

# MSMA WORKS

---

---

## WE'RE ADVOCATES

The Missouri State Medical Association strives to protect the practice of medicine to benefit physicians and patients.

That's our promise and that's our mission. Every day.

Here's a look at some of the issues we supported and the Missouri General Assembly approved during 2018.

[www.msma.org](http://www.msma.org)

## ER POLICIES

SB 982 enacts policies that uphold the prudent layperson standard and directs insurers to reimburse patient's ER claims based on their initial symptoms, not the final diagnosis.

1

## SURPRISE BILLING

SB 982 also gives physicians the option to bill the patient's insurance carrier for unanticipated care delivered through the ER of an in-network facility.

2

## MAMMOGRAPHY

HB 1252 adds digital mammography and breast tomosynthesis to the definition of low-dose mammography screening. It lowers the age threshold for annual mammogram coverage to 40.

3

## TELEHEALTH

HB 1617 requires the Department of Social Services to reimburse physicians for telehealth services on the same basis as in-person services.

4

## DRUG TAKEBACK

SB 826 allows certain DEA-authorized entities (retail pharmacies, mostly) to collect unused or unwanted controlled substances from the public.

5

## BENEFIT EXTENSION

HB 2280 extends the MO HealthNet's substance abuse treatment benefits for women up to one year postpartum.

6

## ASSISTANT PHYSICIANS

SB 718 streamlines assistant physician licensure rules, including continuing education, licensure fees, and supervisory chart review. It also requires commercial insurers to pay for their services similarly to other mid-level providers.

7

## GENERIC SUBSTITUTIONS

SB 826 allows pharmacists to provide a generic substitute unless the physician restricts the prescription to a brand-name drug through a script notation.

8