



2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION OVERVIEW

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GENERAL INFORMATION



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BILLS



- **Provides HB71 Behavioral Health Crisis Response Modifications, Rep. Steve Eliason**
 - Provides grants for the development of more mobile crisis outreach teams in rural settings.

PASSED

- **SB27 Behavioral Health System Amendments, Sen. Evan Vickers**
 - Codifies the Behavioral Health Master Plan (developed by experts)
 - Expands access to behavioral health care in Utah
 - Delineates future mental health care needs based on master plan.

PASSED

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BILLS CONT'D



- **SB26 Behavioral Health Licensing Amendments, Sen. Curt Bramble**
 - Omnibus behavioral health change bill
 - Establishes training and certification requirements for clinical supervisors, reduces supervision requirements for certain mental health therapists
 - Creates alternative pathways to certain licenses through direct patient care instead of testing
 - Creates new mid-level mental health providers: master addiction counselor, associate master addiction counselor, behavioral health coach, certified behavioral health technician, etc.
 - Psychologists

PASSED

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BILLS



■ **HB132 Pharmacy Amendments, Rep. Ray Ward, MD**

- enables pharmacists and pharmacy interns to substitute prescribed drugs with therapeutically similar alternatives under specified conditions
- mandates the Division of Professional Licensing, in consultation with certain licensing boards, to develop a list of therapeutically similar drugs
- Therapeutically similar drug may only be substituted if authorized by the prescriber, listed on the developed drug list, requested by the purchaser, permitted for interstate commerce, counseled to the patient, and is the same or lower cost than original and the original is not available

PASSED

■ **HB260 Controlled Substances Amendments, Rep. Jen Daily-Provost**

- Adds Gabapentin to Schedule V of the controlled substances list

PASSED

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BILLS CONT'D



- **HB576 Controlled Substance Revisions, Rep Ray Ward, MD**
 - Requires pharmacies to submit their data to the CSD within one day of the controlled substance being dispensed
 - Requires an administrator or designee of a methadone or other outpatient clinic that administers controlled substances for substance use disorder treatment to report to the CSD
 - Expands educational offerings by DOPL to prescribers who are flag for “inappropriate prescribing” or outlier prescribing

PASSED

GENERAL HEALTHCARE/PUBLIC HEALTH CARE BILLS



- **SB61 Electronic Cigarette Amendments, Sen. Jen Plumb, MD**

- Prohibits the sale of electronic cigarette products that have not received FDA market authorization
- Prohibits the sale of flavored electronic cigarettes products except for menthol

PASSED

- **HB171 Death Certificate Amendments, Rep. Ray Ward, MD**

- Allows a health care provider to indicate on a death certificate that an immediate cause of death is unknown if the immediate cause of death is unknown
- Modifies the deadline for a health care provider to complete the medical sections of a death certificate to within three business days
- Requires the DHHS to provide instructions related to when a health care professional can indicate an immediate cause of death is unknown on a death certificate.

PASSED

GENERAL HEALTHCARE/PUBLIC HEALTH BILLS CONT'D



- **HB200 Order for Life Sustaining Treatment, Rep. Stephanie Gricius**

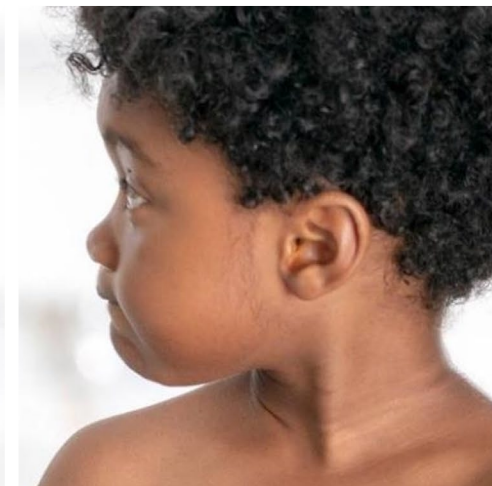
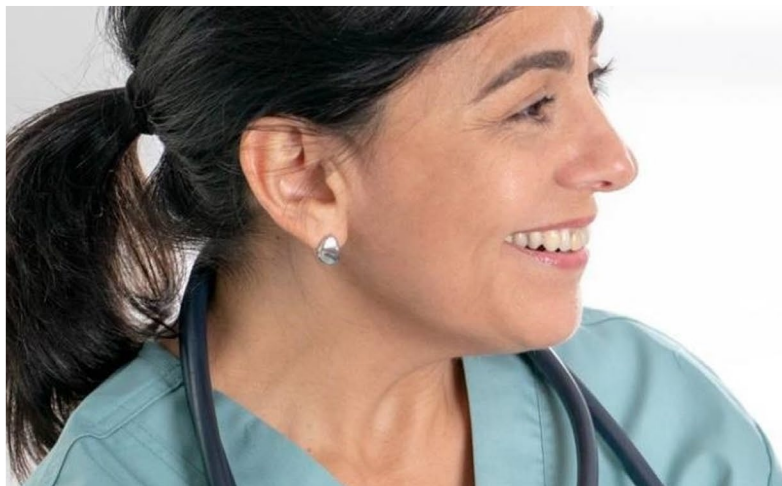
- Modifies professional conduct standards for physicians, APRNs, and PAs related to do not resuscitate orders. Specifically, that parental consent is required to designate a child as “do not resuscitate.”

