

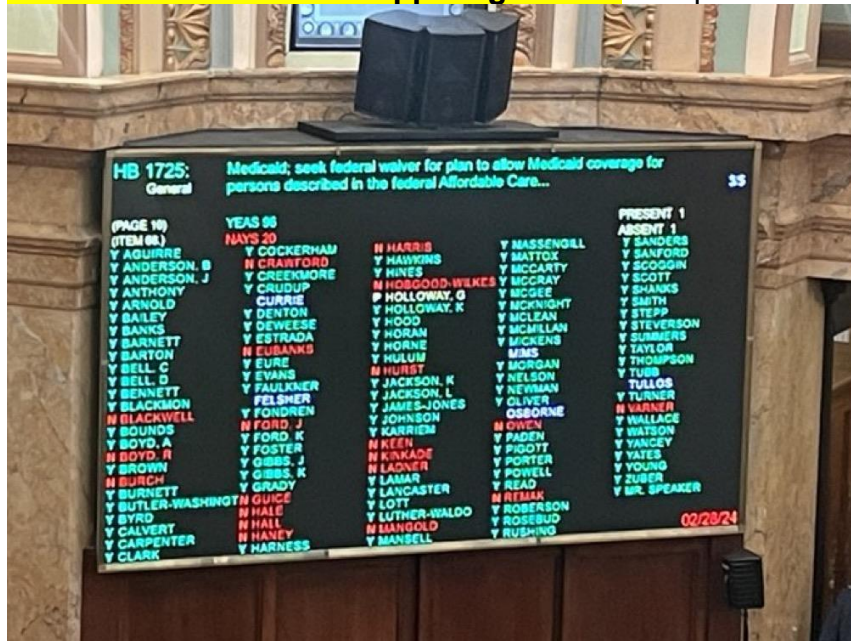
E-Update March 1, 2024



Medical leadership for mind, brain and body.

The weekly E-update is the tool by which MPA members can share information or announcements with each other. It is a member benefit and the mechanism by which MPA shares important notices regarding trends in psychiatry, pharmaceutical updates, information about your medical practice, advocacy, your opinions, and job opportunities. Members are encouraged to make the content their own. Please submit items for weekly publication by Thursday at 5pm. Your email addresses are protected by the DB and not for sale or use by any other entity besides the DB. Content should be pertinent to the practice of psychiatry or related medical information. Review the E-update highlighted titles and attachments for content and action steps. We value your input and attention to your specialty! Any item that appears in **royal blue** contains a link for detailed information on the topic. Questions regarding membership status are referred to our APA Membership Coordinator.

**This Week at the Mississippi Legislature** The picture to the left is the historic vote on **HB 1725** that occurred on the



House floor this ninth week of the 2024 Mississippi legislative session bringing Medicaid expansion up for consideration.

Rep Missy McGee, Chairman of the House Medicaid Cte, handled the bill with no amendments and no questions. It was a clear sign that partisan politics can happen when an issue regarding people outweighs rhetoric. The deadline for bills to emerge from committee is Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. An additional Medicaid bill – to

provide presumptive eligibility to pregnant women, **HB 539** – cleared the Senate Medicaid Committee as well as the Mississippi State Senate on Thursday by a vote of 48-4. The bill will now head to the Governor for signature. This is a continuation of efforts that extended providing coverage postpartum up to 12 months achieved in regular session 2023.

Another win for medicine this week is the Mississippi Prior Authorization Reform Act, **SB 2140**, passed without Governor Reeves' signature. It will go into effect July 1, 2024. MPA profusely thanks Senator Walter Michel, Chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee and author of SB 2140, as well as Rep. Sam Creekmore, Chair of the House Public and Human

Services Committee, for their leadership in shepherding this legislation through the process. Special recognition goes to Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney, Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann, and Speaker of the House Jason White for their commitment to bringing timely healthcare to Mississippi patients. It took 2 years but we finally got this important issue addressed by the Legislature.

### **MPA's 2024 Legislative Priorities:**

- Regulate the Prior Authorization Process for Physicians through the MS Dept of Insurance
- Advocate for Changes to Commitment Laws on Jail Diversion and Increased Community Treatment Options
- Medicaid Presumptive Eligibility for Pregnant Women 60 days Prior to Processing & Opportunity for Members to Vote on Expansion
- Update Future Testing Options for Citizens Around Foreign Substances and Street Drugs
- Make Kratom Schedule III
  
- Strengthen the Step Therapy/Fail First Protocol Override Statute
  
- Support a Change to CON regarding Psychiatric Residential Treatment Beds and Substance Use Disorder Beds in the State
  
