Staging Your Impact: Meeting with Policymakers

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Intentions: Staging Your Impact

- Overview of Congress
- The CCPC Act
- The Ask
- Role Play Exercise
How Congress Works
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- 1 Rep per district
- Based on population
- 435 total
- 2-year terms

SENATE

- 2 Senators per state
- 100 total
- 6-year terms
115th Congress

House of Representatives
- 435 Representatives
  - 235 Republicans
  - 193 Democrats
  - 7 Vacant seats

Senate
- 100 Senators
  - 51 Republicans
  - 47 Democrats
  - 2 Independents
How a Bill (Usually) Becomes a Law

1. Introduced in committee
2. Committee* hearings
   • Expert testimony
   • Advocacy organizations
3. Committee* mark-up
   • Amendments
4. Committee* votes
5. Full chamber for floor vote

*NCCS
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship
The CCPC Act is a bi-partisan health care bill co-sponsored by Congressmen Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA) and Ted Poe (R-TX). We are still seeking Senate Sponsors so it’s important to mention this to your Senators!
The CCPC Act would establish a new Medicare service for cancer care planning.

A care plan can be developed at diagnosis, when there is a change in the treatment plan, or at the completion of treatment where a survivorship care plan would be developed.
Benefits to Cancer Patients and Survivors

- The CCPC Act will help cancer patients by supplying them a written plan or roadmap.
- The CCPC Act will promote shared decision-making between patients and their cancer care teams.
- The CCPC Act will empower patients with information necessary to help manage and coordinate their care.
Endorsing Organizations and Cancer Centers

American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer
American Society of Clinical Oncology
Association of Community Cancer Centers
Association of Oncology Social Work
Cancer Legal Resource Center
Cancer Support Community
College of American Pathologists
Colon Cancer Alliance
Critical Mass
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Hematology Oncology Pharmacy Association
International Myeloma Foundation
Lacuna Loft
LIVESTRONG
Lung Cancer Alliance
LUNGevity Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Brain Tumor Society
National Patient Advocate Foundation
Oncology Nursing Society
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network
Stupid Cancer
The Children’s Cause for Cancer Advocacy
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Triage Cancer
West Virginia Oncology Society
Zero Prostate Cancer
City of Hope National Medical Center
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center
Laura and Isaac Perlmutter Cancer Center at NYU Langone
Loma Linda University Cancer Center
Masonic Cancer Center, University of Minnesota
Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center
Moffitt Cancer Center
Norris Cotton Cancer Center
Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey
Stanford Cancer Institute
UC Davis Cancer Center
The University of Kansas Cancer Center
The University of Kentucky Markey Cancer Center
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
The University of Virginia Cancer Center
Here We Go Again…

Conservative groups and state Republican leaders are pushing for another attempt at repealing the Affordable Care Act.

This proposal would end essential health benefits, reinstate lifetime caps, rescind pre-existing condition protections, repeal cost-sharing reduction subsidies and the Medicaid expansion, replacing them with block grants to the states.
Hill Day

Bus Departure Times from Hotel to Capitol Hill (Garfield Circle):
7:15 am
9:00 am
10:15 am
12:00 pm
1:45 pm
3:15 pm

Bus Departure Times from Capitol Hill (Peace Monument):
9:45 am
11:00 am
1:00 pm
2:30 pm
4:00 pm
The Meeting

• Brief introductions
  • Name, city, connection to cancer, NCCS advocate
• Purpose of the meeting
  • We are here to talk about the CCPC Act and ACA patient protections
• Share your story
• Ask if they will cosponsor the CCPC Act
Legislative Visit Do’s and Don’ts

• Do’s
  • Be punctual
  • Allow time to get through security
  • Introduce yourself with a handshake, a smile, your full name, and where you are from in their district
  • Share your story, make it personal
  • Be courteous and friendly to everyone in the office
  • Ask the Representative’s position and why
  • Follow up with a “thank you” by email
Legislative Visit Do’s and Don’ts

• Don’ts
  • Don’t overload the Congressional visit with too many issues or too much paper
  • Don’t expect your Representative, or their staff, to be a specialist on the issue
  • Don’t be afraid to say, “I don’t know,” to a question asked of you – you can follow up with a response
  • Don’t be offended if a legislator is unable to meet and requests that you meet with his/her staff
  • Don’t confront, threaten, pressure, or beg
After the Meeting

• Tweet to thank the member for meeting and re-iterate the ask
• Send thank you emails – include responses to questions
• Follow-up with staff on action items
• Complete Hill Day Survey
• Following Member action, thank Member and staff
Maintaining Long-term Relationships

• Sign up for legislator’s email updates and follow on social media
• Check in with staff regularly
• Serve as a resource on cancer issues
• Invite to local cancer community events in hometown
• Thank for co-sponsoring legislation
• Schedule in-district meetings
• Attend town hall meetings
Congressional Meeting Role Play!