



OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND POLITICAL ACTION

2007 END OF YEAR REPORT

110TH CONGRESS

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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Child Welfare

Congress is currently considering legislation to extend Medicaid coverage for youths who age out of foster care. The Medicaid Foster Care Coverage Act of 2007 (H.R. 1376) will address ways to provide Medicaid coverage for youths who exit the foster care system without permanent family units.

Currently, 25,000 youths are aging out of the foster care system every year. They tend to have a variety of unaddressed medical conditions and other challenges, because of inadequate health insurance. These challenges include mental and physical disabilities that may result in a lack of educational achievement, and financial instability. Some youths become homeless.

Beyond funding the direct provision of basic physical health care services, Medicaid currently allows states to provide critical rehabilitative, therapeutic, psychiatric, and targeted case management (TCM) services to children in foster care. Such programs and funding are essential to ensure children in foster care receive the necessary physical and mental health supports while in protective custody.

The Medicaid Foster Care Coverage Act of 2007, introduced by Rep. Dennis Cardoza (D-CA) on March 7, 2007, will help foster care youth access much needed health care. It is in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Health with 15 cosponsors.

NASW ACTION

NASW continues to urge Congress to pass this legislation which could significantly improve the lives and outcomes for youth in foster care. We have met with numerous Hill staff on this issue and have mobilized our members to contact their members of Congress. You can read the alert by going to <http://capwiz.com/socialworkers/issues/alert/?alertid=10542426>.

Head Start Reauthorization

For the first time in nearly a decade, Congress is poised to overhaul policy guidelines for Head Start, the nation's principal early childhood development program for low-income preschoolers. The 42-year-old program serves almost one million economically disadvantaged children.

Head Start is a federal program for preschool children from low-income families. It has served over 25 million preschool-age children, infants, toddlers, and pregnant women since its inception and is operated by local non-profit organizations in almost every county in the country. Children who attend Head Start participate in a variety of educational activities and receive free medical and dental care, meals and snacks. Adult family members take part in training classes on many subjects, such as child rearing, job training, health, and nutrition.

On December 5, the House of Representatives authorized Head Start for five years and passed it on to the president for his anticipated signature. The legislation passed in the Senate by a vote of 95-0 and in the House by 381-36. Several important policy and funding changes are proposed, including an overall funding increase from \$6.9 billion to \$7.3 billion, amounting to 10,000 more eligible children.

The legislation also dedicates more money to staff training, and requires that all Head Start workers have at least an associate's degree in early childhood education or a related field; by 2013, half of the workers must have at least a bachelor's degree. The value of raising qualifications for these workers is a core aspect in the improvement of the program.

Another key change was the elimination of the National Reporting System (NRS) testing program for four year olds. NRS did not provide a valid assessment of progress at that age, some experts contended. The legislation does not include a controversial administration proposal to allow faith-based groups to consider religion in hiring new employees for the program.

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NASW ACTION

NASW lobbied on this issue for many months in collaboration with the National Head Start Association. Our members informed Congress of the importance of early childhood education programs such as Head Start in strengthening families and the critical role that social workers provide in the Head Start program. Now that the legislation has passed, our lobbyists will work to ensure that the Head Start program will be preserved with the appropriate federal supports.

CIVIL RIGHTS

Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (Hate Crimes) [S. 1105/H.R. 1585]

Since its original introduction in 1997, hate crimes legislation has repeatedly received bipartisan majority support in both the House and Senate. In the 110th Congress, the House of Representatives approved H.R. 1592, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crime Prevention Act, by a vote of 237-180, on May 3, 2007.

Assuming a veto threat from President Bush, the Senate added the text of S. 1105, the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crime Prevention Act, as an amendment to the Department of Defense Authorization legislation, on September 27, 2007. The key vote, (60-39) was on a motion to limit debate on the bill, as policy opponents tried to abort the measure through the application of a filibuster.

Meanwhile, the House version of the Department of Defense Authorization bill, H.R. 1585, had previously been approved on May 17th, without hate crime provisions.

The provisions of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Hate Crimes Prevention Act were removed from the Department of Defense Authorization conference report on December 6, 2007. Both congressional republicans and moderate democrats expressed discomfort about attaching a non-military matter to a defense related issue. Nonetheless, to reach the point of near-passage should be considered a success for all concerned coalition partners.

NASW ACTION

NASW collaborated with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Human Rights Campaign, and People for the American Way seeking enactment of the aforementioned legislation.

Employment Non-Discrimination Act [H.R. 2015]

On November 7, 2007 the House of Representatives successfully passed the Employment Non-Discrimination Act by a vote of 235-184. The vote marked the first time that either chamber of congress passed employment protections based on sexual orientation.

H.R. 2015 attempts to fulfill a promise of equal opportunity for all. The bill makes it illegal to fire, refuse to hire, or fail to promote an employee because of the person's real or perceived sexual orientation. The 235-184 vote ended an effort initiated in 1974 by two members of congress from New York.

