



# STATE ADVOCACY UPDATE

## Arizona Psychiatric Society Legislative Institute

Marsi Thrash | April 15, 2023  
Senior Regional Director | State Government Affairs

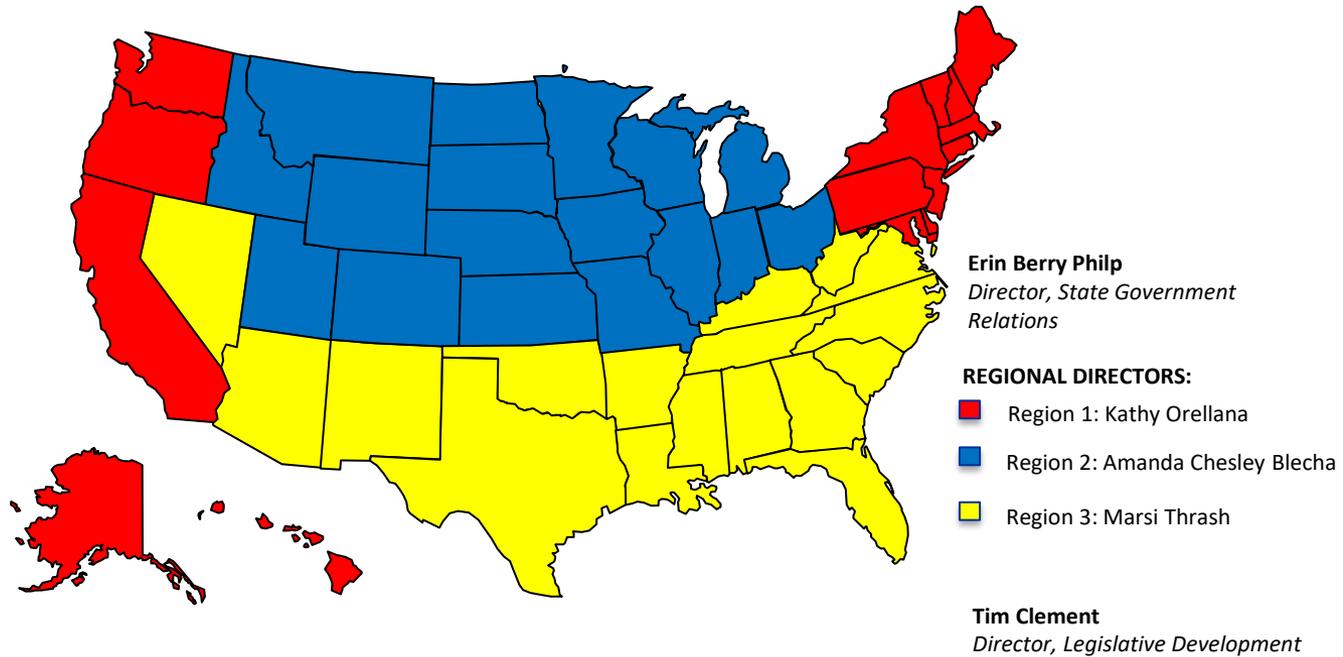


Who We Are

2023 Advocacy Priorities

Resources

# APA STATE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS





- Alliance development and coalition participation
- Advocacy training
- Grassroots advocacy, “Calls to Action”
- Legislative / regulatory analysis and updates
- Advocacy-related strategic discussions
- APA position statements and resources
- 50-state reviews
- Draft or provide input on letters, talking points, testimony, or leave-behinds on mutual policy priorities (legislative and regulatory)
- Toolkits and advocacy tools

# YOU ARE NEEDED!

Legislators need to hear from psychiatrists now more than ever.

- Access to care
- Patient Safety
- Health disparities
- 988 implementation



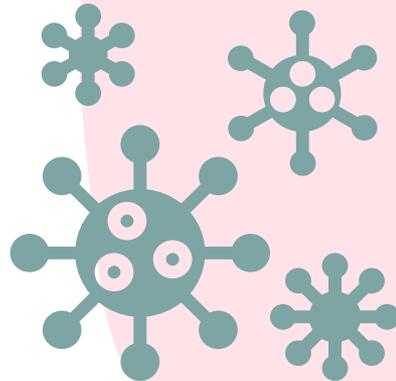
# STATE LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- Collaborative Care Model – APA Campaign
- Parity Enforcement – APA Campaign
- Prior Authorization – APA Campaign
- Telemedicine – APA Campaign
- Scope of Practice
- Access to Care
- Health Equity
- Criminalization of Medicine
- 988 Implementation
- Involuntary Commitment
- Appropriations
- And more



