

Session 77

Federal Public Policy and the CIO

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Overview

- The Role of the CIO
- Results of 2006 Elections and the 110th Congress
- Executive Branch Update
- Congressional Branch Update
- State Government Update
- 2007 HIMSS Legislative Principles
- Draft Federal HIT Legislation
- Upcoming Events
- Questions



An Audience Pulse

- How long have you been a CIO?
 - Less than 1 year
 - 1 – 3 years
 - 3 – 5 years
 - More than 5 years
- Do you believe federal or state public policy affects you as a CIO?

What is Advocacy?

Advocacy is the “ability to plead in favor of; support or urge by argument; recommend publicly”

Advocacy is the art of strategically leveraging the best that HIMSS has to offer to successfully influence public policy to improve healthcare for all.



Then What is Public Policy?

A set of laws or regulations that results from the actions or lack of actions of governmental entities, decisions and non-decisions as it implies a very deliberate choice between alternatives.

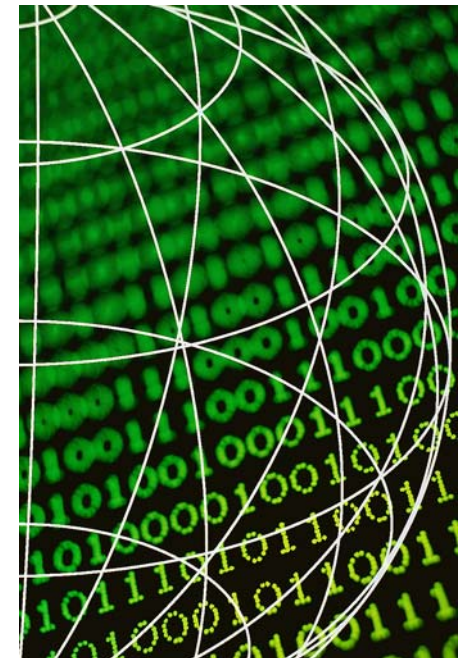


History of HIMSS Advocacy

- **February 1998** – Advocacy Task Force launched by HIMSS Board under direction of Board Vice Chair (Colonel) Rosemary Nelson to explore whether HIMSS should be involved in advocacy and public policy activities – Response to HIPAA
- **April 1998** – Advocacy Task Force report presented to HIMSS Board
- **February 2000** – HIMSS Board of Directors approved new advocacy initiated by a narrow margin
- **June 2002** – Dave Roberts appointed 2nd Advocacy Steering Cmte Chair
- **July 2002** – Dave Roberts hired as Advocacy consultant on part-time basis
- **August 2003** – Tom Leary hired as first full-time advocacy employee
- **April 2004** – HIMSS office opened in Alexandria, VA
- **July, 2004** – “Advocacy Committee” elevated to Steering Committee level, and renamed “Advocacy & Public Policy Steering Committee”
- **October 2005** – Tom Keefe hired as 1st Director of State Gov’t Relations
- **July 2006** – HIMSS advocacy budget surpasses \$1M and staff at 7 FTEs plus Manager of Public Policy Communications
- **January 2007** – HIMSS Arlington Office opens!

The Role of the CIO

- Influencing Public Policy
- The Right Time
- The Right Place
- The Right Message



2006 Federal Election Update

<u>U.S. Senate</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total</u>
Democrats	45	+6	51*
Republicans	55	-6	49
<u>U.S. House</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Total</u>
Democrats	203	+30	233**
Republicans	232	-30	202

* Includes 2 Independents who caucus with the Democrats. Note that Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD) has had a stroke and if dies his replacement would probably be a Republican since the new Senator would be appointed by a Republican Governor making the Senate 50-50 with Vice President Dick Cheney breaking all tie votes.

** 218 is a majority.



100 Hour Agenda



- **January 3, 2007:** Implement **lobbying reform** including a ban on privately funded travel.
- **January 4, 2007:** Enact all the **recommendations** made by the commission that investigated the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.
- **Time remaining until 100 hours:** **Raise minimum wage** to \$7.25 an hour, maybe in one step. **Cut interest rate** on student loans in half. Allow government to negotiate directly with the **pharmaceutical companies for lower drug prices for Medicare patients**. Broaden the types of stem cell research allowed with federal funds.
- **All the days after that:** "Pay as you go," meaning no increasing the federal deficit.

