

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
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TO: Commission on Governmental Advocacy

RE: 2007 Chapter Legislative Priorities

DATE: January 10, 2007

AAFP chapters were solicited for their 2007 legislative priorities in mid December with a response date of January 1, 2007. Nonresponding chapters were contacted by phone on January 4-5 and were asked to complete the survey if possible. To date, we have 41 of 55 chapters responding to this request for information with four states indicating they are unable to respond to the survey at this time (Alaska, District of Columbia, Montana and Utah). The following chapters have not responded to the survey: California, Hawaii, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, and Virginia.

General Analysis of Survey Responses

All responding chapters had at least one legislative priority for 2007, with 95 percent (40) chapters reporting four priorities; 81 percent (34) having four; and 69 percent noting five priorities for this year.

Thirty-six of the responding chapters indicated plans to implement and/or enhance a state key contact program. Three chapters have asked for additional information on the AAFP Federal Key Contact Program

Specific Areas of Interest

Access to Care/Uninsured

- comprehensive reform measures to increase access to care (17 chapters)
- Medicaid/SCHIP expansions (13)
- incremental reform to address this issue (13)

Managed Care/Payment Practice

- fair contracting is a relevant issue (15 chapters)
- Down coding and bundling of claims (11)

- prompt payment of claims (10)
- balance billing (7)
- assignment of benefits (4)

Medical Liability Reform

- non-economic damage caps (12 chapters)
- expert witness reform (8)
- alternative dispute resolution/health courts (5)
- liability relief for maternal care (4)
- liability relief for emergency care (2)

Scope of Practice

- Pharmacist Collaborative Practice (16 chapters)
- prescriptive authority within non-physician providers:
 - Advanced Nurse Practitioner (14)
 - other (11)
 - Psychologist (8)
- lay midwifery (12)
- chiropractic expansion (11)
- naturopathic licensure (7)

Public Health Issues

- tobacco and smoke free issues such as “clean indoor health” and tobacco tax increases (30 chapters)
- vaccine distribution from a public health perspective (24)
- Obesity (24)
- Pandemic Preparedness and Disaster/Emergency Preparedness (12)

Additional information provided and broken out by chapter in the attached documents includes:

Other legislative priorities not previously noted
 What the AAFP can do to support legislative and advocacy efforts

Note on the individual chapter reports an “N/A” indicates Not Answered.

Alabama AFP

Holley Midgley, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Maintain current legislation that supports programs which encourage efforts to address rural physician shortages
2. Maintain support for the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board
3. Increase medical school scholarship for students who agree to practice in rural areas

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Incremental reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Down coding and Bundling
- We will continue to work with the state's largest health insurer, Blue Cross, to reduce hassles and unneeded restraints on the scope of practice of family physicians.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to serve as an excellent resource.

Arizona AFP

Laura Hahn, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Raising the burden of proof for emergency room care
2. Healthcare for all legislation
3. Limiting "bare" period for small employer health insurance (state plan)
4. Graduate Medical Education funding expansion
5. Increasing funding for a new medical school

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? Yes

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. The focus of our 2007 COD will be healthcare for all in Arizona and are currently examining options. We have included the state medical association in our discussions.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- We have started the Reimbursement Task Force. This group is currently surveying members as we speak to see what the most troublesome codes are per payor. Our strategy is to then address this with the payors.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Emergency Care

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic

Public health issues (if any):

- N/A

Other legislative priorities:

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Provide us with what everyone's survey is so we know who to contact if we have the same issues.

Arkansas AAFP

Carla Coleman, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Follow scope activity on nurse practitioners and advance nurse practitioners
2. Wal-Mart Retail Health Clinics
3. Medicaid Funding Increase

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- None

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- None

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Nurse Practitioner expansion in prescriptive authority, ability to do procedures such as C-Sections and colonoscopies and bill independently.

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Will call if we need support.

Colorado AFP

Raquel Alexander, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Universal Healthcare
2. Medicaid Reform
3. Vaccine Distribution
4. Immunizations

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- c. Incremental reforms

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Connecticut AFP

Mark Schuman, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Managed care contracting issues
2. Physician Health Program
3. Medical Liability Reform
4. Flu Vaccine Distribution
5. Scope of Practice

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Certificate of Merit
- Chiropractic expansion
- Highly likely to see efforts from nursing organizations

Public health issues (if any):

- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

Kidney screening

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Delaware AFP

James Gill, MD, MPH, Immediate Past Chair of Legislative Committee

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Universal Insurance Coverage
2. State provided immunizations for children
3. Tort Reform
4. Remedy to Medicare SGR
5. Reduce down coding and bundling by insurers

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. N/A

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts
- Certificate of Merit

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Public health issues (if any):

- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Collaborate with AAFP on issues of common concern.

Florida AAFP

Tad Fisher, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Medicaid - Physician Reimbursement Increase
2. Improve funding for residency training programs
3. Medical Liability Reform
4. Protecting physician scope of practice
5. Support child safety, health improvements, and increased access to primary care

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Incremental reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Expert witness reform

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Naturopathic licensure
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Nurse practitioner and psychologist prescriptive authority

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free policies

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Help chapters to develop facts about the need to train and educate more family physicians to improve the workforce

Georgia AFP

Fay Brown, Executive Director and Lobbyist

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Medicaid Reimbursement
2. State tax credits for medical school loans
3. Blocking any legislation attempting to roll back tort reform
4. Tobacco Tax Increase
5. A variety of scope of practice issues.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: No
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. N/A

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- We are waiting to see what is filed. We may not lead the charge on these issues but will consider any that help family physicians.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- We will be working hard to not lose any ground gained in 2005.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority - specifically optometrists prescribing, pharmacists therapeutic substitution.
- Mandated vision screening for children by optometrists.

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions
- Promoting a budget item to place a person in the Education Department to focus on physician education - currently not a position in Georgia.

Other legislative priorities:

State tax credit for medical school loans, increasing funds for residency programs, supporting funds for a preceptorship for pre-med student (cut in 2005) and any legislation that will give relief to the current Medicaid managed care situation.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Keep pumping us data from the Graham Center - thanks for all of your support.

Idaho AAFP

Neva Santos, Executive Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Mental Health
2. Tobacco
3. Increasing funding for medical students and residency programs
4. Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement
5. Direct billing legislation filed by pathologists.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Mental Health

Other legislative priorities:

Increased funding for medical student seats and residency training programs.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Give me some ideas on how to implement a state key contact program.

Illinois AFP

Gordana Krkic, Vice President of Government Relations

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Pass Universal Access to Care
2. Pass a statewide clean indoor act
3. Secure funding for the Summer Externship Program
4. Protect public health in the state budget.
5. Promote an optimum work environment for family physicians

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Prescriptive Authority - Nurse Practitioners
- Increasing the ratio of Physician Assistants to Family Physicians

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues

Other legislative priorities:

Continue your current flow of information and easy access to resources

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Indiana AFP

Allison Matters, Government Relations

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. State tobacco tax
2. Increased physician reimbursement
3. Assignment of Benefits
4. Increased vaccination availability and funding
5. State Medicaid program roll-out

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Assignment of Benefits

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Prescriptive Authority -expansion of Physician Assistant Scope

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

Continue with the updates and continue to be a resource for us if help is needed.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Iowa AFP

Jennifer Harbison, Member Advocacy Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Seeking primary care medical home legislation for a pilot program.
2. Funding for family medicine and the University of Iowa and Des Moines University
3. Medicaid expansion coverage for adults; expanding Hawk-I (SCHIP); and improving the Iowa Care program (a safety net for adults which currently does not provide primary care).
4. Tobacco User Fee - increasing Iowa's tobacco tax by \$1 per pack
5. Scope of Practice

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- c. All options are being considered. Our statehouse is now controlled by Democrats and the Senate has already proposed a universal health care plan while our new elected governor is in the midst of finalizing his own proposal.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Certificate of Merit - the state medical society will take the lead on this issue.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Naturopathic licensure
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Physician assistants in Iowa are seeking advancement in scope through independent practice. We also have the complimentary/alternative providers seeking approval to practice in Iowa.

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Other legislative priorities:

- Clean Indoor Air - The Iowa AFP supports efforts at the state level to pass legislation that would return the right to local communities to pass local clean indoor air ordinances that are stronger than state law.
- IAFP supports a Medicaid pay-for-performance program for physicians occurring within the context of a positive annual update in Medicaid. This rewards

- physicians for reporting performance measures as chosen by the collaborate efforts of the AAFP, ACP, AHRQ, and AHIP and does not force physicians to compete for limited withholds.
- Pharmacists/Mass Screening/Immunizations – we believe under this issue there should be policy to enforce accountability to report to primary care/medical home, accountability to follow-up with results that needs to be in place in the Collaborate agreement. We need to define this protection and that the risk/benefit needs to be communicated to the patient.
 - Carve-out by Specialists – we have seen some activity in this area – pathologists, potential for radiologists and others. We believe that carve-outs are not appropriate.
 - CHC/Rural health Clinics/FQHC's – Will do research for development as we have no position statement on this. Need financial assistance – currently cost based.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to share best practices and issues other states are facing/dealing with.
Provide AAFP position papers on emerging issues.

Kansas AFP

Carolyn Gaughan, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. KAFP supports legislation that addresses improved medical care in our state, especially issues that encourage the development and maintenance of a medical home directed by a family physician for all Kansans
2. KAFP supports full funding of the Medical Student Loan Program and initiatives that encourage students to enter family medicine.
3. KAFP supports activities, programs and legislation to encourage physicians to practice in rural and underserved areas, and to retain their services once established there.
4. KAFP supports all legislation that ensures adequate payment for physicians services to our state Medicaid programs to help insure adequate access to the healthcare system for those patients.
5. KAFP supports public health efforts including comprehensive smoking prevention, cessation and control; immunizations; and childhood obesity in Kansas.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- b. Incremental Reforms

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Kentucky AFP

Gerry Stover, Chapter Executive

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Scope of practice issues with pharmacists.
2. Tort Reform - noneconomic damage caps
3. Medicaid Managed Care Initiatives
4. Workforce

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- b. We are interested in implementing a CCNC model for Medicaid.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Public health issues (if any):

- N/A

Other legislative priorities:

When we get the specifics of what the pharmacists are pushing for, then we need to know how other states have handled the issue.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Louisiana AFP

Marguerite Picou, MD

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Making Electronic Medical Records affordable
2. Stop any Medicare payments cuts.
3. Health Care Coverage for All

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. None

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Prescriptive authority for non-physician providers, i.e., nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

We are interested in developing a state political action committee and need support.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Maine AFP

Ron Blum, MD

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Dirigo Health - access to healthcare
2. Health and Safety Reform
3. Tort Reform
4. Safe pharmaceutical disposals
5. Medicaid (Mainecare) reimbursement

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: No
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Incremental reform - expansion of Dirigo Health (an accessible state administered insurance plan).

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Maryland AAFP

William Jones, MD, Chair of Legislative Commission

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Physician Reimbursement
2. Increasing the number of new residents
3. Reducing insurance company control over medicine

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing
- Assignment of Benefits
- Reducing the "preauthorization" syndrome afflicting insurance companies

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- We have had minimal success a few years ago and now have to convince the legislature there is more to be done.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- This is a creeping eruption which affects everyone in Maryland. The minute clinics are proliferating and we are a physician unfriendly state.

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

We are in a reactive mode and will need to see what arises in addition to the priorities already stated.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

I attended the State Legislative Conference in Austin and always find it helpful in setting priorities for the legislative year.

Massachusetts AFP

Ronna Wallace, Legislative Consultant

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Full funding and timely implementation of landmark health reform law.
2. Implementation of fair standards for insurers utilizing quality measures including pay for performance and "tiering"
3. Scope of Practice
4. Public health and safety including universal immunization, flu vaccines, and primary enforcement of seatbelts.
5. Monitoring State Board of Registration in Medicine regulations.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Continue to monitor the implementation of the health reform Law and advocate for full funding and timely implementation of incremental reform.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Expert witness reform
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Public health issues (if any):

- Vaccine Distribution
- Universal immunization

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continued access to resource materials and networking with other state associations/leaders.

Michigan AFP

Joe Neller, Manager of Government Relations and Communications

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Increase access to health care
2. Tort Reform
3. Scope of Practice
4. Medicare/Medicaid Reform
5. Maintain the family physician training fund.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. We are going to work with the governor as she implements her Michigan First Healthcare Plan. This is supposed to increase access dramatically and restructure the health care system in Michigan to be founded in preventative medicine and primary care.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Balance Billing

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Health Courts

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- We are now registered in the new Michigan Health Information Network which send out alerts on disaster/emergencies such as bioterrorism and on pandemic outbreaks of influenza or avian flu.

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Communicate with us about events on the national level. We have a good handle on state level lobbying or advocacy efforts but sometimes miss those same efforts on a national level.

Minnesota AFP

Virginia Barzan, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Passage of legislation to prohibit smoking in all work places.
2. Health System Reform
3. Universal Coverage
4. Maintain and/or increase funding for family medicine education.
5. Payment for interpreter services.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Cost of interpreters

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Direct access to physical therapists.

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Help with developing, maintaining and using a key contact system effectively.

Mississippi AFP

Beth Embry, Executive Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Rural Scholars Program
2. Cigarette Tax increase proposal
3. Composition of the Trustees at the Board of Health
4. Stabilizing Medicaid
5. Tobacco Funds

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. N/A

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- 2004 reforms have resulted in a 90 percent reduction in medical malpractice claims.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Psychologist prescriptive authority

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to share updates of legislative activity in other states to let us know what may be coming down the pipeline.

Missouri AFP

Connie Cunningham, Executive Director and Pat Strader, Lobbyist

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Medicaid Reform, Fraud, and Reimbursement
2. Scope of practice for chiropractors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and recognition of lay midwives.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. The intent is to hold the line for programs and services already offered.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Expert witness reform
- Maternal Care exemptions

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioner, psychologist, etc.).

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

High deductible insurance plans and unfunded mandates such as translator reimbursement.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Keep us informed on any federal initiatives that might be of interest. The sharing of testimony, bulletin points on issues from their states would be beneficial as is research on particular issues on request.

Nebraska AAFP

Mark Butler, MD

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Direct billing legislations
2. There was a large turnover in the Senate due to term limits. We are looking to expand influence with these new legislators.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. N/A

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Physician Assistants are requesting schedule II prescriptive authority similar to that given to Nurse Practitioners last session.
- CRNAs are seeking privileges in advanced fluoroscopy for epidural steroid injections.

Public health issues (if any):

- N/A

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

New Jersey AFP

Ray Saputelli, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Managed care reform - "hassle factors"
2. Scope of practice, maintenance/intrusions
3. Medicaid reform - in some ways this is connected to Managed Care reform.
4. Universal Access to care
5. Fair Payment/Contracting Issues

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- c. We are currently participating in a work group led by the Chair of Senate Health to study how to provide access to the uninsured. All ideas were "theoretically" on the table but it appears that a Medicaid "expansion" is the path.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- NJAFP led a coalition of healthcare groups whose result was a multi-issue managed care bill which will address many of these needs. The bill is currently being drafted with strong NJAFP input.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- We will continue to support liability reform efforts, but the political reality in New Jersey is that the issue is DOA for the foreseeable future.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)
- Retail health clinics.

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

Improvement of loan forgiveness programs for primary care.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Model Legislation/Common Causes: All too often, especially around scope of practice issues, we are faced with reaction to what legislators see as "national Efforts/Movements:", so they have some sense of security in "siding" with those who, for example, wa

New York AFP

Vito Grasso, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Universal Healthcare/Single Payor System
2. Collective Bargaining
3. Preservation of the Clean Indoor Act
4. Nutrition and Obesity
5. Investment in Primary Care

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: No
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Naturopathic licensure
- Nurse Practitioner Prescriptive Authority

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Other legislative priorities:

Graduate Medical Education financing; Peer Review; and Medicaid Reform.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to provide current updates on national issues and lobbying efforts.
Expand the State Legislative Conference and provide financial support for Chapter delegations.

North Carolina AAFP

Gregg Griggs, Director of Professional Services

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Training of primary care physicians in North Carolina - Duke and EDU Issues
2. Increase Physician reimbursement.
3. Expansion of Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC)
4. Mental Health Reform
5. Supervisory disclosure of nurse practitioners

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- b. Incremental reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Down coding and Bundling
- Balance Billing

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Incremental approach underway in collaboration with other medical organizations.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Nurse Practitioner prescriptive authority

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Other legislative priorities:

Continue to provide data and updates as in the past.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Address the Medicare payment system because physician reimbursement in North Carolina is tied to Medicare payment.

North Dakota AFP

Dale Klein, MD, Chair External Affairs

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

6. Medical Liability - I'm sorry legislation
7. Osteoporosis Awareness
8. Medicaid Reibursement
9. Smoking legislation
10. Rural Health

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: No
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- c. Incremental Reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- None - there is not much managed care in the state.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Maternal Care exemptions.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Ohio AFP

Ann Spicer, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Adequate funding of family medicine line item in state budget
2. Improving Medicaid reimbursement to primary care physicians
3. Improving access to health care for uninsured patients (related directly to second priority).
4. Enhanced care management using primary care physicians.
5. Continuing to successfully communicate and be at the table when decisions are made by the incoming administration.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- b. Incremental Reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- We are in the early stages of converting to a statewide Medicaid managed care program for essentially all Medicaid recipients, including the very costly Aged, Blind and Disabled populations. We anticipate this will take much of our time.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Ohio has enacted 17 different legislative actions to deal with medical liability reform. The legislature is included to wait and see if these work prior to doing additional legislation.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioner, psychologist, etc.).

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution and reimbursement for administration and storage costs.

Other legislative priorities:

We are looking for information as to what state governments might do to assist with primary care workforce issues - medical student grants, loans, stipends and tying medical school funding to a school's production of primary care physicians.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to supply information about issues of interest and analysis of what is occurring in other states. Responding to questions as needed.

Oklahoma AFP

Sam Blackstock, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Health Care for All
2. Medicaid Reimbursement
3. Tort Reform
4. Restrict use of the term "physician" by non-physician providers
5. Funding for residency programs.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Incremental reform

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Maternal Care exemptions.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Public health issues (if any):

- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Send money.

Oregon AFP

Kerry Gonzales, Executive Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Preserving liability insurance subsidy for rural physicians
2. Expanding coverage and access for all Oregonians
3. Support the restructuring of the priority lists for the Oregon Health Plan
4. Support the Rural Scholars Program
5. Support the Rural Viability Fund

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Incremental Reform will be supported only if comprehensive reform is impossible

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- None

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- There is zero interest among the legislators to address liability issues.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- None

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy
- Healthy foods and exercise in schools.

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

We feel comfortable asking for help as we go.

Pennsylvania AFP

Andrew Sandusky, Director of Government Affairs

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Protect and Strengthen the Medical Assistance Program
2. Protect, support and nurture the Patient Medical Home by strengthening family medicine in the Commonwealth
3. Adopt a standardized managed care contract
4. Eliminate the M-Care (State Patient Compensation) Fund
5. Ensure access to quality care by reforming the medical professional liability system

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts
- b. Expansion of Medicaid and SCHIP Program - The Pennsylvania SCHIP was expanded in November 2006 to include coverage for all children regardless of family income. Premiums will be assessed based on a sliding scale.
- c. Other incremental reforms - We anticipate Gov. Rendell will announce a healthcare reform plan in conjunction with the annual budget address in February 2007. The Administration's planning activities of this project were facilitated (in part) with federal

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing
- Assignment of Benefits

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Both Diana and Greg have been great to the PAFP on multiple issues and events throughout this past year. I only see that being strengthened for the benefit of our shared constituencies in 2007.

Rhode Island AFP

Sarah Fessler, MD, President-Elect

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Medicare Reimbursement
2. Malpractice Reform
3. Support of education in Family Medicine
4. Universal Healthcare

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Continue to support via web site and Speak Out. Continue to inform members on Academy legislative actions.

South Carolina AFP

Paquita Turner, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Medicaid funding and physician reimbursement
2. Continuing Medical Liability Reform
3. Cleaning up changes to the new Medical Practice Act
4. Scope of practice issues
5. Tobacco tax increase

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- a. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Down coding and Bundling

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Expert Witness Reform
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Liability exemptions for emergency care

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distributions

Other legislative priorities:

Cigarette tax – South Carolina has the lowest tax in the US and efforts are ongoing to increase the tax. The greatest area of debate is where the tax money should go into the budget. The Academy supports the monies being spent in health care.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Be a source of information and provide materials to assist the state on specific issues/areas, such as information and legislation from other states that are addressing the same issue.

South Dakota AFP

Michael Elston, MD, Alternate Delegate

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Responding to proposed legislation

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: Yes

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Proposed legislation that allows supervising physician to establish scope of practice for physician assistant

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

We have been reactive only. In past years we have relied upon the state Medical Association for guidance on legislative issues. On several instances we have drawn conclusions conflicting with the state AMA and have quickly organized a "grass roots" effort

Tennessee AFP

Cathy Dyer, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Tobacco Issues
2. Public Health Issues

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: No
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- N/A

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Priority of the state medical society and we are a coalition partner.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- N/A

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

You are providing outstanding support already and I can't think of anything additional at this time.

Texas AFP

Tom Banning, Deputy Executive Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Leveraging federal Medicaid funding to cover the uninsured
2. Increasing Medicaid reimbursement for physicians
3. Transparent managed care contracts
4. Electronic verification of benefits
5. Increased funding for Graduate Medical Education

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Balance Billing

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- None

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Optometry prescribing and laser surgery

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

Vermont AAFP

Paul Reiss, MD

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Reimbursement for primary care
2. Implementation of Catamount Health
3. Health Information Technology
4. Malpractice Reform - noneconomic damage caps

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

- Catamount Health will add new private payors to the Medicaid system. We will be watching as the provisions are implemented.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Vaccine Distribution

Other legislative priorities:

We have started to work on a Primary Care Consortium to allow generalist physicians to work more forcefully to a common goal of a well supported medical home for very Vermonter.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Background research - help us with position papers.

Washington AAFP

Karla Pratt, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

1. Increase physician Medicaid reimbursement
2. Continue and expand increased OB payments for rural family physicians
3. Support UW School of Medicine to expand medical school slots
4. Advocate for support of primary care and establishing a medical home for all Washingtonians
5. Seek grant funding and tax credits for HIT adoption

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

5. Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
6. Incremental reforms

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- N/A

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- N/A

Public health issues (if any):

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution
- Support increased public health spending

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Put together model legislation for key AAFP priorities

West Virginia AFP

Gerry Stover, Executive Vice President

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

6. Reimbursement

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

7. Dr. Vic Wood's per month basic preventive primary care plan may be expanded so that it can be offered to HAS policy holders.

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- None, but would have liked to look at Colorado's legislation.

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- West Virginia already has a "landmark" - noneconomic damage caps of \$250,000; it is always under attack.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)
- Pharmacists are wanting to give adult immunization. The West Virginia immunization rate per the CDC dropped from 86 to 74 percent.

Public health issues (if any):

- N/A

Other legislative priorities:

End of live issues - Wisconsin check list.

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

The help with the funding and support to use the Medicaid consultants is tremendous. This will help us with priority number 1. Any legislative language or studies to help us with our position - we do not want to dilute the medical home by allowing indep

Wisconsin AFP

Larry Pheifer, Executive Director

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

7. Increasing the tax rate on cigarettes by \$1 per pack and require all new revenue to be deposited in the Medical Assistance Trust Fund
8. Create an individual and corporate income tax credit for primary care physicians for certain costs of providing medical services that are not reimbursed under the Medical Assistance Program
9. Require state and local government employees who administer Medical Assistance to discuss the execution of a living will with persons who are eligible for or receiving MA and who are placed in long-term care facilities
10. Require the Department of Transportation to offer living wills and health care directives.
11. Provide state agent status to volunteer health care providers who offer services to uninsured, low-income individuals.

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes
Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

8. Comprehensive reform efforts

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Noneconomic Damage Awards

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice

Public health issues (if any):

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Other legislative priorities:

Medicaid Reform

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

Mail available resources to support state efforts such as providing the consultant from the CCNC study.

Wyoming AFP

Susie Pouliot, Executive Director

What can AAFP do to support you in your legislative and advocacy efforts?

N/A

2007 Legislative Priorities (in order of importance):

12. Liability reform related legislations
13. Scope of practice issues
14. Public health initiatives

Interest in Key Contact Programs:

State: Yes

Federal: N/A

More information on Federal Key Contact Program? N/A

Access to care/Uninsured activity (if any):

9. Studies are underway for alternative funding systems to provide coverage

Managed care/payment practices issues (if any):

- N/A

Medical Liability Reform issues (if any):

- Maternal Care exemptions.
- Repeal Loss of Chance; support for appeal bond reform.

Scope of practice issues (if any):

- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Prescriptive authority - psychologists

Public health issues (if any):

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Ban on open containers of alcohol in vehicles, tougher seat belt and child restraint laws.

Other legislative priorities:

N/A

2007 Chapter Legislative Priorities

Alabama

1. Maintain current legislation that supports programs which encourage efforts to address rural physician shortages
2. Maintain support for the Alabama Family Practice Rural Health Board
3. Increase medical school scholarship for students who agree to practice in rural areas

Arizona

1. Raising the burden of proof for emergency room care
2. Healthcare for all legislation
3. Limiting "bare" period for small employer health insurance (state plan)
4. Graduate Medical Education funding expansion
5. Increasing funding for a new medical school

Arkansas

1. Follow scope activity on nurse practitioners and advance nurse practitioners
2. Wal-Mart Retail Health Clinics
3. Medicaid Funding Increase

Colorado

1. Universal Healthcare
2. Medicaid Reform
3. Vaccine Distribution
4. Immunizations

Connecticut

1. Managed care contracting issues
2. Physician Health Program
3. Medical Liability Reform
4. Flu Vaccine Distribution
5. Scope of Practice

Delaware

1. Universal Insurance Coverage
2. State provided immunizations for children
3. Tort Reform
4. Remedy to Medicare SGR
5. Reduce down coding and bundling by insurers

Florida

1. Medicaid - Physician Reimbursement Increase
2. Improve funding for residency training programs
3. Medical Liability Reform
4. Protecting physician scope of practice
5. Support child safety, health improvements, and increased access to primary care

Georgia

1. Medicaid Reimbursement
2. State tax credits for medical school loans
3. Blocking any legislation attempting to roll back tort reform
4. Tobacco Tax Increase
5. A variety of scope of practice issues.

Idaho

1. Mental Health
2. Tobacco
3. Increasing funding for medical students and residency programs
4. Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement
5. Direct billing legislation filed by pathologists.

Illinois

1. Pass Universal Access to Care
2. Pass a statewide clean indoor act
3. Secure funding for the Summer Externship Program
4. Protect public health in the state budget.

5. Promote an optimum work environment for family physicians

Indiana

1. State tobacco tax
2. Increased physician reimbursement
3. Assignment of Benefits
4. Increased vaccination availability and funding
5. State Medicaid program roll-out

Iowa

1. Seeking primary care medical home legislation for a pilot program.
2. Funding for family medicine and the University of Iowa and Des Moines University
3. Medicaid expansion coverage for adults; expanding Hawk-I (SCHIP); and improving the Iowa Care program (a safety net for adults which currently does not provide primary care).
4. Tobacco User Fee - increasing Iowa's tobacco tax by \$1 per pack
5. Scope of Practice

Kansas

1. KAFP supports legislation that addresses improved medical care in our state, especially issues that encourage the development and maintenance of a medical home directed by a family physician for all Kansans
2. KAFP supports full funding of the Medical Student Loan Program and initiatives that encourage students to enter family medicine.
3. KAFP supports activities, programs and legislation to encourage physicians to practice in rural and underserved areas, and to retain their services once established there.
4. KAFP supports all legislation that ensures adequate payment for physicians services to our state

Medicaid programs to help insure adequate access to the healthcare system for those patients.

5. KAFP supports public health efforts including comprehensive smoking prevention, cessation and control; immunizations; and childhood obesity in Kansas.

Kentucky

1. Scope of practice issues with pharmacists.
2. Tort Reform - noneconomic damage caps
3. Medicaid Managed Care Initiatives
4. Workforce

Louisiana

1. Making Electronic Medical Records affordable
2. Stop any Medicare payments cuts.
3. Health Care Coverage for All

Maine

1. Dirigo Health - access to healthcare
2. Health and Safety Reform
3. Tort Reform
4. Safe pharmaceutical disposals
5. Medicaid (Mainecare) reimbursement

Maryland

1. Physician Reimbursement
2. Increasing the number of new residents
3. Reducing insurance company control over medicine

Massachusetts

1. Full funding and timely implementation of landmark health reform law.
2. Implementation of fair standards for insurers utilizing quality measures including pay for performance and "tiering"

3. Scope of Practice
4. Public health and safety including universal immunization, flu vaccines, and primary enforcement of seatbelts.
5. Monitoring State Board of Registration in Medicine regulations.

Michigan

1. Increase access to health care
2. Tort Reform
3. Scope of Practice
4. Medicare/Medicaid Reform
5. Maintain the family physician training fund.

Minnesota

1. Passage of legislation to prohibit smoking in all work places.
2. Health System Reform
3. Universal Coverage
4. Maintain and/or increase funding for family medicine education.
5. Payment for interpreter services.

Mississippi

1. Rural Scholars Program
2. Cigarette Tax increase proposal
3. Composition of the Trustees at the Board of Health
4. Stabilizing Medicaid
5. Tobacco Funds

Missouri

1. Medicaid Reform, Fraud, and Reimbursement
2. Scope of practice for chiropractors, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and recognition of lay midwives.

Nebraska

1. Direct billing legislations
2. There was a large turnover in the Senate due to term limits. We are

looking to expand influence with these new legislators.

New Jersey

1. Managed care reform - "hassle factors"
2. Scope of practice, maintenance/intrusions
3. Medicaid reform - in some ways this is connected to Managed Care reform.
4. Universal Access to care
5. Fair Payment/Contracting Issues

New York

6. Universal Healthcare/Single Payor System
7. Collective Bargaining
8. Preservation of the Clean Indoor Act
9. Nutrition and Obesity
10. Investment in Primary Care

North Carolina

1. Training of primary care physicians in North Carolina - Duke and EDU Issues
2. Increase Physician reimbursement.
3. Expansion of Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC)
4. Mental Health Reform
5. Supervisory disclosure of nurse practitioners

North Dakota

1. Medical Liability - I'm sorry legislation
2. Osteoporosis Awareness
3. Medicaid Reimbursement
4. Smoking legislation
5. Rural Health

Ohio

1. Adequate funding of family medicine line item in state budget
2. Improving Medicaid reimbursement to primary care physicians

3. Improving access to health care for uninsured patients (related directly to second priority).
4. Enhanced care management using primary care physicians.
5. Continuing to successfully communicate and be at the table when decisions are made by the incoming administration.

Oklahoma

1. Health Care for All
2. Medicaid Reimbursement
3. Tort Reform
4. Restrict use of the term "physician" by non-physician providers
5. Funding for residency programs.

Oregon

1. Preserving liability insurance subsidy for rural physicians
2. Expanding coverage and access for all Oregonians
3. Support the restructuring of the priority lists for the Oregon Health Plan
4. Support the Rural Scholars Program
5. Support the Rural Viability Fund

Pennsylvania

1. Protect and Strengthen the Medical Assistance Program
2. Protect, support and nurture the Patient Medical Home by strengthening family medicine in the Commonwealth
3. Adopt a standardized managed care contract
4. Eliminate the M-Care (State Patient Compensation) Fund
5. Ensure access to quality care by reforming the medical professional liability system

Rhode Island

1. Medicare Reimbursement
2. Malpractice Reform

3. Support of education in Family Medicine
4. Universal Healthcare

South Carolina

1. Medicaid funding and physician reimbursement
2. Continuing Medical Liability Reform
3. Cleaning up changes to the new Medical Practice Act
4. Scope of practice issues
5. Tobacco tax increase

South Dakota

1. Responding to proposed legislation

Tennessee

1. Tobacco Issues
2. Public Health Issues

Texas

1. Leveraging federal Medicaid funding to cover the uninsured
2. Increasing Medicaid reimbursement for physicians
3. Transparent managed care contracts
4. Electronic verification of benefits
5. Increased funding for Graduate Medical Education

Vermont

1. Reimbursement for primary care
2. Implementation of Catamount Health
3. Health Information Technology
4. Malpractice Reform - noneconomic damage caps

Washington

1. Increase physician Medicaid reimbursement
2. Continue and expand increased OB payments for rural family physicians
3. Support UW School of Medicine to expand medical school slots

4. Advocate for support of primary care and establishing a medical home for all Washingtonians
5. Seek grant funding and tax credits for HIT adoption

West Virginia

1. Reimbursement

Wisconsin

1. Increasing the tax rate on cigarettes by \$1 per pack and require all new revenue to be deposited in the Medical Assistance Trust Fund
2. Create an individual and corporate income tax credit for primary care physicians for certain costs of providing medical services that are not reimbursed under the Medical Assistance Program

3. Require state and local government employees who administer Medical Assistance to discuss the execution of a living will with persons who are eligible for or receiving MA and who are placed in long-term care facilities
4. Require the Department of Transportation to offer living wills and health care directives.
5. Provide state agent status to volunteer health care providers who offer services to uninsured, low-income individuals.

Wyoming

1. Liability reform related legislations
2. Scope of practice issues
3. Public health initiatives

2007 Chapter Priorities Managed Care

Alabama

- Down coding and Bundling
- We will continue to work with the state's largest health insurer, Blue Cross, to reduce hassles and unneeded restraints on the scope of practice of family physicians.

Arizona

- We have started the Reimbursement Task Force. This group is currently surveying members as we speak to see what the most troublesome codes are per payor. Our strategy is to then address this with the payors.

Arkansas

- None

Colorado

- Fair Contracting

Connecticut

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Delaware

- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Florida

Georgia

- We are waiting to see what is filed. We may not lead the charge on these issues but will consider any that help family physicians.

Idaho

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Illinois

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Indiana

- Fair Contracting
- Assignment of Benefits

Iowa

- N/A

Kansas

- N/A

Kentucky

- N/A

Louisiana

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing

Maine

- Prompt Payment of Claims

Maryland

- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing
- Assignment of Benefits
- Reducing the "preauthorization" syndrome afflicting insurance companies

Massachusetts

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Michigan

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Balance Billing

Minnesota

- Cost of interpreters

Mississippi

- N/A

Missouri

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Nebraska

- N/A

New Jersey

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- NJAFP led a coalition of healthcare groups whose result was a multi-issue managed care bill which will address many of these needs. The bill is currently being drafted with strong NJAFP input.

New York

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing

North Carolina

- Down coding and Bundling
- Balance Billing

North Dakota

- None - there is not much managed care in the state.

Ohio

- Fair Contracting
- We are in the early stages of converting to a statewide Medicaid managed care program for essentially all Medicaid recipients, including the very costly Aged, Blind and Disabled populations. We anticipate this will take much of our time.

Oklahoma

- Fair Contracting

Oregon

- None

Pennsylvania

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling
- Prompt Payment of Claims
- Balance Billing
- Assignment of Benefits

Rhode Island

- N/A

South Carolina

- Down coding and Bundling

South Dakota

- N/A

Tennessee

- N/A

Texas

- Fair Contracting
- Balance Billing

Vermont

- Fair Contracting
- Down coding and Bundling

Washington

- N/A

West Virginia

- None, but would have liked to look at Colorado's legislation.

Wisconsin

- Fair Contracting
- Prompt Payment of Claims

Wyoming

- N/A

2007 Chapter Priorities Medical Liability

Alabama

- N/A

Arizona

- Emergency Care

Arkansas

- None

Colorado

- N/A

Connecticut

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts

Delaware

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts
- Certificate of Merit

Florida

- Expert witness reform

Georgia

- We will be working hard to not lose any ground gained in 2005.

Idaho

- N/A

Illinois

- N/A

Indiana

- N/A

Iowa

- Certificate of Merit - the state medical society will take the lead on this issue.

Kansas

- N/A

Kentucky

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

Louisiana

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts

Maine

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Maryland

- We have had minimal success a few years ago and now have to convince the legislature there is more to be done.

Massachusetts

- Expert witness reform
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Michigan

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Health Courts

Minnesota

- N/A

Mississippi

- 2004 reforms have resulted in a 90 percent reduction in medical malpractice claims.

Missouri

- Expert witness reform
- Maternal Care exemptions

Nebraska

- N/A

New Jersey

- We will continue to support liability reform efforts, but the political reality in New Jersey is that the issue is DOA for the foreseeable future.

New York

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Expert Witness Reform
- Health Courts
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

North Carolina

- Incremental approach underway in collaboration with other medical organizations.

North Dakota

- Maternal Care exemptions.

Ohio

- Ohio has enacted 17 different legislative actions to deal with medical liability reform. The legislature is included to wait and see if these work prior to doing additional legislation.

Oklahoma

- Maternal Care exemptions.

Oregon

- There is zero interest among the legislators to address liability issues.

Pennsylvania

- Noneconomic Damage Awards
- Alternative Dispute Resolutions

Rhode Island

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

South Carolina

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps
- Expert Witness Reform
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Liability exemptions for emergency care

South Dakota

- N/A

Tennessee

- Priority of the state medical society and we are a coalition partner.

Texas

- None

Vermont

- Noneconomic Damage Award Caps

Washington

- N/A

West Virginia

- West Virginia already has a "landmark" - noneconomic damage caps of \$250,000; it is always under attack.

2007 Chapter Legislative Priorities Scope of Practice

Alabama

- N/A

Arizona

- Chiropractic

Arkansas

- Nurse Practitioner expansion in prescriptive authority, ability to do procedures such as C-Sections and colonoscopies and bill independently.

Colorado

- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Connecticut

- Chiropractic expansion
- Highly likely to see efforts from nursing organizations

Delaware

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Wisconsin

- Noneconomic Damage Awards

Wyoming

- Maternal Care exemptions.
- Repeal Loss of Chance; support for appeal bond reform.

Florida

- Naturopathic licensure
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Nurse practitioner and psychologist prescriptive authority

Georgia

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority - specifically optometrists prescribing, pharmacists therapeutic substitution.
- Mandated vision screening for children by optometrists.

Idaho

- N/A

Illinois

- Chiropractic
- Prescriptive Authority - Nurse Practitioners
- Increasing the ratio of Physician Assistants to Family Physicians

Indiana

- Lay Midwifery
- Prescriptive Authority -expansion of Physician Assistant Scope

Iowa

- Naturopathic licensure
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Physician assistants in Iowa are seeking advancement in scope through independent practice. We also have the complimentary/ alternative providers seeking approval to practice in Iowa.

Kansas

- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Kentucky

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice

Louisiana

- Chiropractic
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Prescriptive authority for non-physician providers, i.e., nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.

Maine

- N/A

Maryland

- This is a creeping eruption which affects everyone in Maryland. The minute clinics are proliferating and we are a physician unfriendly state.

Massachusetts

- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Michigan

- Lay Midwifery
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)

Minnesota

- Direct access to physical therapists.

Mississippi

- Psychologist prescriptive authority

Missouri

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioner, psychologist, etc.).
- Optometrists are seeking mandatory PreK vision screening which excludes family physicians.

Nebraska

- Lay Midwifery
- Physician Assistants are requesting schedule II prescriptive authority similar to that given to Nurse Practitioners last session.
- CRNAs are seeking privileges in advanced fluoroscopy for epidural steroid injections.

New Jersey

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)
- Retail health clinics.

New York

- Naturopathic licensure
- Nurse Practitioner Prescriptive Authority

North Carolina

- Nurse Practitioner prescriptive authority

North Dakota

- Lay Midwifery

Ohio

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioner, psychologist, etc.).

Oklahoma

- Prescriptive Authority for Nurse Practitioners

Oregon

- None

Pennsylvania

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Naturopathic Licensure

Rhode Island

- N/A

South Carolina

- Chiropractic
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management

South Dakota

- Proposed legislation that allows supervising physician to establish scope of practice for physician assistant

Tennessee

- N/A

Texas

- Chiropractic
- Optometry prescribing and laser surgery

Vermont

- N/A

Washington

- N/A

West Virginia

- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management/Collaborative Practice
- Prescriptive Authority for non-physician providers (nurse practitioners, psychologists, etc.)
- Pharmacists are wanting to give adult immunization. The West Virginia immunization rate per the CDC dropped from 86 to 74 percent.

Wisconsin

- Chiropractic
- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacist Medication Therapy Management and Collaborative Practice

Wyoming

- Lay Midwifery
- Pharmacists medication/collaborative management
- Prescriptive authority - psychologists

2007 Chapter Legislative Priorities Public Health Issues

Alabama

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Florida

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free policies

Arizona

- N/A

Georgia

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions
- Promoting a budget item to place a person in the Education Department to focus on physician education - currently not a position in Georgia.

Arkansas

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity

Idaho

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Mental Health

Colorado

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Illinois

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues

Connecticut

- Vaccine Distribution

Indiana

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Delaware

- Vaccine Distribution

Iowa

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Kansas

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Kentucky

- N/A

Louisiana

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Maine

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Maryland

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Massachusetts

- Vaccine Distribution
- Universal immunization

Michigan

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- We are now registered in the new Michigan Health Information

Network which send out alerts on disaster/emergencies such as bioterrorism and on pandemic outbreaks of influenza or avian flu.

Minnesota

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Mississippi

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness

Missouri

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

Nebraska

- N/A

New Jersey

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

New York

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

North Carolina

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

North Dakota

- Obesity
- Tobacco/Smoke Free issues

Ohio

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution and reimbursement for administration and storage costs.

Oklahoma

- Vaccine Distribution

Oregon

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Policy
- Healthy foods and exercise in schools.

Pennsylvania

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Rhode Island

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution

South Carolina

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Pandemic Preparedness
- Vaccine Distributions

South Dakota

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues

Tennessee

- N/A

Texas

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free issues
- Vaccine Distribution

Vermont

- Vaccine Distribution

Washington

- Disaster and Emergency Preparedness
- Vaccine Distribution
- Support increased public health spending

West Virginia

- N/A

Wisconsin

- Obesity
- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Vaccine Distributions

Wyoming

- Tobacco and Smoke Free Issues
- Ban on open containers of alcohol in vehicles, tougher seat belt and child restraint laws.

2007 Chapter Legislative Priorities Access/Uninsured

Alabama

- Incremental reform

Arizona

- The focus of our 2007 COD will be healthcare for all in Arizona and are currently examining options. We have included the state medical association in our discussions.

Arkansas

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

Colorado

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- Incremental reforms

Connecticut

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Delaware

- N/A

Florida

- Incremental reform

Georgia

- N/A

Idaho

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion

Illinois

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Indiana

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Iowa

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- All options are being considered. Our statehouse is now controlled by Democrats and the Senate has already proposed a universal health care plan while our new elected governor is in the midst of finalizing his own proposal.

Kansas

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- Incremental Reforms

Kentucky

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- We are interested in implementing a CCNC model for Medicaid.

Louisiana

- None

Maine

- Incremental reform - expansion of Dirigo Health (an accessible state administered insurance plan).

Maryland

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Massachusetts

- Continue to monitor the implementation of the health reform Law and advocate for full funding and timely implementation of incremental reform.

Michigan

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- We are going to work with the governor as she implements her Michigan First Healthcare Plan. This is supposed to increase access dramatically and restructure the health care system in Michigan to be founded in preventative medicine and primary care.

Minnesota

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Mississippi

- N/A

Missouri

- The intent is to hold the line for programs and services already offered.

Nebraska

- N/A

New Jersey

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion
- We are currently participating in a work group led by the Chair of Senate Health to study how to provide access to the uninsured. All ideas were "theoretically" on the table but it appears that a Medicaid "expansion" is the path.

New York

- Comprehensive reform efforts

North Carolina

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- Incremental reform

North Dakota

- Incremental Reform

Ohio

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- Incremental Reform

Oklahoma

- Incremental reform

Oregon

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Incremental Reform will be supported only if comprehensive reform is impossible

Pennsylvania

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Expansion of Medicaid and SCHIP Program - The Pennsylvania SCHIP was expanded in November 2006 to include coverage for all children regardless of family income. Premiums will be assessed based on a sliding scale.
- Other incremental reforms - We anticipate Gov. Rendell will announce a healthcare reform plan in conjunction with the annual budget address in February 2007. The Administration's planning activities of this project were facilitated (in part) with federal

Rhode Island

- Comprehensive reform efforts

South Carolina

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

South Dakota

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured

Tennessee

- N/A

Texas

- Comprehensive reform efforts
- Medicaid and SCHIP Expansion

Vermont

- Catamount Health will add new private payors to the Medicaid system. We will be watching as the provisions are implemented.

Washington

- Medicaid/SCHIP Expansion to address Access and the Uninsured
- Incremental reforms

West Virginia

- Dr. Vic Wood's per month basic preventive primary care plan may be expanded so that it can be offered to HAS policy holders.

Wisconsin

- Comprehensive reform efforts

Wyoming

- Studies are underway for alternative funding systems to provide coverage