



Dear ENT Advocacy Network Member:

June 1, 2018

Legislative and political activity directly affects our practices and our patients. As a leading advocate for otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, we hope you enjoy reading this edition of The ENT Advocate, your premier source of advocacy information for the specialty!

Lead Story

AAO-HNS Leads Effort to Oppose S. 2575

The Academy recently spearheaded [a letter](#) opposing federal legislation (S. 2575) that would grant audiologists unlimited direct access to Medicare patients without a physician referral and amend Medicare's definition of "physician" to include audiologists. The letter, which was addressed to leaders of the Senate Committee on Finance, was signed by more than 130 national, state, and local medical societies. The AAO-HNS thanks all the organizations who signed the letter to support our efforts to defeat this legislative proposal. Stay tuned for details regarding virtual "Lobby Days" in June!

Action Requested

ENT PAC Amplifies Your Voice

Thanks to the generous contributions of our members, ENT PAC raised nearly \$11,000 to help the AAO-HNS defeat S. 2575! Contributions to ENT PAC make it possible for the Academy to support Members of Congress who will OPPOSE this ill-conceived legislation and protect patient access to safe, quality healthcare. Interested in assisting with this effort? [Make or increase your 2018 ENT PAC contribution TODAY!*](#)

Advocacy in Action

Help the AAO-HNS strengthen our various grassroots programs as we continue to advocate for the specialty at the state and federal levels. Sign up for [PROJECT 535](#) and/or the [State Tracker](#) program today! Questions? Contact govtaffairs@entnet.org

Legislative & Political Reports

AAO-HNS Raises Awareness of Hearing Health on Capitol Hill

As part of the Friends of the Congressional Hearing Health Caucus, the AAO-HNS recently [sponsored a briefing on Capitol Hill](#) highlighting the importance of untreated hearing loss in older adults. Caucus Co-Chair U.S. Representative Mike Thompson (D-CA) provided opening remarks.

Advocacy on Tobacco Issues

As a member of the "PARTNERS Coalition," the AAO-HNS signed onto [a letter addressed to Senate appropriators](#) urging lawmakers to preserve FDA oversight of tobacco products and user fees. The AAO-HNS also [signed onto a letter addressed to FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb](#) in support of a nicotine product standard to reduce nicotine in cigarettes to non- or minimally-addictive levels.

Coalition Effort to Oppose APRN Compact Provisions

The AAO-HNS [signed onto an AMA-led letter](#) opposing certain provisions included in the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact. The Compact would allow nurse specialists to practice under a multistate license and contains language that could supersede state laws related to the scope of practice of APRNs.

Other News

Advocacy Activities Highlighted in June *Bulletin*

Watch for the upcoming June edition of the [Bulletin](#), featuring information about the Academy's lead role in the first FDA sleep disordered breathing workshop, private payment wins and recent actions, and a summary of federal and state legislative accomplishments.

Advocacy Resources Available to BOG State Societies

Staff from the AAO-HNS Advocacy team recently attended the meetings of the Connecticut ENT Society and the Virginia Society of Otolaryngology to brief attendees on the Academy's legislative and political efforts. In addition, staff provided an overview of ongoing grassroots efforts and outlined opportunities for otolaryngologists to become more involved. Interested? There are several advocacy-related resources readily available for BOG State Societies, including: a PowerPoint presentation highlighting key AAO-HNS grassroots programs (which can be customized for your state); legislative and/or health policy-related advocacy handouts; and the opportunity to have Academy staff attend your meeting and host a booth at your next state society meeting. Email govtaffairs@entnet.org for more information!

Sincerely,
Susan R. Cordes, MD
BOG Legislative Affairs Committee Chair
and the AAO-HNS Legislative Advocacy Team

For more information, contact govtaffairs@entnet.org. Don't forget to bookmark [The ENT Advocate!](#)

If you no longer wish to receive important legislative and political updates via *The ENT Advocate*, please reply to this email with CANCEL ADVOCATE in the subject line.

*Contributions to ENT PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions are voluntary, and all members of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits ENT PAC from accepting contributions from foreign nationals. By law, if your contributions are made using a personal check or credit card, ENT PAC may use your contribution only to support candidates in federal elections. All corporate contributions to ENT PAC will be used for educational and administrative fees of ENT PAC, and other activities permissible under federal law. Federal law requires ENT PAC to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and the name of the employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.

American Academy of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery
1650 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, VA 22314-2857
Phone: 1-703-836-8444 | Fax: 1-703-683-5100