Strategic Public Partners

Ohio Government: Working with Your Elected Officials on Healthcare Issues

Who We Are

750
]iewsj
J|tivirgi

Lvewwxstw
+
Lvewwvssxw
Rerekiw

Lszivrq irx
Wipexsrw
J|tivxw

Wipexsrwlmt
Gynphiw

67
Tlms Gepsx
Nrmxexnzi
[mrw

Nwyi
Heq tenkr
(xvexikmxw

SPP

Strategic Public Partners

Why does government even matter?

Ohio's Current Legislators

- 16 Congressmen and Congresswomen (12 Republicans- 4 Democrats)

- 33 State Senators (24 Republicans – 9 Democrats)

- 99 State Representatives (61 Republicans – 38 Democrats)

How Laws Get Created

Idea is proposed in the House

Bill goes to a committee

Bill dies or goes to full House floor for vote

Bill moves to Senate to repeat

Idea is proposed in the Senate

Bill goes to a committee

Bill dies or goes to full Senate floor for vote

Bill moves to House to repeat

Senate and House work out differences in committee

Final vote and sent to governor to become law

When is the ideal time to advocate to your legislator?

Before a bill gets introduced or in the early stages of legislative action!

Why does your legislator need to hear from you?

- Legislators represent a huge constituency:
  - Average State Representative – Approximately 110,000 people.
  - Average State Senator – Approximately 330,000 people.
  - Members of Congress - Approximately 700,000 people.

- Each Ohio legislative session, more than 600 bills can be introduced, covering a tremendous number of topics.

- Without your input, legislators may not realize legislation will have impact on:
  - APRN's and healthcare access
  - The economic well-being of their district
  - Constituents

What does your legislator want to hear from you?

- That you're a constituent. This is **extremely important.** There's a find-your legislator-tool on the Ohio Senate website.
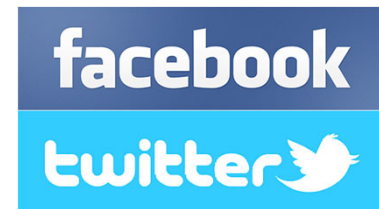

- How the issue impacts you. Personal stories are an excellent tool.

- How the issue impacts their legislative district. Statistics or numbers related to the number of people impacted always plays well.

Effectively contacting legislators

- **E-mail –** Legislators get a tremendous amount of form e-mails, but a **personalized note will stand out.**

- **Phone calls –** This is often over-looked, but a direct phone call can cut through the clutter.

- **Social media –** Almost all legislators are now on Facebook and Twitter. They often run their own accounts. Added bonus: on Twitter, they can't delete your comments and the public sees your advocacy message!

- **Meetings –** In-person meetings at the Statehouse or in-district provide a valuable opportunity to engage with your legislators. Meetings at the Statehouse are more formal, while meetings in-district can more casual.

Less effective methods

- **Spamming legislators –** If you aren't a constituent, don't email all 132 Ohio legislators. It's annoying and they see through it.

- **Form letters** – These have their place in larger coordinated OAAPN campaigns where volume matters, but personalized letters and stories are usually more impactful.

- **Inflexibility** – Legislators are busy. If you request a meeting in Columbus or in the district, recognize you may need to plan around the legislator's schedule.

A Note Regarding Tone

- Effective =

- Not Effective =

You Catch More Flies with Honey

Strategic
Public
Partners

Ohioans for Healthcare Access

This is a non-profit, nonpartisan alliance of stakeholder organizations dedicated to increasing access to healthcare for Ohioans. Membership includes healthcare providers, patients and community-based organizations across the state.

Xli Uvsfpiq

- More than 1.4 million Ohioans lack necessary access to vital primary care services. In fact, the federal government has designated 141 healthcare provider shortage areas across the Buckeye state, meaning that just 55% of patient need is met.

- Under Ohio law, APRNs are unable to practice without mandatory physician contracts – known as a "Standard Care Arrangement." Far from professional collaboration, this contract requires APRNs to submit a subset of their patient charts to a physician for review every two years for "quality assurance" and pay a fee to a physician as a condition of practice. In many cases, no actual collaboration regarding patient care occurs between the contracted physicians and APRNs.

Xli (spyxmsr

- The time has come for the Ohio legislature to remove mandatory legal physician collaboration for APRNs to ensure patients can have access to the provider of their choice.

- Doing so will serve to expand Ohioans' access to care by allowing more than 16,000 APRNs across our state to practice the full extent of their training statewide - especially in primary care shortage areas.

- According to a recent study published in the Journal of General Internal Medicine (February 2018), physicians tend to practice in more affluent areas with already high life expectancy, while nurse practitioners tend to treat patients where they are most needed.

- As Ohio faces the challenges of an aging population, rising healthcare costs and the growing burden of chronic disease, APRNs bring strength to the healthcare workforce and our laws regarding practice rights should reflect this opportunity.

T yvJjjsvx

- **Legislative and Coalitions –** We are developing a coalition and had a bill introduced last general assembly by then Rep. Theresa Gavarone to eliminate the Standard Care Arrangement. We plan to have legislation introduced again.

As Introduced

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session   H. B. No. 726

2017-2018

Representative Gavarone

——

- **Media –** We are actively talking to Ohio media about the issue and plan another robust public relations campaign.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Too many Ohioans still lack health care: Letter to the Editor

Posted Sep 4, 2018

By Other Voices

Thursday's article "Ohio bill would give advance practice registered nurses independence from doctors" effectively highlighted the legislative effort to increase healthcare access for Ohioans, but failed to mention just how many Ohioans lack care today.

According to the Kaiser Family Foundation and the federal government, there are 150 communities and areas in Ohio that face significant primary care health professional shortages. Nearly 1.4 million Ohioans live in these shortage areas. Statewide, nearly 45 percent of demand for healthcare is unmet.

Get Involved!

- **Volunteer in the OAAPN's "key persons program."** The KPP aims to assign an APRN to each House and Senate district in Ohio with a goal for that person to form a relationship with his or her legislator. More information is available at http://www.oaapn.org.

- **Respond to OAAPN Calls to Action**

- **Visit:** https://www.ohioansforhealthcareaccess.org/

- **Like and follow:**

    facebook.com/Ohioans-For-Healthcare-Access

    twitter.com/OHforHealthcare

OAAPN KPP Program
Open Counties

Questions?