

Hot Topics on the Advocacy Agenda

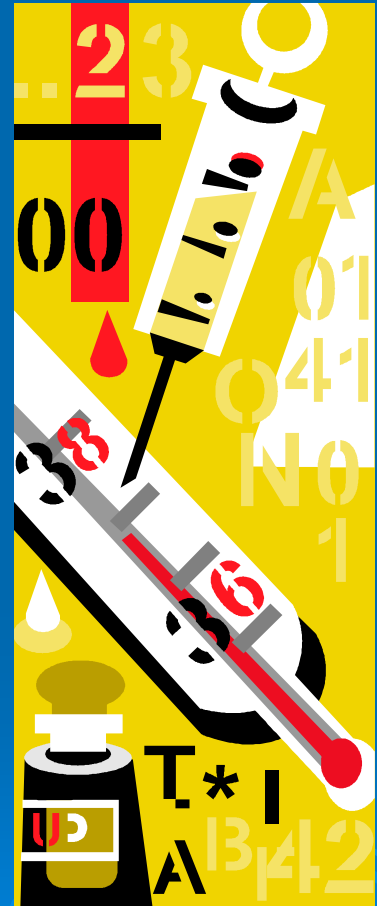
Debbie McCune Davis
Arizona State Representative



The Arizona Partnership for Immunization
Program Director
May 24, 2012

Critical areas in 2012

- Funding – State and Federal
- Vaccine reimbursement
- Exemptions
- School mandates
- Consent
- Vaccine Ingredients



Policy Challenges and trends



Vaccine Exemption in Washington State

HB1015/SB5005

Signed into law on
May 9, 2011

Revises personal belief exemption to require a statement from HCP that parent has received a benefit/risk information.



Vaccine Reimbursement in Arizona

HB 2846- health insurance;
vaccines

Died at end of session.
Health plans offered
alternate proposal for a
Vaccine Association.
Discussions between health
plans, AZAAP physicians
and Health Services
continue.



Define Advocacy

- Informing public policy
- Educating decision makers
- Persuading people to take action
- Marketing good science
- Building relationships
- Lobbying for regulations, executive orders and laws.



Who can lobby?

➤ Anyone – on their own time.



➤ IRS Guidelines for Non-profits

- 20% of total annual expenditures < \$500,000
- 15% of total annual expenditures between \$500,000 and \$1,500,000
- 5% of expenditures about \$1,500,000 up to a ceiling of \$1,000,000 on total lobbying amount.
- No lobbying expense may be paid with federal grant funds.
- No support for partisan candidates or political activity.

Coalitions are Partnerships

Who are your partners?

- Commercial health plans
- Medicaid health plans
- Public health departments
- Private health care providers
- Professional medical assoc.
- Hospitals
- School nurses
- Health community based orgs.
- Peer review organizations



Learn about the Legislative Process

- Know the players and the language
- Identify a champion
- Work with an experienced advocate
- Get your message to the right people at the right time
- Follow up when action is taken



Finding the right skill sets

- Most coalition partners already:
 - Track public policy
 - Defend programs before committees
 - Seek funding
 - Lobby for policy changes
 - Develop white papers
 - Participate in community advocacy efforts



The “World” of a Legislator

- Generalists
- May have expertise or interest in “single issue”
- Do not think or act like scientists
- Reasonably smart, partially informed, very busy
- Making decisions in a political arena
- Rely on information from a variety of sources.



The other side continues to communicate...

Examples of e-mails received at the AZ Legislature during the last legislative session:

- ❖ "VACCINE NATION" DVD documentary release by award winning film maker Gary Null PhD
- ❖ "FluMist", inhaled Swine Flu Vaccine, MORE dangerous!
- ❖ Avoid ALL VACCINATIONS warns Dr. Moulden
- ❖ Vaccine-Induced Disease Epidemic Outbreaks, since 1921
- ❖ 1918 Flu Epidemic was CAUSED BY VACCINES!
- ❖ Protect our Children from Compulsory Vaccination
- ❖ Protect Us From Compulsory Pandemic



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NVIC ADVOCACY PORTAL

Welcome to the NVIC Advocacy Portal (NVICAP)

Achieving and protecting the right to informed consent to vaccination is more important now than ever before, and we need your help to make that happen. NVIC wants to help you, our members, to organize and make a difference in your home state right where you live to protect and expand vaccine exemptions. It is at the state level that mass vaccination policies are made, and it is at the state level where your action to protect your rights can have the greatest impact. Also, when national vaccine issues occur, you will be plugged in to the information and action items necessary to make sure your voice is heard.

Register to be an NVIC Advocacy Team Member: Just minutes of your time on letters, emails, and phone calls to your state legislators and the media can make the difference. NVIC will send you advocacy alert emails when action is needed to support efforts in your own state and nationally on important legislation and policy to protect and expand vaccination exemption laws. We will provide you with the steps, tools and connection to leaders and organizations to help you make a positive impact on your rights to exercise informed consent in the vaccination decision making process.

With your registration information, we are able to calculate exactly who your elected officials are and display direct links to connect you to them on your personal view of your state team page. Registration information is kept confidential within NVIC.

Tell Your Doctor: If You Don't Show Me This, You're Breaking the Law





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Action Needed Now

CA 5/20/2012

- AB2109 -Contact your state senator and tell them to vote no on AB2109
- Vaccination Harassment, Discrimination and Coercion Accounts Needed to Defeat AB2109

SC 5/20/2012

- OPPOSE H 4497 Requires Schools to push HPV vaccine on middle school girls

VT 5/20/2012

- S199 a bill to limit vaccine exemptions

On the Federal Level – Join the 317 Coalition

Wellness and Prevention Health Reform Digest

Today's News (5/11/11)

- On Monday and Tuesday, a number of healthcare provider groups joined together to meet with 16 key Congressional offices on the importance of the Prevention and Public Health Fund. Our thanks to Nemours for helping to spearhead the two very successful days, who together with Trust for America's Health, were joined by participants from the American Academy of Pediatrics, American College of Cardiology, American College of Preventive Medicine, American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Dental Education Association, American Dietetic Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Physical Therapy Association, Doctors for America, and the National Association of School Nurses. Thanks again to all -- it was much appreciated, and very effective for Congressional offices to understand the importance of the Fund from a different perspective.
- CQ Today reports that the Senate Democratic budget proposal would raise taxes by approximately \$2 billion in the next decade while cutting spending about \$1.5 trillion, resulting in \$4 trillion in deficit reduction over the next 10 years. A Senate Republican plan announced by Senators Pat Toomey (R-PA), Jim DeMint (R-SC), Marco Rubio (R-FL), Mike Lee (R-UT) and Ron Johnson (R-WI), would cut spending to 18.5 percent of GDP, and reduce non-defense discretionary funding to FY 2006 levels in 2012, with a freeze through six additional years. The measure would also repeal funding for the Affordable Care Act -- <http://www.scribd.com/doc/55115716/1-Pager-Balanced-Budget-Resolution-FINAL>. If this news isn't cheery enough for you, read on...
- The House Appropriations Committee has released details on the FY 2012 appropriations process -- http://appropriations.house.gov/index.cfm?FuseAction=PressReleases.Detail&PressRelease_id=298&Month=5&Year=2011. Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor/HHS) Subcommittee is scheduled to mark-up its bill on July 26th, followed by full committee mark-up on August 2nd. The Labor/HHS 302(b) allocation is \$18 billion (13 percent) below FY 2011 and \$41.5 billion (30 percent) below the President's request.

Special Thanks

- Diane Peterson – Immunization Action Coalition

<http://www.immunize.org>

- Amy Pisani – Every Child By Two

<http://www.ecbt.org>

- 317 Coalition - <http://317coalition.org>

National Organizations

- American Immunization Registry Association
- American Nurses Association
- Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology
- Autism Science Foundation
- Every Child by Two
- Hepatitis B Foundation
- Immunization Action Coalition
- National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors
- National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
- Parents of Kids with Infectious Diseases (PKIDS)
- Partnership for Prevention
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