

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
June 16, 2021



Regional Advocacy Update

Background: *HLC’s Regional Advocacy Program has long been one of the most respected among trade associations and policy advocates. Because a message carries greater resonance if a member of Congress hears it directly from constituents, HLC has taken its advocacy “on the road” to communicate with lawmakers when they are working in their home states and congressional districts. HLC continues to achieve results by taking its message beyond the Capital Beltway.*

The backbone of the HLC Regional Advocacy Program is the use of Health Leadership Teams (HLTeams). Six HLC regional directors traditionally bring together HLTeams, comprised of HLC member company representatives, local business allies, and community health advocates, to engage with senators and representatives in their respective states and districts. HLTeams present a consensus, crosssectoral viewpoint on healthcare issues from the “real world” perspective of constituents explaining the impact of Washington policies on local patients and jobs. During the pandemic, HLC regional directors have engaged team members virtually and will continue to do so for the time being.

Key Regional Advocacy Activities:

As of June, regional directors coordinated or participated in nearly 100 advocacy activities and meetings. Some of these activities included:

- **In-District Meetings with Members of Congress.** In-district meetings provide an opportunity for members of Congress to hear directly from their constituents and consider issues affecting the entire healthcare industry and provide HLC members the opportunity to educate members of Congress on topics of importance. HLC regional directors have coordinated 58 in-district or state meetings with members of Congress, over half with members on key committees of healthcare jurisdiction.

Senate Finance Committee

Sen. Richard Burr (R/NC)
Sen. Michael Crapo (R/ID)

Sen. Ben Sasse (R/NE)
Sen. Ron Wyden (D/OR)

Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee

Sen. Richard Burr (R/NC)

Sen. Roger Marshall (R/KS)

Other Senate Committees

Sen. Kevin Cramer (R/ND)
Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D/IL)

Sen. Jim Inhofe (R/OK)
Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R/WY)

House Ways and Means Committee

Rep. Drew Ferguson (R/GA)
Rep. Steven Horsford (D/NV)
Rep. Mike Kelly (R/PA)

Rep. Ron Kind (D/WI)
Rep. Brad Wenstrup (R/OH)

House Energy and Commerce Committee

Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R/FL)
Rep. Buddy Carter (R/GA)
Rep. Mike Doyle (D/PA)
Rep. Lizzie Fletcher (D/TX)
Rep. Annie Kuster (D/NH)
Rep. Donald McEachin (D/VA)

Rep. Jerry McNerney (D/CA)
Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D/AZ)
Rep. Gary Palmer (R/AL)
Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R/WA)
Rep. Darren Soto (D/FL)
Rep. Lori Trahan (D/MA)
Rep. Marc Veasey (D/TX)

House Education and Labor Committee

Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D/OR)
Rep. Jamaal Bowman (D/NY)
Rep. Joe Courtney (D/CT)

Rep. Madison Cawthorn (R/NC)
Rep. Diana Harshbarger (R/TN)
Rep. Kathy Manning (D/NC)

Other House Committees

Rep. Tim Burchett (R/TN)
Rep. Ed Case (D/HI)
Rep. Tom Cole (R/OK)
Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R/PA)
Rep. Bill Foster (D/IL)
Rep. Mike Gallagher (R/WI)
Rep. Garret Graves (R/LA)
Rep. Mark Green (R/TN)
Rep. Chrissy Houlahan (D/PA)

Rep. John Katko (R/NY)
Rep. Derek Kilmer (D/WA)
Rep. David Kustoff (R/TN)
Rep. Susie Lee (D/NV)
Rep. Elaine Luria (D/VA)
Rep. Chris Pappas (D/NH)
Rep. David Price (D/NC)
Rep. David Scott (D/GA)

- **New Member Orientation.** Cornerstones of HLC's regional advocacy program are the HLC Candidate Program and New Member Orientation Program. Developing relationships with lawmakers early on has proven to be an investment in future interactions as these members gain seniority in Congress. In 2021, HLC is meeting with a variety of new members of Congress, but focusing on meeting with freshman members of Congress who could be healthcare champions and help advocate the HLC agenda.
- **Healthcare Coffee and Conversations.** HLC's Healthcare Coffee and Conversation events introduce congressional members and candidates to the Washington, D.C., healthcare community and build upon those relationships made with members of Congress and candidates through the regional meetings. HLC has hosted Representatives Dwight Evans (D/PA), Kathleen Rice (D/NY), and William Timmons (R/SC) for virtual "coffees."
- **Grassroots, Grasstops Campaigns, and Regional Roundtables.** HLC regional directors are instrumental in advocating on key healthcare issues, as well as being experts in the community. HLC regional directors recruited cosponsors for, and educated congressional offices on, legislation and issues of importance to HLC's membership, including the "TREAT Act," disaster preparedness, and telehealth, among other issues. HLC regional directors have garnered half of the TREAT Act cosponsors to date.