HB 367 (see companion bill SB 220)

Relating to pharmacists; to amend Section 27-45A-7, Code of Alabama 1975; to authorize a pharmacist to decline to fill a prescription if the pharmacist will be reimbursed for the drug in an amount that is less than the pharmacist's acquisition cost; and to prohibit a pharmacist from being restricted from discussing matters relating to a pharmacy claim with a patient.

SB 220 (see companion bill HB 367)

Relating to pharmacists; to amend Section 27-45A-7, Code of Alabama 1975; to authorize a pharmacist to decline to fill a prescription if the pharmacist will be reimbursed for the drug in an amount that is less than the pharmacist's acquisition cost; and to prohibit a pharmacist from being restricted from discussing matters relating to a pharmacy claim with a patient.

HB 79 (see companion bill SB 20)

Relating to the Board of Pharmacy; to amend Section 34-23-32 of the Code of Alabama 1975, requiring a manufacturer, bottler, packager, wholesale drug distributor, and other entities in the supply chain for pharmaceutical products to obtain an annual permit from the board; to require each permit holder to designate a representative of the permit holder who would be required to register with the board; and to provide for an additional annual registration fee.

SB 20 (see companion bill HB 79)

Relating to the Board of Pharmacy; to amend Section 34-23-32 of the Code of Alabama 1975, requiring a manufacturer, bottler, packager, wholesale drug distributor, and other entities in the supply chain for pharmaceutical products to obtain an annual permit from the board; to require each permit holder to designate a representative of the permit holder who would be

required to register with the board; and to provide for an additional annual registration fee.

SB 167

Relating to the Board of Pharmacy; to amend Section 34-23-30 of the Code of Alabama 1975, relating to persons required to have a permit issued by the board to perform pharmacy services; to provide that an entity providing pharmacy services to residents of this state, rather than a person, would be required to have a permit issued by the board.

HB 518

Regarding health insurance; to provide for a state health care exchange pursuant to the federal Affordable Care Act; to establish a governing board of directors and an executive director and require the board to operate the exchange; and to provide for coordination with and assistance from the Department of Insurance.

HB 475

Relating to rural hospitals; to provide for funding of rural hospitals by creating the Rural Hospital Investment Program; to establish a governing board to administer the program, to provide for a state income tax credit in exchange for donations to rural hospitals; and to provide for coordination with the Department of Revenue

SB 77 (see companion bill HB 126)

To create the Medicaid Emergency Reserve Fund and to provide for the withdrawal and use of amounts deposited into the fund. The Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the State of Alabama that the Alabama Medicaid Agency is not forced to reduce payments to medical providers or eliminate optional but essential medical benefits to Medicaid recipients when the fiscal year appropriation is insufficient to continue the operations of the Medicaid program. It is the intent of the Legislature that there be a Medicaid Emergency Reserve Fund to ensure the continued operation of the Alabama Medicaid Agency during budget shortfalls.

HB 126 (see companion bill SB 77)

To create the Medicaid Emergency Reserve Fund and to provide for the withdrawal and use of amounts deposited into the fund. The Legislature finds that it is in the best interest of the State of Alabama that the Alabama Medicaid Agency is not forced to reduce payments to medical providers or eliminate optional but essential medical benefits to Medicaid recipients when the fiscal year appropriation is insufficient to continue the operations of the Medicaid program. It is the intent of the Legislature that there be a Medicaid Emergency Reserve Fund to ensure the continued operation of the Alabama Medicaid Agency during budget shortfalls.

Midwest hospital M&A market heats up, but faces policy hurdles