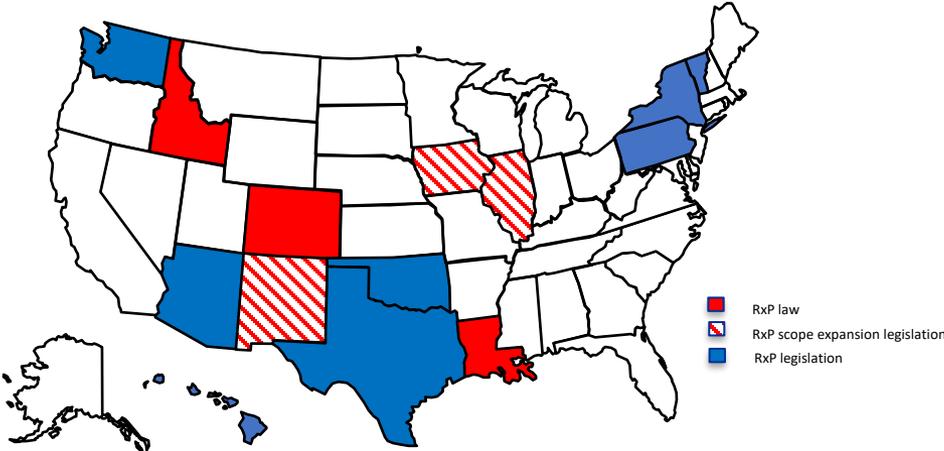


**NURSE PRACTITIONERS  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS  
PSYCHOLOGIST PRESCRIBING  
PHARMACISTS  
NATUROPATHS  
APRN COMPACT**



**A CRISIS STANDARD OF CARE  
IS A SHIFT FROM PATIENT-CENTERED CARE.  
THIS SHOULD NOT BE OUR "NEW NORMAL."**

# PSYCHOLOGIST PRESCRIBING LEGISLATION



Should people who do NOT have a medical degree or a state license to practice medicine be allowed to prescribe patients powerful psychiatric medications that affect the entire body?

	Total
Yes	11%
No	78%
I don't know	11%

# SAFE PRESCRIBING RESOURCES



**78% of Americans say  
only medical doctors  
should prescribe  
psychiatric drugs**



From a survey of 1,011 U.S. adults by ENGINE INSIGHTS on Jan. 5-7, 2022.

[SafeRxPrescribing.org](https://www.SafeRxPrescribing.org)

**Powerful psychiatric drugs  
don't just affect the mind.**

They can also affect:



**Heart**



**Kidneys**



**Liver**

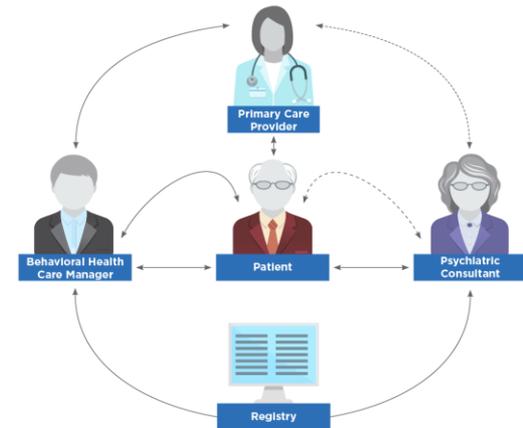


**Other  
Organs**

**Only medically-trained professionals should be  
allowed to prescribe psychiatric drugs.**

[SafeRxPrescribing.org](https://www.SafeRxPrescribing.org)

- Over the past decade, **the integration of behavioral health and general medical services** has been shown to improve patient outcomes, increase access to mental health and substance use treatment, increase patient and provider satisfaction, save money, and reduce stigma.
- Significant research spanning three decades has identified one model – the Collaborative Care Model – in particular, as being effective and efficient in delivering integrated care.
- APA created legislation **to increase access** to mental healthcare by having **private insurers reimburse** Collaborative Care billing codes.



## The Collaborative Care Model

EXPANDING ACCESS TO PSYCHIATRIC CARE

### MAKING THE ECONOMIC CASE

Mental health conditions are common impacting **1 in 5 adults** in the US.



Global rates of depression and anxiety are **rising at a rate of 15 to 20%** over the last decade.



