

- **Rep. Charlie Dent (R-PA)** is a member of the Health Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee.

## 5. SOCIAL MEDIA BOLSTERS 90-DAY HIT SPEAK OUT

The AAFP released a [Speak Out](#) to support *the Flexibility in Electronic Health Record Reporting Act* (S 2822/HR 5001) which would direct CMS to continue using a 90-day reporting period for Meaningful Use, rather than a full-year reporting period. This targeted email and social media awareness campaign produced 501 responses and a social media presence that far exceeded normal output. Compared to an average rate of 5 shares and 20 likes on Facebook, and 3.4 Retweets and 5 likes on Twitter, this campaign garnered a total of 30 shares and 111 likes on Facebook, and 38 Retweets and 18 likes on Twitter.

## 6. AAFP NOMINATES FAMILY PHYSICIANS TO VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In a letter sent June 1 to HHS, the AAFP nominated Dr. Melissa Martinez and Dr. Robin O'Meara to the National Vaccine Advisory Committee. The mission of this advisory committee is to study and recommend ways to encourage the availability of an adequate supply of safe and effective vaccination products in the United States.

## 7. CANDIDATES FOR HRSA ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIMARY CARE

On June 9, the Council of Academic Family Medicine (which is comprised of the AAFP, the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine, the Association of Departments of Family Medicine, the Association of Family Medicine Residency Directors, and the North American Primary Care Research Group) sent a letter to HRSA making nominations to fill vacancies on the Advisory Committee on Training in Primary Care Medicine and Dentistry (ACTPCMD). CAFM nominated Christopher P. Morley, PhD; F. David Schneider, MD, MSPH; Eric Skye, MD; Therese Zink, MD, MPH; Syed Mustafa Alavi, MD and Andrew Lutzkanin, MD.

## 8. RECENT STATE LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

- **Death with Dignity**—California's physician-assisted dying law, the [End of Life Option Act](#), went into effect on June 9. There are currently five states (CA, MT, OR, WA, and VT) that have Death with Dignity Laws; 19 states have considered similar measures in the 2016 legislative session.
- **Drug Pricing Transparency**—On June 3, Vermont became the first state to enact a drug pricing law. The [legislation](#) requires legislators to develop a list of 15 drugs each year that are a burden on state finances and whose prices have increased substantially. Drugmakers would then be required to justify the price increases. Additionally, insurers would have to report on the impact of drug spending on premiums.

Similar [legislation](#) in California is gaining traction. The California bill would require drug companies to account for the price of any drug over \$10,000 and would mandate notifications to insurers 60 days in advance before a drug price increase.

- **Insurance Premiums**—The Alaska legislature has sent [HB 374](#) to Governor Bill Walker (I) for approval. This bill is an attempt to stabilize insurance premiums in the state's individual market. The bill would subsidize insurance premiums in the high-cost, but low-population state. Premera Blue Cross Blue Shield is the only insurer on the individual market after the exit of Moda Health Plan. The State Insurance Division Director warned that the individual market could collapse if this measure was not passed.
- **Medical Education**—The California Academy of Family Physicians has been actively engaging in California's [budget](#) process advocating for family medicine residency slots.