The 110th U.S. Congress

- Democrats will begin oversight of the President's programs
- Lobbying reform may stop privately funded congressional travel to Annual Conference and HIMSS member sites
- HIT focus will be on federal funding, privacy and personal health records
- HIT may be one area where Republicans and Democrats can work together
- The Congressional Black Caucus will be a key group as two key House Committee Chairs will be John Conyers (MI) for Judiciary and Charlie Rangel (NY) for Ways & Means





New Congressional Leaders



The following Democrats may become Committee Chairmen in January 2007 when their party takes control of the House and Senate. These chairmen include:

- **Senate Appropriations:** Robert Byrd of West Virginia; Tom Harkin of Iowa chairing the Health Subcommittee
- **Senate Finance:** Max Baucus of Montana; Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia chairing the Health Subcommittee
- **Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions:** Edward Kennedy of Massachusetts
- **House Appropriations:** David Obey of Wisconsin; Obey also chairing the Health Subcommittee
- **House Energy & Commerce:** John Dingell of Michigan; Henry Waxman of California chairing the Health Subcommittee
- **House Ways & Means:** Charles Rangel of New York; Pete Stark of California chairing the Health Subcommittee



Top 7 Issues for 2007



1. Civil Rights
2. Women's Rights
3. Education
4. Health costs and insurance
5. Immigration
6. Privacy
7. Energy & environment



State Update

Governor Races

- Democrats gain 6:
 - MA, NY, MD, OH, AR, CO
- Mirror image shift:
 - 28R-22D to 28D-22R
- One incumbent loss - Maryland
- Republicans retain:
 - CA, TX, FL, GA, MN
- Democrats retain:
 - PA, IL, MI, WI, OR, KS



