

### **Week 6 Update**

The Legislature convened for the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth legislative days of the Regular Session this week.

The Senate introduced and passed SB252, which requires health insurance plans to reimburse pharmacies at Medicaid reimbursement rates until October 1, 2027. The bill also provides DOI further enforcement authority over PBMs, creates a private right of action against PBMs, and prohibits PBMs from charging certain fees to pharmacists.

The Senate also introduced and passed SJR45, which directs LSA to retain a consultant to study and report on the effects of pharmacy benefits manager practices in the state of Alabama.

The House passed HB388, which increases the state income tax exemption for taxable retirement income for taxpayers who are 65 years or older from \$6,000 to \$12,000. This exemption would apply to RSA-1 income.

The Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund committee gave favorable reports to SB208, which proposes a constitutional amendment to allow Montgomery City Council members to participate in ERS, and to SB216, which adds fire medics to the temporary return to work exception.

One new bill impacting RSA was filed this week. SB244, by Sen. Melson, would create the crime of theft of employee retirement benefits.