

Legislative Update

Blair Hedgepeth, CPHIMS

Senior Manager, HIMSS Congressional Affairs

November 21, 2008

CALR Meeting

111th Congress, Election Results

U.S. Senate	Current	Change	New
Democrats	51	+6	58*
Republicans	49	-9	40
Undecided			2

U.S. House	Current	Change	New
Democrats	235	+20	255
Republicans	192	-18	174
Undecided			6

*Two Independent Senators caucus with the Democrats.

Health IT Legislation in the 110th Congress

- **H.R. 6311**, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (MIPPA) **Enactment**
- **H.R. 1467**, 10,000 Trained by 2010 **Passed House**
- **S. 1693**, Wired for Health Care Quality Act
- **H.R. 6898**, The Health-e Information Technology Act of 2008
- **H.R. 6357**, PRO(TECH)T Act of 2008
- In October 2008, President Bush signed into law a number of bills that incorporated health IT. Examples include:
 - **S. 3023**: Federal compensation legislation that directs the review and enhancement of health IT in the Veterans Benefits Administration
 - **S. 3001**: Defense Appropriations for Nuclear Safety that requires the development of technology neutral guidelines and standards for the sharing of personal health information between the DoD and VA

Looking Ahead to the 111th Congress

- ✓ 111th Congress will convene on January 5, 2009
- ✓ Barack Obama will be inaugurated as 44th President on January 20, 2009
- ✓ Reauthorization of SCHIP
- ✓ Funding for Stem Cell Research
- ✓ Healthcare Reform Legislation
- ✓ Will 110th Congress Legislation return?



Committee Leadership

- ✓ **Senate HELP Committee**
 - Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA)
 - Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY)
- ✓ **Senate Finance Committee**
 - Senator Max Baucus (D-MT)
 - Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
- ✓ **House Ways and Means Committee**
 - Representative Charlie Rangel (D-NY)
 - Representative Jim McCrery (R-LA) **RETIRING**
- ✓ **House Energy and Commerce Committee**
 - Representative John Dingell (D-MI)
 - Representative Joe Barton (R-TX)



Questions?

Contact Your HIMSS Government Relations Team

David W. Roberts, FHIMSS, Vice President, Government Relations, 703-562-8811

K. Meredith Taylor, MPH, Director, Congressional Affairs, 703-562-8847

Blair Hedgepeth, CPHIMS, Senior Manager, Congressional Affairs, 703-562-8810

Kathie Westpheling, MPH, Manager, Public Policy, 703-562-8831

Wayne Humphries, Manager, Public Policy Initiatives, 703-562-8870

Mary Walker, Executive in Residence, 703-562-8835

Tom Leary, FHIMSS, Senior Director, Federal Affairs, 703-562-8814

Jonathan French, Manager, Federal Affairs, 793-562-8823

Stephanie Tsoucalas, Coordinator, Federal Affairs, 703-562-8824

Tom Keefe, Senior Director, State Government Relations, 703-562-8813

Carol Rowland, Manager, State Government Relations, 703-562-8847

Arnol Simmons, Coordinator, State Government Relations, 703-562-8826

Sharolyn Rosier Hyson, Senior Manager, Public Policy Communications, 703-562-8819

HIMSS National Capital Area Office

4300 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 250

Arlington, VA 22203

advocacy@himss.org