



March 2015

A newsletter from:

AfPA Health Policy Council

Physician Legislators Promoting Patient Access

www.allianceforpatientaccess.org



CO-CHAIRS

Del. Dan K. Morhaim, MD, MD
Sen. Mark Green, MD, TN

MEMBERS

Sen. Donny Olson, MD, AK
Rep. Stephen Magie, MD, AR
Sen. Kelli Ward, DO, AZ
Sen. Irene Aguilar, MD, CO
Rep. Prasad Srinivasan, MD, CT
Sen. Josh Green, MD, HI
Rep. John Rusche, MD, ID
Rep. Barbara Bollier, MD, KS
Rep. David Watkins, MD, KY
Del. Terri Hill, MD, MD
Del. Clarence Lam, MD, MD
Rep. Ann E. Dorney, MD, ME
Rep. John Bizon, MD, MI
Rep. Edward Canfield, DO, MI
Rep. Jim Neely, MD, MO
Sen. Ralph Kilzer, MD, ND
Sen. Ervin Yen, MD, OK
Rep. Mike Ritze, DO, OK
Sen. Steve Dickerson, MD, TN
Rep. Bryan Terry, MD, TN
Sen. Donna Campbell, MD, TX
Sen. Charles Schwertner, MD, TX
Rep. Stuart Barlow, MD, UT
Rep. Edward Redd, MD, UT
Sen. Brian Shiozawa, MD, UT
Del. Christopher P. Stolle, MD, VA
Del. Margaret Anne Staggers, MD, WV
Sen. Ron Stollings, MD, WV

ABOUT AfPA'S HEALTH POLICY COUNCIL (HPC)

HPC serves as a physician led non-partisan forum to promote interstate communications between physicians serving in public office. HPC provides for a free exchange of ideas and best policies on issues impacting the practice of medicine. HPC members will join with AfPA's physician leadership to examine issues and promote policies that strengthen the physician-patient relationship while ensuring patient access to appropriate clinical care and approved therapies.

UTAH SEN. SHIOZAWA EXPANDS ACCESS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Utah state senator Brian Shiozawa, MD, describes taking on health care access issues for children with autism as “serendipitous.” Parents of the estimated 18,000 Utah children with autism likely agree. Thanks to Senator Shiozawa’s efforts, the state’s health insurers will now cover treatment for autism, marking a significant patient access victory.



Brian Shiozawa, MD

“I knew [children with autism] were a very difficult patient group to treat in the ER,” explained Sen. Shiozawa, an emergency physician by training. “And I could see it was very trying for the parents.” But once Dr. Shiozawa became Senator Shiozawa, he heard stories from parents that ultimately spurred him to action.

To get their children the treatment and services they needed, parents were making significant sacrifices. Parents told the senator how they “mortgaged their homes [or] worked second and third jobs” to get their children adequate care, Sen. Shiozawa explained. “It was heartbreaking,” he recalled.

When Sen. Shiozawa took office, a state pilot program treated a limited number of children using applied behavior analysis. The treatment approach proved effective, but it benefited only the few hundred children enrolled. To expand access for the thousands of other Utah children facing autism, Sen. Shiozawa introduced pro-access legislation similar to that passed in other states.

The measure met resistance from cost-conscious insurers the first year. But when Sen. Shiozawa introduced the bill again in the next session, grassroots support helped it pass the Senate. Insurance company representatives then agreed to sit down and discuss the provisions of the bill.

The negotiated bill passed. And Sen. Shiozawa’s efforts have now resulted in a state-wide mandate giving children access to autism services up to age nine.



March 2015

A newsletter from:

AfPA Health Policy Council

Physician Legislators Promoting Patient Access

www.allianceforpatientaccess.org



CO-CHAIRS

Del. Dan K. Morhaim, MD, MD
Sen. Mark Green, MD, TN

MEMBERS

Sen. Donny Olson, MD, AK
Rep. Stephen Magie, MD, AR
Sen. Kelli Ward, DO, AZ
Sen. Irene Aguilar, MD, CO
Rep. Prasad Srinivasan, MD, CT
Sen. Josh Green, MD, HI
Rep. John Rusche, MD, ID
Rep. Barbara Bollier, MD, KS
Rep. David Watkins, MD, KY
Del. Terri Hill, MD, MD
Del. Clarence Lam, MD, MD
Rep. Ann E. Dorney, MD, ME
Rep. John Bizon, MD, MI
Rep. Edward Canfield, DO, MI
Rep. Jim Neely, MD, MO
Sen. Ralph Kilzer, MD, ND
Sen. Ervin Yen, MD, OK
Rep. Mike Ritze, DO, OK
Sen. Steve Dickerson, MD, TN
Rep. Bryan Terry, MD, TN
Sen. Donna Campbell, MD, TX
Sen. Charles Schwertner, MD, TX
Rep. Stuart Barlow, MD, UT
Rep. Edward Redd, MD, UT
Sen. Brian Shiozawa, MD, UT
Del. Christopher P. Stolle, MD, VA
Del. Margaret Anne Staggers, MD, WV
Sen. Ron Stollings, MD, WV

HPC AND AFPA

The Health Policy Council (HPC) functions as a non-partisan policy forum and there are no dues or fees to join, nor are its members compensated. HPC is sponsored by the Alliance for Patient Access (AfPA), a physician led 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation. HPC programming is also supported by the Institute for Patient Access (IPA), a related 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. HPC is not a lobbying organization and its funding is derived from grants, donations, and sponsorships provided by both for-profit and non-profit entities. Visit AfPA's website at www.allianceforpatientaccess.org for more information.

