

### 3. POST-ORLANDO, CONGRESS RENEWS PUSH FOR GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

Following the June 12 Orlando mass shooting, policy makers attempted to craft gun safety legislation but were unsuccessful in securing approval. On June 15, the House Energy and Commerce Committee rejected an amendment to the *Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act* (HR 2646), offered by Rep. Tony Cardenas (D-CA), that would explicitly authorize research on gun violence and would protect the doctor-patient relationship with respect to gun safety counseling. Subsequently, House Democrats staged a 25-hour sit-in calling for votes on gun violence policies, including one to allow gun violence research.

Last week, Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) had led a 15-hour filibuster urging Senate leaders to allow gun safety amendments to the fiscal year 2017 Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations bill. Senate Majority Leader McConnell agreed to a series of votes that took place on Monday June 20. These votes were on amendment that would prohibit gun sales for those on the terror watch list and would strengthen background check requirements. The four amendments failed largely along party lines. During this process, the AAFP [supported](#) the *Fix Gun Checks Act* (S 2934), which would eliminate most exceptions to the requirement for background checks before purchasing firearms.

On June 23, the Senate approved a motion to debate a bipartisan bill, which Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) sponsored, that would restrict gun sales to those on specific terrorism-related lists and would provide a process for appealing such restrictions in individual cases. While the motion to proceed to debate was approved, it fell short of the 60 votes it will need for final approval.

### 4. AAFP URGES SENATE TO PROTECT FDA ROLE IN TOBACCO REGULATION

On June 22, the AAFP sent a [letter](#) to Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Jeff Merkley (D-OR), the Chairman and senior Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA & Related Agencies to ask that the agriculture spending bill for fiscal year 2017 (S 2956) not include any provisions like those in the House version of the bill that would weaken the authority of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate tobacco products, including cigars and e-cigarettes.

### 5. FamMedPAC CONTINUES TO PROMOTE AAFP'S AGENDA

FamMedPAC supported several important legislators this week, helping to promote AAFP's legislative agenda. The PAC contributed to the campaigns of the following legislators:

- **Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA)** is a member of the Health Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, and offered the amendment to restore funding for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ); she is also a member of the House Primary Care Caucus.
- **Rep. Billy Long (R-MO)** is a new member of the Health Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee
- **Sen. Pat Leahy (D-VT)** is a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee.
- **Rep. Eric Paulsen (R-MN)**, a member of the House Ways and Means Committee, addressed this year's Family Medicine Congressional Conference.
- **Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA)** is a member of the Health Subcommittee of the Senate Finance Committee.
- **Rep. Dave Reichert (R-WA)** is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee.
- **Rep. Nita Lowey (D-NY)** is the Senior Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee.