

## PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE PASSES DRUG FORMULARY BILL FOR PENNSYLVANIA WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT

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On April 16, 2018, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives passed Senate Bill 936, also known as the Drug Formulary Bill. The Bill had passed in the Pennsylvania Senate in late 2017 but did not pass in the House earlier this year due to a deadlocked vote of 98 to 98. Upon reconsideration, the House voted in favor of the Bill.

Bill 936 requires the Bureau to use a formulary to determine the reasonableness and necessity of prescription pain medication. The formulary is a list of medications for prescription. The law is designed to control the high cost of drugs in workers' compensation cases by significantly limiting the use of harmful, addictive medications. It also provides an evidentiary-based approach to determine the efficacy of ongoing drug prescriptions.



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