PHYSICIAN LEGISLATORS TACKLE HEALTH POLICY PRIORITIES IN 2015

Health Policy Council Members have sponsored an array of health care bills this year.

Sen. Kelli Ward (AZ)

- [SB 1190](#) grants immunity for under-age drinking in the event of an emergency.

Rep. Stephen Magie (AR)

- [HB 1120](#) on examination, licensure and duties performed by as an anesthesiologist assistant.
- [HB 1136](#) extends advanced practice RNs and PAs' prescriptive authority to hydrocodone combination products if authorized by a physician.

Rep. Prasad Srinivasan (CT)

- [HB 6556](#) limits health insurers to 30 days for process of credentialing health care providers.
- [HB 6736](#) prohibits health insurers from setting payments for non-covered benefits.

Sen. Josh Green (HI)

- [SB 1327](#) requires the state to pay Hawaii health connector costs for low-income non-citizens ineligible for Medicaid.
- [SB 749](#) establishes a two-year Hawaii colorectal cancer screening and awareness pilot program.

Rep. David Watkins (KY)

- [HB 253](#) allows a first responder or peace officer to respond to an apparent overdose with naloxone.
- [HB 377](#) permits a collaborative agreement between more than one pharmacist and practitioner.

Del. Dan Morhaim (MD)

- [HB 898](#) provides immunity from civil liability for a person administering medications to treat an apparent drug overdose.
- [HB 817](#) decreases limitation on noneconomic damages in health care malpractice claims.

Rep. Edward Canfield (MI)

- [HB 4209](#) relates to the regulation of medical marijuana.

Sen. Ervin Yen (OK)

- [SB 305](#) requires health benefit plans to provide coverage for telemedicine services.



March 2015

A newsletter from:

AfPA Health Policy Council

Physician Legislators Promoting Patient Access

www.allianceforpatientaccess.org



CO-CHAIRS

Del. Dan K. Morhaim, MD, MD
Sen. Mark Green, MD, TN

MEMBERS

Sen. Donny Olson, MD, AK
Rep. Stephen Magie, MD, AR
Sen. Kelli Ward, DO, AZ
Sen. Irene Aguilar, MD, CO
Rep. Prasad Srinivasan, MD, CT
Sen. Josh Green, MD, HI
Rep. John Rusche, MD, ID
Rep. Barbara Bollier, MD, KS
Rep. David Watkins, MD, KY
Del. Terri Hill, MD, MD
Del. Clarence Lam, MD, MD
Rep. Ann E. Dorney, MD, ME
Rep. John Bizon, MD, MI
Rep. Edward Canfield, DO, MI
Rep. Jim Neely, MD, MO
Sen. Ralph Kilzer, MD, ND
Sen. Ervin Yen, MD, OK
Rep. Mike Ritze, DO, OK
Sen. Steve Dickerson, MD, TN
Rep. Bryan Terry, MD, TN
Sen. Donna Campbell, MD, TX
Sen. Charles Schwertner, MD, TX
Rep. Stuart Barlow, MD, UT
Rep. Edward Redd, MD, UT
Sen. Brian Shiozawa, MD, UT
Del. Christopher P. Stolle, MD, VA
Del. Margaret Anne Staggers, MD, WV
Sen. Ron Stollings, MD, WV

HPC AND AFPA

The Health Policy Council (HPC) functions as a non-partisan policy forum and there are no dues or fees to join, nor are its members compensated. HPC is sponsored by the Alliance for Patient Access (AfPA), a physician led 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation. HPC programming is also supported by the Institute for Patient Access (IPA), a related 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. HPC is not a lobbying organization and its funding is derived from grants, donations, and sponsorships provided by both for-profit and non-profit entities. Visit AfPA's website at www.allianceforpatientaccess.org for more information.

Sen. Charles Schwertner (TX)

- [SB 538](#) reforms management of responses to public health outbreaks such as Ebola.
- [SB 425](#) on public posting of emergency care facility fees.

Rep. Stuart Barlow (UT)

- [HB 148](#) establishes a pilot program for a state employee health clinic.

Rep. Edward Redd (UT)

- [HB 101](#) reauthorizes the Rural Residency Training Program.

Sen. Brian Shiozawa (UT)

- [SB 164](#) expands access to care to adult population that doesn't qualify for traditional Medicaid.

Del. Christopher P. Stolle (VA)

- [SB 732](#) expands access to investigational drugs for terminally ill patients.

Sen. Ron Stollings (WV)

- [SB 9](#) permits law enforcement to provide opioid antagonists for overdose situations.
- [SB 18](#) is a comprehensive approach to overdose prevention.

JOIN HPC TODAY

As a physician serving in elected office, you are invited to join the HPC. There are no membership dues, only a small investment of your time working with fellow physicians toward the promotion of health policies that strengthen the physician-patient relationship while ensuring patient access to appropriate clinical care and approved therapies.

To join or learn more about AfPA or the Health Policy Council, contact brafferty@allianceforpatientaccess.org or call (202)499-4114.