

NOVEMBER 2008

Legislative Management Team (LMT) Report:

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1. Recently Introduced Bills – State & Federal
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1. Recently Introduced Bills: State

S2236 Weinberg (D-37)

Permits person covered by certain managed care plans to receive covered services from network provider without obtaining written referral from primary care provider.

S2237 Weinberg (D-37)

Requires health insurers and SHBP to provide coverage for screening for cervical cancer, including testing for HPV.

S2238 Weinberg (D-37)

Requires health insurers to provide coverage for certain infant formulas.

A3319 Greenwald (D-6)

Allows health maintenance organizations to include charity care assessments for purposes of meeting certain loss ratio requirements.

A-3211 (Conaway) Health Care Quality Act requires audits of provider networks.

DOBI Bulletin 08-16 was recently published. It deals with the new rules and regulations concerning the disclosure of producer compensation. (A copy of the bulletin is attached)

Recently Introduced Bills: Federal

S-334 (Wyden) “Healthy Americans Act” A bill to provide affordable, guaranteed private health coverage that will make Americans healthier and can never be taken away.

Both the House and the Senate approved Mental Health Parity legislation. The House by a vote of 376 to 47 and the Senate by a vote of 93 to 2.

I would like to encourage our members to set up appointments with your legislators in their district offices.

2. THE LMT AT WORK

UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

- Four members of the LMT attending a fundraiser for Senator Joseph Vitale on Monday, October 27th. We were able to get a good amount of “one on one” time with the Senator. He updated us on his Phase II timetable which he is hoping to introduce in 2009. He is also going to actively pursue S-1376, the Premium Assistance legislation. Although he is going to sponsor a companion bill to Assemblyman Conaway’s Connector Bill, (A-1939) the Senator is keenly aware of our opposition to this legislation.
- LMT meeting – Wednesday, January 7th, 2009 at 10:00 AM at the offices of Slattery and Associates.
- **CAPITOL CONFERENCE 2009 – Monday, March 30th – Wednesday, April 1st**

ONGOING WORK

- 1) The LMT in conjunction with our Public Relations Committee is in the early stages of planning a town hall meeting with various industry leaders and elected officials. We are hopeful that this event will take place in late January, early February. We will keep you constantly updated as things progress.
 - 2) Matthew Basile, our North Jersey Chapter Legislative Chairman testified on behalf of NJAHU before the Assembly Health and Human Services committee on October 23rd. Matthew testified in opposition to A-1939, the New Jersey Health Insurance Connector Act.
 - 3) Joan Fusco and the rest of the LMT posted a few more position papers. Please go to our website at www.njahu.org to review them.
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