- Add a Designated Child Psychiatrist to the Rural Physician Scholarship Program
  
- Broaden Testing Mechanisms for Street Drugs and Redefine Paraphernalia in MS to not Include Testing Strips for the Latest Abused Substances
  
- Maintaining a Physician Led Team Approach to Health Care

A full listing of Senate and House Committees can be found here:

[2024 Senate Committee Listing](#)

[2024 House Committee Listing](#)

### **Southern Psychiatric Association Meeting Dates for 2024**

Mark your calendar now for the 2024 meeting with the Tennessee Psychiatric Association:  
September 11 – 14, 2024                      Westin Hotel in Chattanooga, Tennessee

### **Hoot, What, Where: PRMS' Network Newsletter Q1 2024**

From risk management and claims advice to risk alerts, PRMS news, and events, this quarterly newsletter shares relevant news, useful tips, and important updates in the field of psychiatry to help keep, your members, their patients, and their practices safe. Articles in the fifth issue of “Hoot, What, Where” from PRMS cover topics ranging from social media to tips for treating geropsychiatric patients. The PDF of the current issue is attached to this email or can be found on our website [here](#), along with all previous issues from 2023. Please feel free to share this risk management resource with your members or pull any articles of interest to include in your organization’s communications.

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A dark blue banner with white and light blue text. On the left, it reads "EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL MALPRACTICE INSURANCE FOR PSYCHIATRISTS" in large, bold, white capital letters. To the right of this text is a light blue button with the text "LEARN MORE >". On the far right is the PRMS logo, which consists of a stylized white owl head icon above the text "PRMS" in bold white capital letters, with "the psychiatrists' program" in smaller white lowercase letters below it.

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- Main account: [American Psychiatric Association](https://facebook.com/AmericanPsychiatricAssociation)
- Healthy Minds: [APA Healthy Minds](https://facebook.com/APAHealthyMinds)
- MPA Main Account: [Mississippi Psychiatric Association](https://facebook.com/MississippiPsychiatricAssociation)

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### What's New at the APA

· **Dr. Marketa Wills, M.D., M.B.A.** was named the next CEO & Medical Director of the American Psychiatric Association. Dr. Wills currently serves as the Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer of Johns Hopkins Health Plans and has a clinical practice at University of South Florida Student Health Services in Tampa, FL. She will assume the role of CEO on June 1, 2024. You can [read more about Dr. Wills and see the full CEO announcement here.](#)

**Personal Finances** were a major source of anxiety for Americans heading into 2024, according to the latest Healthy Minds Monthly poll fielded by APA & Morning Consult. 44% of adults they say they experience the same amount of stress at the start of 2024 as they did a year earlier, while one in four said they experience more. You can [read the full results of the anxiety poll here.](#)

### February Course of the Month – Food Addiction: A New Substance Use Disorder?

Approximately 14% of adults and 12% of children exhibit clinically significant levels of "food addiction" based on the *DSM-5* criteria for substance use disorders. However, "food addiction" is not currently included as a recognized or provisional diagnostic category in the *DSM-5*. This course will consider the validity of "food addiction," review evidence of excessive food intake and what it can lead to, discuss the clinical relevance, and more.

[Click here to access the Course of the Month and sign up for updates about this free member benefit.](#)

### Registration for APA Annual Meeting Open

Join APA on **Saturday, May 4, through Wednesday, May 8**, for sessions, courses, and more in New York City that will leave you feeling inspired and energized.

### [REGISTER TODAY](#)

#### **NEW At the Annual Meeting: Mind Games Masters!**

New for the 2024 Annual Meeting! A three-part educational experience that allows psychiatrists to assess their knowledge and learn more about five subspecialties in an engaging, fun, and competitive format. Any psychiatrist in the U.S. (ACGME-accredited) or Canada may participate. Registration for this Paid Course is available as an add-on in the registration platform when you [register for the in-person Annual Meeting](#). You can [learn more about Mind Games Masters and register here.](#)

### Contact Your Representative to Prevent Cuts to Physician Reimbursement

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved a 3.4% reduction in Medicare's physician payments for 2024. This cut is devastating to physician practices and the patients they care for, and could necessitate reduced staffing and office closures, disproportionately harming rural and underserved communities. **Please urge Congress to prevent these devastating**

**cuts from going into effect by cosponsoring the Preserving Seniors' Access to Physicians Act of 2023 (H.R.6683).** This bipartisan bill would completely eliminate the 3.4% physician pay cut expected to take effect on January 1. Learn more and [compose a message to your representative in Congress here](#).

**@theAPA Delirium Update 2024 Promotion:**

Join us at APA Headquarters on **Friday, March 8** for the next **@theAPA Educational Series** event. This immersive learning experience offers an in-depth exploration of Delirium detection, prevention, and treatment. [Secure your spot today!](#)