

State Government Relations



Advocacy and Public Policy Center

July 2009

HIMSS Chapter Advocacy Roundtable (CAR) Second Quarter Report (April-June)

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"HIMSS websites!"


HIMSS Sites

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Quick Links

Other Important website

- ✓ [American Recovery & Reinvestment Act](#)
- ✓ [Stimulus Oversight NCSL](#)
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 Questions?

Second Quarter Highlights:

- The HIMSS Chapter Advocates kicked off the second quarter of the Chapter Advocacy program by participating in HIMSS Advocacy and Public Policy activities during the HIMSS Annual Conference at the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago. HIMSS Government Relations team hosted three state focused events in which the Chapter Advocates were able to actively network with Federal and State officials and leading stakeholders in the Health IT industry : The Advocacy and Public Policy Networking Breakfast, State Legislative Forum and The Effect of Economic Stimulus on State HIT Projects
- At the 8th Annual Advocacy and Public Policy Networking Breakfast the Chapter Advocates had a great opportunity to learn about the latest Health IT policy initiatives and network with national and state-wide stakeholders involved in public policy. The guest speakers for this event included the Honorable Daniel Mongiardo, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Kentucky and Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn (R-TN), member of the U.S. House of Representatives' Energy and Commerce Health sub-committee which has jurisdiction over Health IT issues.
- In addition, Jim Harris, MS, CPHIMS, HIMSS Maryland Chapter, and the Vice Chair for the Eastern Region of the Chapter Advocacy Roundtable was named the 2008 HIMSS Chapter Advocate of the Year. Jim was recognized for successfully attaining Presidential Level certification, the highest level of advocacy certification in the first six months of the HIMSS Chapter Advocacy Certification Program. Presidential Level certification required Jim to actively work to establish productive relationships with federal and state elected officials.
- The State Officials Legislative Forum included state elected officials who are engaged in the leading healthcare reform issues in their respective state through HIT. The Chapter Advocates along with other attendees had an opportunity to exchange ideas with panel and understand the role HIMSS Chapter Advocates and this resulted in a clearer understanding of the pivotal role that Chapter Advocates and HIMSS members can play in shaping HIT policy.
- This session was held on April 5th, 2009, at the McCormick Place Convention Center. Massachusetts State Senator Richard Moore (D-MA) served as the moderator. Other panelists include: State Representative Peggy Welch (R-IN), State Representative Linda Upmeyer (R-IA) and State Assemblyman Herb Conaway (D-NJ)

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Comments?

[Send an email to Arno
Simmons](#)

- **HIMSS Chapter Advocates also participated in an educational session on, “The Effect of Economic Stimulus on State HIT Projects”. This event was held on April 7th, at McCormick Place Convention Center. Lesley King, Chair of the Chapter Advocacy Roundtable (CAR), served as moderator. Aneesh Chopra, the former Virginia Secretary of Technology and now the Chief Technology Officer for the Obama administration was a panelist. He was joined by the Honorable Jim Geringer, the former Governor of Wyoming and a current member of the State Alliance for E-Health.**
- **This session briefed HIMSS09 participants on how states would be allocating funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and the plans to use the funds once they are allocated.**
- **The enthusiasm and level of participation in the State Health IT Advocacy Days continued to grow in the month of May. Three successful and well-attended State Advocacy Days were held during the month of May: Pennsylvania (May 5th) and New York (May 12th) and California (May 12th).**
- **Nearly 130 healthcare providers, payers and information technology professionals gathered in Harrisburg on May 5th to meet with members of the Pennsylvania General Assembly to raise awareness on how information technology is helping healthcare providers deliver better care, improve health outcomes and lower costs for Pennsylvanians. It was the second annual “Pennsylvania Health IT Awareness Day” proclaimed by the General Assembly. At the close of the day’s activities, Tom Keefe, Senior Director for State Government Relations gave a presentation on How to “Stay in Touch” with your Pennsylvania State Legislators after Advocacy day.**
- **More than 90 Southern and Northern California HIMSS members attended the California State Advocacy Day. They met with 64 state legislators and distributed information to 120 offices. Speakers included Herb Schultz, Sr. Health Policy Advisor to the Governor, and Jonah Frohlich, Deputy Secretary of the Health Information Technology, California Health & Human Services. They focused on the many facets of the Stimulus bill. In addition, Dave Roberts, Vice President for Government Affairs, gave a presentation on HIMSS Government Initiatives.**
- **That same day, New York held its second annual State Advocacy Day “Physician Get “IT””. The session focused on the trends, barriers and policy considerations of the adoption of Health Information Technology by physician’s practices. Chapter members met with and briefed 12 state legislators. Four state officials were interested in HIT and requested they be kept informed of HIT policy issues as well as local chapter activities. One state official engaged a Chapter Advocate in a detailed discussion concerning a proposed piece of legislation that would require New York pharmacies to post a website where patients can report errors made by the pharmacy in filling the prescription and the consequences.**

