

State Government Relations



HEALTHCARE INFORMATION AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS SOCIETY

Advocacy and Public Policy Center

October 2009

HIMSS Chapter Advocacy Roundtable (CAR) Third Quarter Report (July-September)

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"HIMSS websites!"

HIMSS Sites

- [HIMSS Home Page](#)
- [HIMSS Healthcare Reform](#)
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- [HIMSS Virtual Conference](#)

Quick Links

- Other Important website**
- ✓ [American Recovery & Reinvestment Act](#)
 - ✓ [Stimulus Oversight NCSL](#)
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 Questions?
Comments?

Third Quarter Highlights:

- The third quarter began with HIMSS Chapter Advocates welcoming two new vice chairs: Sharon Davis from the Dallas Fort Worth Chapter now leads the Southern region, and Elizabeth (Liddy) West from the Arizona Chapter now leads the Western region. Randy McCleese from the Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter and Jim Harris of the Maryland Chapter were both excited to remain as vice-chairs for their respective regions, Randy will continue to lead the Mid-West and Jim the Eastern region. In addition, Lesley King began her second term as Chair of the Chapter Advocacy Roundtable (CAR).
- For the month of July, the Chapter Advocates were preparing for the August Congressional recess. Members of Congress were in their home districts for the August recess (House: Aug. 3-Sept 8; Senate: Aug. 10-Sept. 8). This in-district work period was an excellent opportunity for the Chapter Advocates to further develop relationships with members of Congress by meeting with them to discuss the issues important to the Health Information Technology community.
- Eight HIMSS members had face-to-face meetings with their Congressional representatives. The Arizona Chapter, including CAR Chair Lesley King, Western Region Vice Liddy West, Chapter Advocate Marilyn Teplitz, and HIMSS member Steve Porter, met with Representative Jeff Flake from the 6th district. They reported that Rep. Flake was not quite up to date on Health IT issues but was willing to listen. The Arizona group also met with Representative Harry Mitchell's healthcare advisor, Reed Adamson, who was well informed and knowledgeable about Health Information Technology.
- Other Chapter Advocates who met with members of Congress during the August recess were Luz Ross from North Carolina, who met with Senator Richard Burr (R-NC); Didi Davis from Tennessee who met with Representative John Duncan, Jr. (R-TN-2nd). Additionally, Rick Kubica from Connecticut met with Senator Joe Lieberman's staff, and Oregon CAR Josh Richardson met with one of Governor Ted Kulongoski's health policy advisors.
- In September, the Chapter Advocates held their annual off-site training in Washington, DC during National Health IT Week. The training consisted off a break-out session with the chapter advocates and the vice chair for each region discussing the strategic plans for FY 10.
- Guest speakers for the CAR offsite were Nebraska State Senator Jeremy Nordquist, and Cara Campbell, Senior Policy Analyst for the National

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Governors Association.

- Massachusetts's State Senator Richard Moore was also scheduled to speak; however, due to his legislative duties in Massachusetts, he was not able to attend. During the Policy Summit Senator Moore was awarded the HIMSS 2009 Legislator of the Year Award for his outstanding leadership in advancing the use of information technology to transform healthcare. Accepting the Award for Senator Moore was New England Chapter Advocate Bob Dichter from Massachusetts.
- At the conclusion of the CAR training session, 24 of the 28 participants completed a survey about the session. Results from the survey indicated that most of the respondents were very satisfied with the training provided.
- The next day's CAR activities included the eighth Annual HIMSS Policy Summit and the State Awards luncheon, cosponsored by CHIME and the Institute for e-Health Policy.
- After the luncheon, the CARS joined other HIMSS members on Capitol Hill where they visited with their members of Congress and their aides. The HIMSS Congressional Affairs team reports that the largest delegations came from: Arizona (6); California (15); Colorado (6); District of Columbia (25); Florida (15); Georgia (5); Illinois (12); Kentucky (6); Massachusetts (10); Maryland (43); Michigan (10); Minnesota (12); New Jersey (50); Ohio (8); Pennsylvania (18); Tennessee (6); Texas (13); Virginia (75). These 17 states and DC accounted for 335 of the attendees.
- HIMSS' Government Relations team worked diligently to schedule 908 total appointments, including meetings with 43 Representatives and 9 U.S. Senators.
- On Thursday September 24th, more than eighty individuals participated in the first "Michigan HIT Day on Capitol Hill", hosted by the Michigan HIMSS Chapter.

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

July 2009: Participate in the free Webinar: A Mix of all the Right Ingredients: ARRA, Healthcare Reform, National Health IT Week and YOU! - And plan for Congressional August recess visits.

August 2009: Host a August recess visit with a Congressional member from your district

September 2009: National Health IT Week 2009, Chapter Advocacy Offsite Training, HIMSS Health IT "Prep Rally", HIMSS 8th Annual Policy Summit, and Michigan State HIT Day on Capitol Hill.

CAR Chair Lesley King, Arizona Chapter

Regional Activities for the Third Quarter

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

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- No activity to report for the third quarter

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

- No activity to report for the third quarter

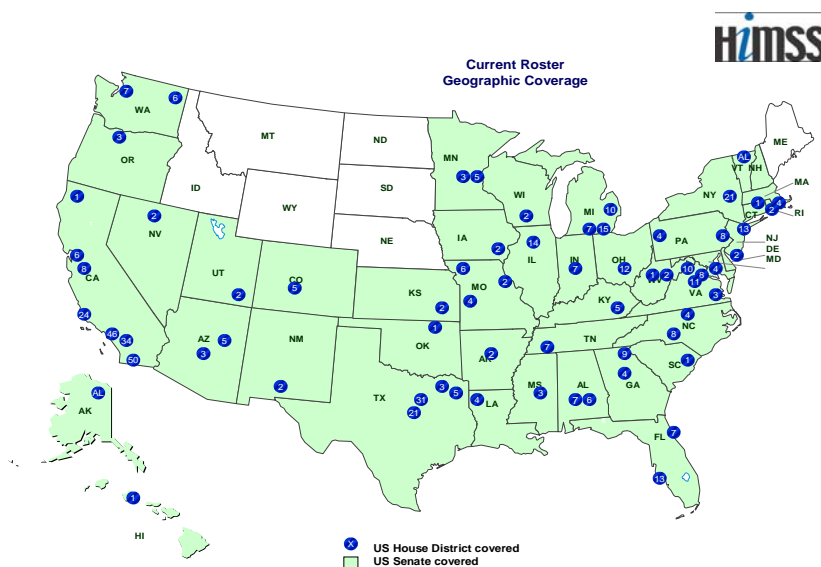
Region 3-Southern region—Vice Chair Sharon Davis, Texas-Dallas FT Worth

- Establish monthly regional calls
- Gather contact information for Southern region area legislators

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

- No activity to report for the third quarter

Regional Updates



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

July 23-24 – Presentation at Chapter Camp by Senior Director Tom Keefe

September 23-26 – Congressional Black Caucus Annual Legislative Conference, Arrol Simmons

Upcoming Events

Chapter Advocacy Roundtable Monthly Conference Calls for the Fourth Quarter:

Friday, October 16th, 2009

Friday, November 20th, 2009

Friday, December 18th, 2009

HIMSS Virtual Conference and Expo (November 3-4 2009)

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