Enactment of H.R. 2015 would be a victory for gay men, lesbians and bisexual people, and for *all* Americans who believe that people who work hard and follow employment proscriptions should not lose or be denied jobs simply because of who they are.

Legislative activity is pending in the Senate, where it failed by just one vote in 1996. Already, 20 states, 276 municipalities (including the District of Columbia), and 433 Fortune 500 companies ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.

NASW ACTION

NASW collaborated with the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the Human Rights Campaign, and People for the American Way seeking enactment of the aforementioned legislation. NASW signed on to numerous letters and was a principal in all visits.

Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2007 [H.R. 2831]

On July 31, 2007, H.R. 2831 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 225-199. The Ledbetter Fair Pay Act attempts to redress injustice for Americans who encounter workplace discrimination predicated upon race, gender, or religious affiliation.

H.R. 2831 became a critical legislative mandate for many congressional caucuses due to the prevalence of pay disparity and labor market discrimination encountered by marginalized communities. Currently, H.R. 2831 is on the Senate calendar with no timetable for legislative activity.

NASW ACTION

The Association worked diligently with labor groups such as AFSME, the AFLCIO, and the Food and Commercial Workers Union to promote economic equality for all. Initiated advocacy visits, attended seminars and workshops concerning the promotion of pay equality.

HEALTH

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act [H.R. 493/S. 358]

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2007 (GINA) would amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and the Public Health Service Act. These amendments would expand the prohibition against discrimination—by group health plans and by health insurance issuers in the group and individual markets—on the basis of genetic information or services.

Specifically, GINA would prohibit: (1) enrollment and premium discrimination based on information about a request for, or receipt of, genetic services; and (2) requiring genetic testing. It also sets forth penalties for violations.

NASW ACTION

GINA was passed in the House by a vote of 420-3 on April 25, 2007. It has yet to be passed in the Senate. NASW participated in the Genetics Alliance Hill day to urge the Senate to consider S.358 for a full Senate floor vote.

Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007 [H.R. 1553/S. 911]

The Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007 would amend the Public Health Service Act to:

- Advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers

- Ensure that patients and families have access to the current treatments and information about pediatric cancers
- Establish a population-based national childhood cancer database
- Promote public awareness of pediatric cancers

NASW ACTION

NASW sent comments to the bill's sponsor, and attended and participated in the Childhood Cancer briefing and lobby day. The Association has also joined numerous letters to the Hill urging passage of legislation.

United States Health Insurance Act, H.R. 676

The United States Health Insurance Act would establish the United States National Health Insurance Program to provide all individuals residing in the United States and in U.S. territories with free health care that includes all medically necessary care, such as primary care and prevention, prescription drugs, emergency care, and mental health services regardless of their employment, income or health care status.

NASW ACTION

In addition to meetings with the key sponsor of the legislations, NASW Government Relations staff has attended several hearings and briefings regarding universal health care. NASW works closely with coalition partners in support of universal health coverage. NASW is a national sponsor of *Covering Kids & Families* and *Cover the Uninsured Week*, national initiatives of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

All Healthy Children Act [H.R. 1688/S. 1564]

The All Healthy Children Act would amend the Social Security Act to provide health insurance coverage for children and pregnant women throughout the United States by combining the children and pregnant woman health coverage under Medicaid and SCHIP into a new All Healthy Children Program.

NASW ACTION

NASW joined the Children's Defense Fund Healthy Child Campaign in support of this legislation.

Healthy Families Act [H.R. 1542/S. 910]

The Healthy Families Act would guarantee workers seven paid sick days a year to recover from their own illnesses or to care for sick family members.

NASW ACTION

NASW attended and participated in briefings and coalition meetings with the Work and Family Team. The Association also signed support letters and spoke with Hill staff about issues involving paid sick leave.

The Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2007 [H.R. 3014]

The Health Equity and Accountability Act of 2007 would seek to reduce health disparities and to improve racial and ethnic health equity. The bill includes provisions to enhance health workforce diversity, culturally and linguistically appropriate care, and data collection and analysis.

Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act [S. 1576/H.R. 3333]

The Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act would amend the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to:

- Develop an Internet clearinghouse within the Office of Minority Health
- Provide for programs of excellence in health professions education for underrepresented minorities

- Support demonstration projects designed to improve the health and health care of racial and ethnic minority groups through: improved access to health care; patient navigators; primary prevention activities; health promotion and disease prevention activities; and health literacy education and services

NASW ACTION

NASW staff submitted comments about the bills' language—seeking to include a new section to discuss the role of social workers in minority health and health disparity—and met with congressional staff to discuss the comments. Additionally, NASW hosted a Language English Proficiency Coalition meeting. Staff from sponsoring congressional offices attended the meeting to discuss the minority health bills.

