Legislative Scan: COVID-19

Week of July 13, 2020

**South**

[Louisiana H 19](https://legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx?s=201ES&b=HB19&sbi=y) - Extends eligibility requirements for certain industries to participate in the Quality Jobs Program.

[Louisiana H 37](https://legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx?s=201ES&b=HB37&sbi=y) – Requires the Department of Revenue to waive penalties and interest for certain taxpayers, applies to taxpayers whose health was impacted by coronavirus or taxpayers who relied on a tax preparer whose health was impacted.

[Louisiana H 70](https://legis.la.gov/legis/BillInfo.aspx?s=201ES&b=HB70&sbi=y) - Extends Enterprise Zone Program incentives to essential critical infrastructure workers by authorizing the payment of a one-time hazard pay rebate

[Missouri H 1682](https://house.mo.gov/billtracking/bills201/sumpdf/HB1682T.pdf) – Relates to health care, provides for automated external defibrillators, designates specified months as Mental Health Awareness Month, Minority Mental Health Awareness Month, and Deaf Awareness Month, respectively, provides for long term dignity savings accounts, provides for edible marijuana infused products, establishes the Opioid Addiction Treatment and Recovery Fund.

[North Carolina S 226](https://www.ncleg.gov/Sessions/2019/Bills/Senate/PDF/S226v4.pdf) - Delays the payment deadline for certain ABC permit renewals.

Summary:

The south stayed on the same course as last week with extensions and delays due to the economic hit that has occurred from the pandemic. This week Louisiana passed the most extensions surrounding revenue losses. Missouri focused on health care as the state designated several months as awareness months for mental health, specifically minority mental health and deaf awareness.

**East**

[New Hampshire H 1129](https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB1129/id/2072340) - Allows for notice of hearings to be posted on the municipal website during the state of emergency declared in response to COVID-19. Permits legislative bodies with a fiscal year ending in June to make certain expenditures prior to the adoption of an official budget, provides for a virtual annual meeting procedure, and requires online reporting of CARES Act disbursements.

[Vermont S 342](https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2020/S.342) - Relates to temporary workers' 2019 compensation amendments related to COVID-19.

Summary:

The eastern region was fairly quiet this week with only two bills passed. New Hampshire passed legislation allowing for the notice of hearings to be posted on the website due to the current COVID-19 circumstances. Vermont passed a bill regarding temporary workers compensation as the unemployment numbers rise nationwide.

**West**

[CO S 205](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2020a_205_signed.pdf) - Enacts the Health Families and Workplaces Act, concerns the requirement that employers offer sick leave to their employees.

[CO S 207](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2020a_207_signed.pdf) - Concerns unemployment insurance, creates a rebuttable presumption that an individual is an independent contractor, allows the individual to establish that the person for whom he or she is performing services does not combine the business operations with the individual's business, and that the individual performs work that is not the primary work of the person, requires the Office of Future of Work to study unemployment assistance, worker benefits, and worker protections.

[CO S 213](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2020A/bills/2020a_213_enr.pdf) - Concerns the authority of businesses licensed to sell alcohol beverages for consumption on the licensed premises to sell alcohol beverages for consumption off the licensed premises.

[CO S 219](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2020a_219_signed.pdf) - Issues lease purchase agreements to fund the continuations of certain previously funded capital construction projects, addresses the unprecedented economic situation due to the coronavirus pandemic.

[CO H 1414](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2020a_1414_signed.pdf) - Prohibits engaging in price gouging for a period following a declared disaster.

[CO H 1426](https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/2020a_1426_signed.pdf) - Concerns legislative engagement in the management of state operations, sets forth requirements for the receipt of information from the Executive Branch during a declared disaster emergency, provides for reporting on expenditures from the Disaster Emergency Fund and the reporting of federal funds.

[HI SR 125](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2020/bills/SR125_SD1_.pdf) - Requests the Department of Transportation and the counties to reevaluate current crosswalk locations and the need for new crosswalks.

[NV AR 2](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/31st2020Special/Bill/7115/Text) - Adopts Special Rules of the Assembly for the 31st Special Session of the State Legislature concerning the use of remote technology systems by members of the Assembly.

[NV SR 4](https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/31st2020Special/Bill/7112/Text) - Adopts Special Rules of the Senate for the 31st Special Session of the State Legislature concerning the use of remote technology systems by members of the Senate.

Summary:

Colorado was the most active state in the West this week, passing six bills across a diverse range of topics related to the pandemic. Sick leave, unemployment, and price gouging were all topics of discussion this week as the state sought to extend protections to citizens regarding these issues. Only two other states were active in the West – Hawaii and Nevada – as Hawaii focused on pedestrian issues and Nevada adopted special rules for the Senate and the Assembly concerning the use of remote technology.

**Midwest**

[MI HR 258](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/resolutionadopted/House/pdf/2020-HAR-0258.pdf) - Declares a specified week as Police Week.

Summary:

Michigan was the only state in the Midwest to pass legislation this week. HR 258 recognizes the extra risk imposed on officers during the pandemic, therefore recognizing May 10-16, 2020 as Police Week in the state.