

# APDA Fall Conference 2020

### **About Cornerstone**

Full-service, bipartisan professional consulting firm specializing in:



Federal Government Relations



State Government Relations



Public Affairs and Strategic Communications

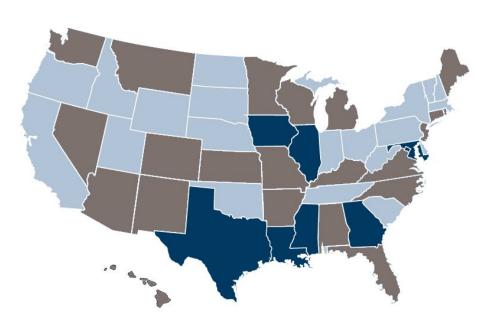


Strategic Advisory Services

- Founded in 2002 with a shared vision, philosophy and business model 
  ☐ the team approach
- 96 professionals across 10 office locations
  - Washington, DC; Annapolis, MD; Atlanta, GA; Austin & Houston, TX; Baton Rouge, LA; Chicago & Springfield, IL; Des Moines, IA; and Jackson, MS
- Top 10 Lobbying Firm; Top 2 Independent Firm
- Growing public affairs and advisory services business lines
- Diverse client base and long-term relationships
  - 11 clients since the firm's founding and 50 clients for more than a decade
  - Corporate, non-profit, association, coalition and small business clients



### Cornerstone's State Reach



State where we have a physical presence and team. State where we have extended reach.

- We have a nine state government relations offices across seven states (GA, IL, IA, LA, MD, MS, TX)
- Heavily involved in the National Governors Association,
   Democratic Governors Association and Republican Governors Association
- We have active partnerships with consulting firms in states where we do not have a physical presence in order to assist clients in those jurisdictions





Laura Bozell



**Chris Sarley** 



Orla McAlinden

## Your APDA Core Team

## Points of contact

- Cornerstone is here to serve all APDA's members.
- But to ensure our priorities stay unified, our day to day contacts are with the Executive Committee.
- If you have an idea or a concern related to APDA's government affairs strategy, please share it with us through:

communications@apdahealth.com



## A New Beginning

- Work began in earnest in July 2020, with CGA immediately picking up the baton with on-going reimbursement issues.
- Weekly participation in R-Code Coalition calls, which include like-minded organizations that are committed to improving the financial outlook of PXR industry.
- Began outreach to Senators Cornyn (R-TX) and Toomey (R-PA) to discuss R-Code and COVID cost concerns.
  - Sen. Toomey immediately called Novitas, who provided an update on R-Code data analysis.



## Still to Come in 2020

- Novitas anticipates completing work on the data by November 2020.
  - The MAC committed to share their findings and timetable with Capitol Hill and stakeholders.
- We have armed Senate staff with information on why the recommendations from Novitas will likely be flawed.
- At HHS, the third round of Provider Relief Funding has been announced; applications are due November 5<sup>th</sup>
  - There is a sense from some Hill staff that this is the best option for securing COVID relief at this time.
- Lame Duck session unlikely to produce many opportunities for advancing our legislative priorities.



## What We've Learned

- We still have more to learn!
  - We had to immediately engage on COVID and Novitas.
- Needs Assessment will allow us to define what's in our best interest, prioritize and plan a strategy for navigating the politics to accomplish those policy goals.
- We need to educate more Members and develop congressional champions.
- We need a dedicated group within APDA that will steer our legislative priorities.
  - Legislative and Regulatory Action Committee



## Questions?





## Rally the Industry

## Members of Congress want to hear from you



CONSTITUENT CONTACT

## Members of Congress value staying in touch with constituents

- Conversations guide policymaking and reelections hinge on lawmakers' ability to serve their constituents
- Members trust staff to help them listen to constituents; advocates should not be surprised if they meet with staff in lieu of a lawmaker



PERSONALIZED MESSAGING

## Individualized communications are highly persuasive

- Personalized letters and e-mails can have more influence on members' decisions than form letters
- Advocates should focus on sending more personal messages to capture individual voice or perspective



ON-THE-GROUND INTELLIGENCE

#### First-hand knowledge of policy impacts are most compelling

- What policy actions do constituents desire?
- Why do constituents prioritize that action?
- What are the impacts of this on our district or state?
- What personal stories connect to this policy?

SOURCE National Journal research, Congressional Management Foundation.



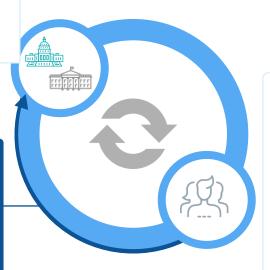
## How does constituent advocacy in Washington work?

#### **GOVERNMENT ROLE**

Congress and the White House create laws and regulations to govern citizens

#### WHAT ARE FLY-INS?

During fly-ins, organizations host constituents from around the country in the nation's capital to advocate for common interests and



#### **CONSTITUENT ROLE**

Citizens influence governing behavior by participating in advocacy efforts:

- Showing support
- Asking for change
- Telling stories
- Sharing ideas
- Providing information

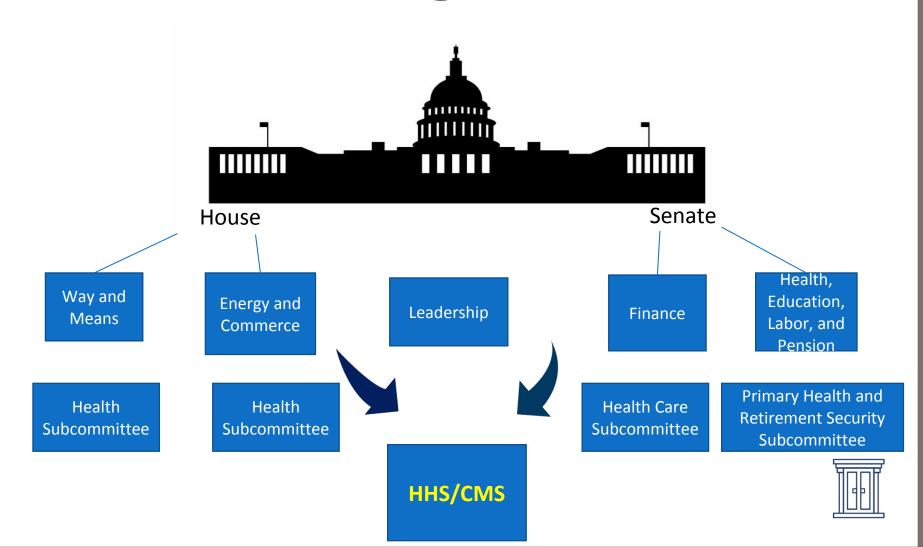


# ADVOCATING IN THE AGE OF COVID-19 How to 'Meet' With Policymakers When You Can't Actually Meet

- Many Members and staff are joining phone or video calls with constituents.
  - Note that staffers may prefer to talk by phone rather than video. Don't take it personally.
- These interactions can be more efficient—and just as productive if you are prepared.
- Cornerstone has compiled a list of best practices that we can share to ensure APDA's Hill interactions are effective.
- There should be at least three participants in any meeting CGA, APDA Executive or L/R Committee and a constituent company.
  - This ensures strong messaging, a local connection, and good follow-up.
- In the future, we hope to resume our in-person meetings which could include association fly-ins and Hill Days.

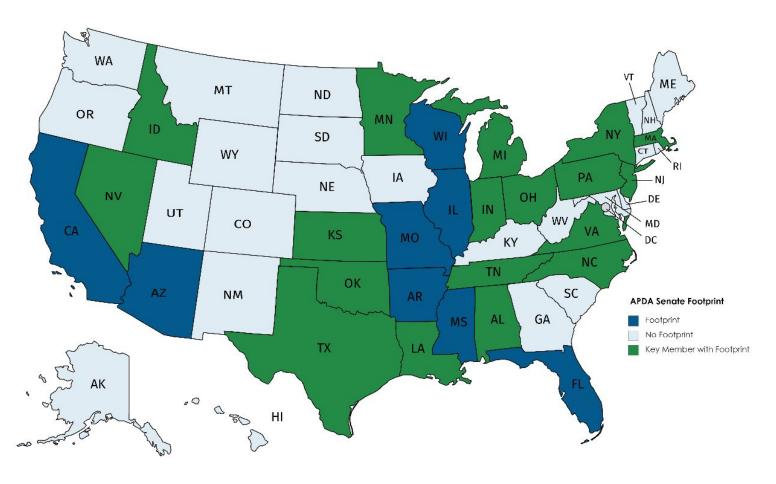


# Key Industry Audiences in Congress



## **APDA Senate Footprint**

APDA members have footprints in several states and congressional districts represented by Members who serve on key committees and/or hold leadership positions.