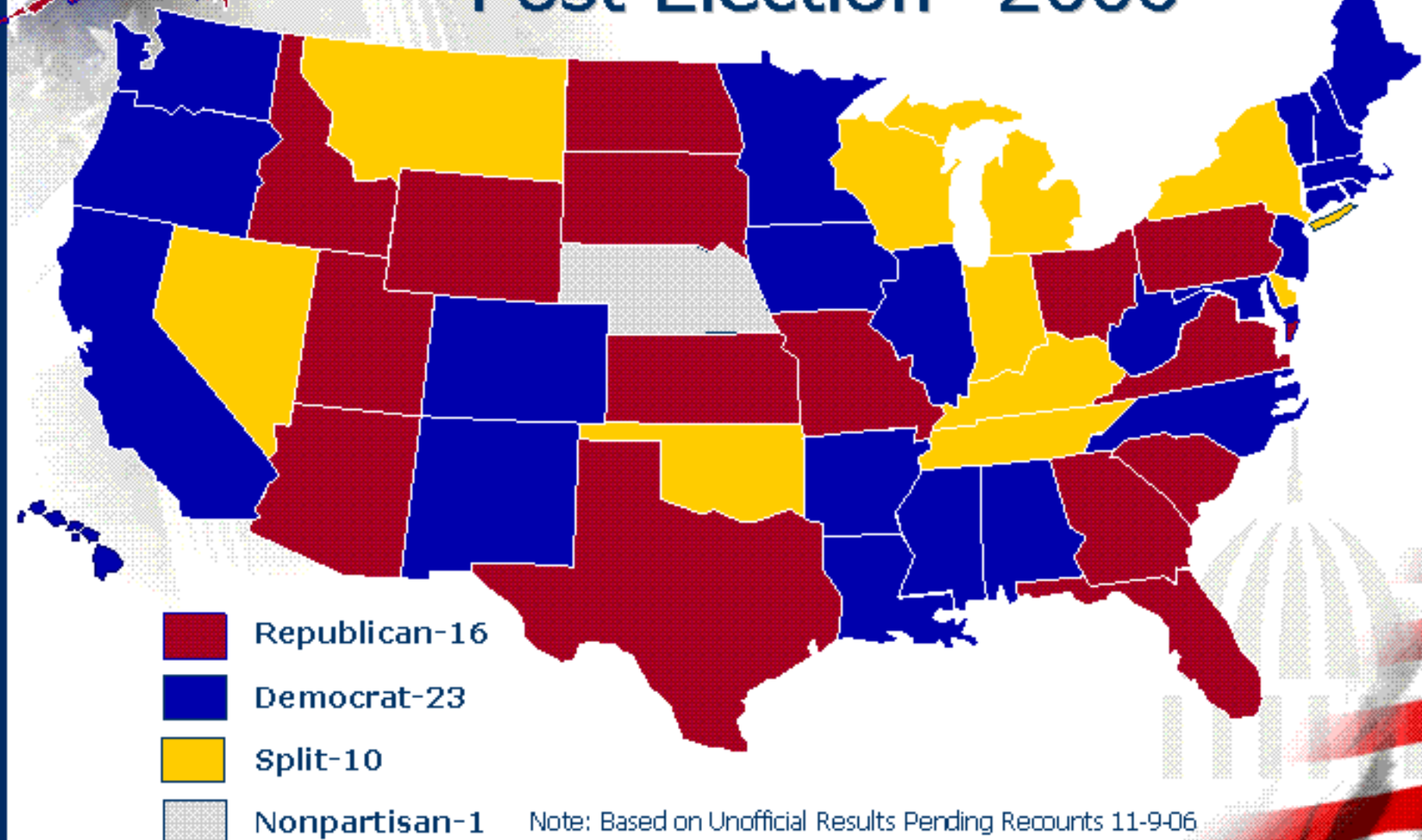
State Update

State Legislatures

For the first time since 1994, the Democrats took control of a majority of the nation's legislatures.

- Democrats control both legislative chambers in 23 states, Republicans in 16. In 10 states, control is split.
- Nebraska's unicameral legislature is nonpartisan.
- Going into the election, Democrats controlled both chambers in 19 states, Republicans in 20 and 10 states were split.
- Democrats went from 47 chambers to 54; the GOP went from 49 to 42.
- Two chambers were tied before the election and two different chambers were tied after the voting.

State Legislative Party Control Post Election--2006



Seat Changes By Region 2004 - 2006

- East +148 Democrat
- Midwest +107 Democrat
- South + 24 Democrat
- West + 70 Democrat

Summary of 2006 Elections

- Democrats control the U.S. House of Representatives, the U.S. Senate and majority of Governorships
- Documented scrutiny of Bush Administration
- HIT will still be key topic
- HIMSS members need to educate new leaders on potential for HIT to transform healthcare

Executive Branch Update

- CCHIT
- AHIC
- HITSP
- Other Updates?



Congressional Update

- Funding
 - FY07
 - FY08
- Legislation Outlook
 - Dream legislation?



Pending State HIT Legislation

- 2007 Session – States prefiling or drafting legislation: AR, CO, FL, GA, KY, MT, ND, NH, NV, TN, TX, VA
- Example: TEXAS SB 40
- Prefiled for 2007 session on 11/13/2006
- Establishes a Electronic Health Information Coordinating Committee
- Others?

HIMSS Chapters with CALRs



Upcoming Events

- New HIMSS Office – 4300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 250, Arlington, Virginia
- Welcome to 110th Congress Packets
- Publish 2007 *Congress At Your Fingertips*
- 2007 HIMSS Day on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. – May 15th
- National Health IT Week – May 14 - 18

2007 HIMSS Day on Capitol Hill

- Tuesday, May 15, 2007
- Member of Congress
Keynote on 110th
Congress HIT priorities
- Congressional Staff Panel
focused on barriers
- Capitol Hill Training for
all attendees
- Reception at the private
Capitol Hill Club with
2007 HIMSS Advocacy
Award presentation by
HIMSS Board Chair-Elect



In 2006, more than 250 advocates from 48 states turned out for HIMSS 5th Annual Advocacy Day on June 6 in Washington, D.C.

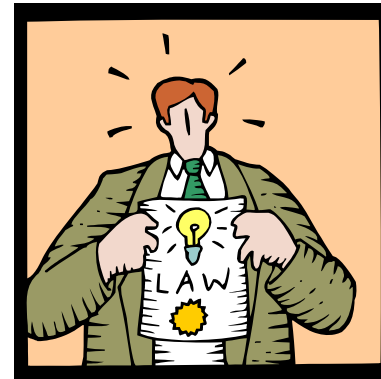
Here HIMSS members meet with Senator Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island)

2007 HIMSS Legislative Principles

- Status
- Focus on funding versus legislation
- Timeline
- Involvement
- Next steps

Draft Federal HIT Legislation

- Idea
- Timeline
- Involvement
- Current Status
- Next steps
- Key themes



Member Tools and Resources

- Legislative Action Center on HIMSS website
- Fact Sheets and Position Statements
- Advocacy Activities Matrix
- HIT Dashboard
- Federal Legislation Crosswalk
- Legislation Comparison Crosswalks
- Advocacy Award
- advocacy@himss.org
- New member orientation
- *Congress At Your Fingertips* Resource Guide
- State Legislation Tracker II
- Virginia office
- *HIMSS Pulse on Public Policy* – Established in 2004

Blue Font = Won National Awards

A Final Audience Pulse

- What do you believe are the key policy drivers?
 - Funding
 - Privacy and security of information
 - RHIOs
 - Other?
- Do you believe that there will be significant policy changes over the next two years?

Questions?

Your HIMSS Government Relations Team

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