PASSED

- **HB224 Medical Surgery Amendments, Rep. Marsha Judkins**

- Would have prevented a primary or secondary sex characteristic surgical procedure for an individual who is less than 18 years old.
- Added “Medically Necessary”

FAILED



HEALTHCARE FINANCING AND MEDICAID BILLS



- **HB193 Hospital Assessment Revisions, Rep Ray Ward, MD**

- Extends repeal dates for inpatient hospital assessment and the Medicaid expansion hospital assessment coverage
 - Helps pay for health care for Medicaid patients

PASSED

- **HB267 Telemedicine Amendments, Rep. Jon Hawkins**

- Would have mandated that health insurers reimburse providers for telemedicine services at 90% of in-person rates, provided the provider is the patient's Utah-based caregiver with a physical location in the state
- Would maintain existing contracted rates and coverage standards. Equal pay incentivizes providers to offer telemedicine services, aligning with efforts to improve healthcare access and delivery

FAILED

HEALTH CARE FINANCING/MEDICAID BILLS



- **HB387 Physician Workforce Amendments, Rep. Steve Eliason**

- Organizations that previously have been awarded residency grants can renew grants if:
 - They applied for federal funds and those funds were denied

PASSED

- **HB463 Medicaid Funding Amendments, Rep. Brady Brammer**

- Would have established conditions under which a Medicaid funding shortfall occurs
- Established a protocol of cost control measures related to the shortfall which included:
 - Cancelling or reversing all provider payment rate increases implemented during the year immediately preceding the shortfall
 - Cutting programs, and canceling coverage for optional services
 - Not allowing new enrollees into the Medicaid program and many others

FAILED

LICENSING BILLS



- **HB58 International Licensing Amendments, Rep. Cory Maloy**
 - expands the Division of Professional Licensing's ability to recognize similar education or experience for standard licensing requirements
 - introduces a supervised training permit for applicants seeking endorsement licensure.
 - For the medical profession, this could potentially lead to a dilution of professional standards if the acceptance of substantially similar education or experience is overly lenient, potentially impacting the quality of care and safety standards within the medical profession.
 - PASSED
- **HB560 Licensing Modifications, Rep. Karianne Lisonbee**
 - allows the licensing of abortion clinics and allows Utah legal abortions to be performed in licensed abortion clinics within certain requirements
 - PASSED

VACCINE/MASK BILLS



- **HB123 Vaccine Disclosure Amendments, Rep. Trevor Lee**
 - would have required health care providers who administer certain vaccinations to disclose any additional compensation the provider expects to receive for administering the vaccination or vaccinations.

FAILED

- **HB405 Public Health Amendments (Med Student Vaccine Amendments), Rep. Kera Birkeland**
 - Original: no vaccines required
 - Final: Exemption provisions regarding vaccination and face covering mandates in institutions of higher education must meet same rights provided under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act; and
 - Medical Students have the same requirements as other healthcare professionals employed by an institution

PASSED



OTHER BILLS/ISSUES



- **SBI 99 Placental Tissue Amendments, Senator Curtis Bramble**
 - requires certain health care providers to provide certain disclosures to a patient when administering a treatment using placental stem cells
 - creates a penalty for failing to provide the disclosures
 - PASSED
- **HB261 Equal Opportunity Initiatives, Rep. Katy Hall**
 - Prohibits institutions of higher education, public education systems, and governmental employers from mandating differential treatment promotions, employment decisions, or education based on certain characteristics
 - Mandates various compliance reviews, including campus climate surveys conducted by third parties and reported to legislative bodies for oversight
 - PASSED
- **Medical Malpractice – “Pre-litigation Panels” – Interim Bill Rep. Cory Maloy**
FAILED

OTHER BILLS CONT'D

- **HB272 Child Custody Proceedings Amendments, Rep. P Cutler**
 - Establishes comprehensive guidelines for child custody and parent-time proceedings
 - Mandates courts to consider evidence of domestic violence, abuse, and other factors impacting a child's safety and well-being
 - Outlines procedures for supervised parent-time, expert evidence admission, and emphasizes the prioritization of a child's safety and psychological health in custody decisions while imposing restrictions on reunification treatments in cases of violence or abuse allegations
 - (Kayden's Law – UMA Resolution)

PASSED



OTHER BILLS CONT'D

(BACK IN 2025)



- **HB570 Health Care Facility Amendments, Rep. Katy Hall**

- Would have established minimum standards for freestanding emergency departments
- Specifically, a freestanding emergency department shall have certified personnel available for conducting and implementing CT scans, ultrasounds, x-rays, and clinical laboratory tests, along with a licensed physician specializing in emergency medical services, two registered nurses with specialized training in emergency care, a licensed respiratory therapist, and a certified medical laboratory scientist or technologist on-site during operating hours.

FAILED

- **SB275 Medical Preauthorization Amendments, Senator Jen Plumb**

- would have mandated managed care organizations to respond within specific timeframes to various types of medical care or service requests on behalf of members
- would have established time limits for concurrent, preservice, and post-service requests, while also requiring managed care organizations to report annually to the department on various metrics related to post-acute care determinations. These would have applied to requests from tertiary or quaternary hospitals and exclude claims filed as part of the Medicaid program

FAILED



THANK YOU

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