Day On the Hill Communique 2

It’s Blitz Time! Send Those Letters!

Contact & Follow Up

From Monday, February 17 through Friday, February 28, AACVPR encourages all members, rehabilitation practitioners, rehabilitation grateful patients, Medical Directors and physician champions, and hospitals to use the AACVPR virtual lobbying tool. With a few easy clicks, you can identify your US Representative and US Senators, select the appropriate template letter, personalize it, and press send. It will be received in those DC offices.

If you have not yet sent a letter, specific templates are posted for practitioners, patients, physicians, and institutions. One goes to the US Representative in your District and one letter is specifically written to go to both your US Senators. Note there is not a bill number yet in the Senate, but it is still important to educate the Senate on the issue and coming companion bill to HR 4838.

For anyone who has sent a letter, a short follow-up letter is posted that simply reminds the member of your initial request and asks for support by signing onto HR 4838 or for support for this issue and coming bill in the US Senate.

Your voice in Washington, DC will only be as strong as the number of constituents in your state who step up to send letters in your state. There truly is strength in numbers in this situation. Patients, professionals, and hospitals all count.

Shout-out to Nebraska which has ALL US Representatives signed on to HR 4838.

If you have not been contacted by your State Contact for DOTH, please contact him or her. Each state will be more effective if appointments are coordinated, priority Congressional members are identified, and your group is communicating prior to coming.

Come Prepared!

On the AACVPR Day on the Hill webpage, you will find:

- Names of Important Committee Members
- HR 4838

In preparation for visits to the Hill, it would be helpful to have one or more “stories” that are or could impact rehab programs in your state. Your Congressional member cares most about how this issue affects constituents and health care in the state. Describing the scenario of re-location to off-campus and suffering a reduction of 40% in reimbursement or not being able to expand access to a larger off-campus facility due to that financial barrier paint the picture of our situation and are more memorable to the member and/or staff you are visiting.
AACVPR folders with handouts will be available in DC at the Monday training session (and can be arranged for Monday morning for those coming in for Monday appointments).

Please save this date for the DOTh 2020 prep call on Wednesday, February 26. It is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. CST (4:00 p.m. ET, 2:00 p.m. PST) This call is geared towards first-time DOTh attendees, so attendance is optional if you have attended DOTh before.