 54-16,**to the Senate State Affairs Committee for action.*

This bill makes some wording and technical changes to sections of this law passed last year.  It appears that the law is not substantially changed from current.

We will continue to track and report legislation of interest to the IAFP.

Ken Burgess

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