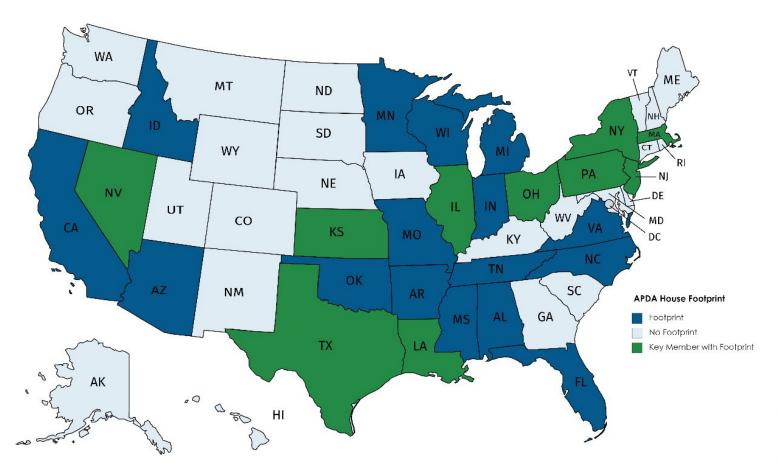
## **APDA Senate Footprint**

- Alabama
  - Sen. Doug Jones HELP PHRS sub.
- Idaho
  - Sen. Mike Crapo Finance
- Indiana
  - Sen. Todd Young Finance Health Care sub.
  - Sen. Mike Braun HELP PHRS sub.
- Kansas
  - o Sen. Pat Roberts\* Finance Health Care sub., HELP PHRS sub.
- Louisiana
  - o Sen. Bill Cassidy Finance Health Care sub., HELP PHRS sub.
- Massachusetts
  - Sen. Elizabeth Warren HELP PHRS sub.
- Michigan
  - o Sen. Debbie Stabenow Finance Health Care sub. Ranking Member
- Minnesota
  - Sen. Tina Smith HELP
- Nevada
  - Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto Sen Fin Health Care sub.
  - Sen. Jacky Rosen HELP PHRS sub.
- New Jersey
  - o Sen. Bob Menendez Finance Health Care sub.
- North Carolina



## **APDA House Footprint**

APDA members have footprints in several states and congressional districts represented by Members who serve on key committees and/or hold leadership positions.





## **APDA House Footprint**

- Illinois
  - Rep. Jan Schakowsky E&C
- Kansas
  - Rep. Ron Estes W&M
- Louisiana
  - Rep. Steve Scalise E&C
- Massachusetts
  - Rep. Joe Kennedy\* E&C Health sub.
- Nevada
  - Rep. Steven Horsford W&M Health sub.
- New Jersey
  - Rep. Frank Pallone E&C Chair
- New York
  - Rep. Brian Higgins W&M Health sub.
  - Rep. Eliot Engel\* E&C Health sub.
  - o Rep. Tom Suozzi W&M



## **APDA House Footprint**

- Massachusetts
  - Rep. Joe Kennedy\* E&C Health sub.
- Nevada
  - Rep. Steven Horsford W&M Health sub.
- New Jersey
  - o Rep. Frank Pallone E&C Chair
- New York
  - Rep. Brian Higgins W&M Health sub.
  - Rep. Eliot Engel E&C Health sub.\*
- Pennsylvania
  - Rep. Mike Kelly W&M Health sub.
- Texas

Rep. Kenny Marchant – W&M – Health sub.



## Planning Ahead for 2021

- Develop concrete "asks"
  - Working in tandem with the APDA Executive Committee and the new L/R Action Committee to develop APDA's legislative priorities and a strategic path forward
  - Areas for Consideration
    - Threats to PXR Reimbursement
    - Future R-Code Rate reviews
      - What one MAC does can trickle out to others
    - Payment Modernization
      - Fair and Transparent methodology
      - Transportation fee for other modalities
      - Should PXR be Removed from Consolidated Billing
    - Addressing on-going COVID Costs
      - New CPT Code in a budget neutral environment



## Steps toward Success

- Member education on APDA and its policy needs is our top priority –
  - Through geo-political mapping, identify bipartisan Members to target for education and outreach
  - Virtual or In-person Hill Visits
  - Develop champions who will go to bat for APDA
- Find Opportunities for Members to support APDA initiatives
  - Legislation, Letter Writing Campaigns, Questions for the Record
- Identify other like-minded groups who will help push for APDA's priorities too
  - Partners may change depending on the "ask"
- Success takes time.
  - Effort will require both short-term and long-term strategies to achieve our goals.



## How You Can Help APDA

- Get Involved!
  - New Legislative/Regulatory Action Committee
    - CGA will work with the Executive Committee to identify participants.
    - Lean group made for rapid deployment and strong advocacy on behalf of all APDA members.
- Notify APDA Executive Committee of any Strong Relationships with Members of Congress or their staff
- Make APDA aware of clients who would be willing to help amplify our message.
  - Letters of support/concern and other forms of communication from third-parties can be useful to advance our agenda by showing industry support to Congress from outside voices and the patients they serve.
- Share examples of how current reimbursement models are limiting your business' growth or impacting patient care
  - Please submit this information through: <u>communications@apdahealth.com</u>



Thank you for your time.