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To accumulate points for the CAR recognition program for the second quarter, CARs were asked to track the following activities

April 2009: Attend the Advocacy breakfast at Annual Conference. James Harris of HIMSS Maryland Chapter was awarded the 2008 Advocate of the Year. Jim received his Award at the 8th Annual Advocacy and Public Policy Networking Breakfast with over 250 HIMSS member in attendance.

May 2009: Write an article about your Chapter's advocacy efforts to be published in the Pulse on Public Policy and attend the State Advocacy day.

June 2009: Arrange for a site visit for Federal or state officials and send Advocacy Day follow-up letter and start planning for a Congressional visit during the recess in August.

CAR FY10 Leadership

CAR Chair Lesley King, Arizona Chapter

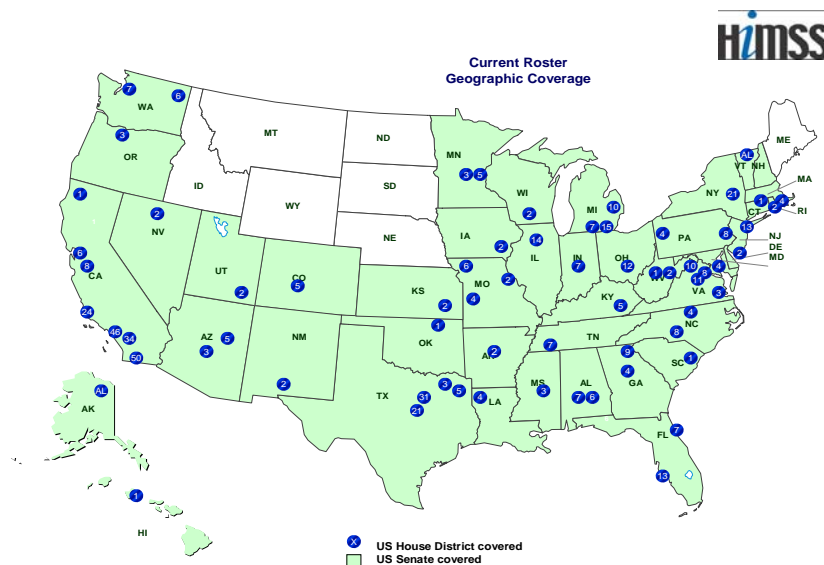
Region 1- Midwest region—Vice Chair Randy McCleese, Kentucky Bluegrass

Region 2- Eastern region—Vice Chair James Harris, Maryland

Region 3-Southern region—Vice Chair Sharon Davis, Texas-Dallas FT Worth

Region 4-Western region—Vice Chair Liddy West, Arizona

Regional Updates



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 In addition to the CAR activities this past quarter, the State Government Relations also participated in the following:

May 15-Presentation to the Alabama HIMSS Chapter by Senior Director Tom Keefe, *Hot Topics in Health IT: From Stimulus to Sustainability*
May 21-Gold Star Wives Congressional Reception co-sponsored by HIMSS; Cannon House Caucus Room
June 4-5 Government Health IT Conference in Washington, DC
June 9- 10 HIMSS Virtual Conference and Exhibition

Upcoming Events

Free Webinar: A Mix of all the Right Ingredients: ARRA, Healthcare Reform, National Health IT Week and YOU!- (July 31st 2009)

National Health IT Week 2009- (September 21-24, 2009)

CAR Offsite Training- (September 22nd, 2009)


HIMSS Health IT "Prep Rally"- (September 23rd, 2009)

HIMSS 8th Annual Policy Summit- (September 23rd, 2009)

Michigan State Day on Capitol Hill- (September 24th, 2009)

For additional information please contact:

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