These conditions **impact performance, productivity, retention and more.**



Mental health conditions are costly, take depression, costing the US economy **\$210 billion annually.**

### THE COLLABORATIVE CARE MODEL (CoCM)

Quality mental health treatment can be **difficult to access.**



When accessible and done right, mental health treatment **works.**

Yet, **1/2 of people** with depression go untreated.



Many people start with their PCP and do not connect to effective care for multiple reasons:

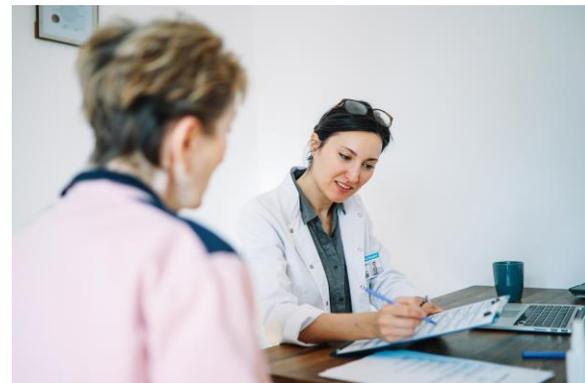
- PCP inadequate **knowledge and resources**
- **Shortage** of mental health providers or long wait lists
- Inadequate mental health provider **networks**
- **Stigma**
- Lack of **engagement** in treatment

The CoCM delivers effective mental health care in primary care with a care team led by the primary care provider (PCP), and including a behavioral health care manager and consulting psychiatrist.

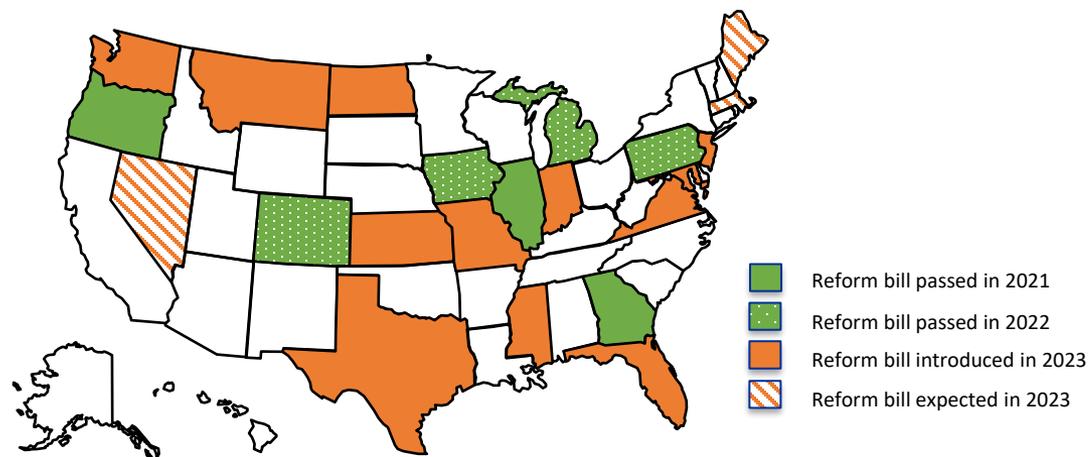




- Prohibits prior authorization in several instances, including generic prescriptions that are not controlled substances
- Any denial of coverage must be made by a physician in the same specialty as the prescriber or by a physician whose specialty focuses on the diagnosis and treatment of the condition for which the prescription was prescribed
- Limit retrospective review
- Timely responses
- "Gold card" language



# 2021-2023: STATE ACTION TO ADDRESS PRIOR AUTHORIZATION REFORM



**Crisis call  
centers  
staffed by  
trained  
mental health  
professionals**

**Mobile crisis  
response if  
needed**

**Crisis  
stabilization  
and follow up**

Sign up for APA's Advocacy Newsletter to get:

- Monthly updates on the policies affecting your profession and patients, and
- Advocacy Alerts when your state or federal lawmakers need to hear from you.

Go to  
[psychiatry.org/AdvocacyNewsletter](https://psychiatry.org/AdvocacyNewsletter)



- **APA STATE GOVERNMENT RELATIONS**
  - Erin Berry Philp, Director  
[ephilp@psych.org](mailto:ephilp@psych.org)
  - Marsi Thrash, Senior Regional Director  
[mthrash@psych.org](mailto:mthrash@psych.org)