MENTAL HEALTH

Health Information Technology (HIT) and Personal Privacy

Health IT legislation remains in theory a popular bipartisan issue, but it proved difficult to pass during 2007. As the year ended, the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee—which remained mired in disagreements over issues that have long stalled the bill, including provisions to protect the privacy of personal health information—pressed to pass its bill on the floor with unanimous consent. Sen. Kennedy and Sen. Enzi sponsored the Senate bill, known as Wired for Health Care Quality (S. 1693).

This bill would promote information technology as a tool to bring about fundamental change in the health care system. The legislation establishes an Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Also, it requires the HHS secretary to establish the public-private American Health Information Collaborative, which would make recommendations establishing national policies for the adoption of health information technology.

The Senate bill contains no federal personal health privacy protections. NASW, along with a small coalition, sought a number of changes to protect personal health records privacy. The House demonstrated support for the inclusion of personal health privacy requirements in their draft legislation; however, there was less political support for passing any HIT legislation.

NASW ACTION

NASW is working with several other behavioral health groups to ensure the privacy of medical information. During 2007, NASW focused primarily in the Senate, where movement to pass legislation was much stronger. The coalition supporting privacy is small, so NASW has played a significant role in this effort. The legislation is expected to receive considerable congressional attention in 2008, and we expect this will be a major priority for our government relations activities.

Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act (CSWMEA)

Due to a provision in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, clinical social workers may not bill Medicare directly for psychotherapy services to Medicare Part A for clients residing in skilled nursing facilities. In April 2007, Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) reintroduced the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act. In July, the House passed this provision within broader Medicare legislation known as CHAMP.

House passage was a major achievement for NASW's government relations staff, who have been working to pass this bill for almost 7 years. Unfortunately, Medicare payments for clinical social workers also reached crisis level proportions in 2007, as already-inadequate Medicare payments for clinical social work services were cut at the start of the year. NASW was very active in trying to restore payment rates in the program throughout 2007, but was unsuccessful due to presidential opposition to a Medicare payment bill this year.

In December, the Senate Finance Committee developed a companion Medicare bill that also included the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act provision. However, it failed to pass due to adamant White House opposition to the larger Medicare bill. This issue will remain high on NASW's agenda in 2008 and beyond.

NASW ACTION

The Association worked with key senators and representatives to gain support for the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act, and other legislation, to reform the Medicare mental health benefit. NASW pushed this legislation further than it has ever gone before, and we are very pleased with our progress. Unfortunately, political problems confronting Medicare payments have temporarily derailed progress on the bill.

Mental Health Services Appropriations

Congress has been unable to finish the Labor-HHS appropriations bill, which funds the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), for FY2008. The president's proposed 2008 budget for SAMHSA and the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) included small cuts; congress spent all of 2007 trying to restore these cuts.

Late in the year, it appeared democrats would be unsuccessful in their efforts to boost domestic spending. It also seems likely that funding levels for FY2008 may dip below FY2007 and 2006 levels for many domestic discretionary programs. NASW will remain active in support of adequate funding in 2008.

NASW ACTION

NASW is working with its coalition partners in the Mental Health Liaison Group to support increased funding levels for mental health and other SAMHSA programs. Association staff made a number of visits to the Hill to support appropriations for the agency in 2007, and expect to do so again in 2008.

Medicaid Spending

During 2007, the Bush administration turned to the CMS regulatory process to enact large cuts in federal expenditures for Medicaid, particularly those affecting social work services (e.g., rehabilitative services, targeted case management, and school based care coordination). NASW also vigorously opposed rules to clamp down on citizen documentation requirements, which knocked many eligible people off the program. Legislative proposals to roll back the administration's rules remained deadlocked in congress late in 2007.

NASW ACTION

NASW strongly advocated against federal Medicaid cuts in 2007 through CMS Rules, and expects to continue this advocacy in 2008. The Association has worked to educate members of congress about Medicaid's vital role in financing social worker services.

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity [S.558/HR1424]

In a major political breakthrough, long standing political opposition to mental health parity from business and House GOP leaders was largely resolved in 2007. NASW and its coalition partners supported passage of the "Paul Wellstone Equitable Mental Health Treatment Act" throughout the year, as negotiations continued to iron out complex problems with the House and Senate bills.

By year's end, unanimous support in the Senate did not exist for the Committee-passed bill, but passage remains tantalizingly close. At this time, it appears that relatively minor objections could again delay Senate ratification; The House, however, passed its bill through three committees, a first time accomplishment, and it appears ready for House floor ratification early in 2008.

NASW ACTION

In conjunction with the Mental Health Liaison Group and other parity advocates, NASW supports passage of full mental and behavioral health parity. Given the reduced influence of conservatives in Congress, prospects for the legislation greatly improved in 2007. This remains one of the few bright spots for health legislation in 2008.

State Child Health Insurance Program

Congress, and particularly the democratic leadership, sought a major expansion of the SCHIP program in its renewal legislation during 2007. Holding strong to the need to insure five million more kids from working-poor and medically-needy families, democrats—with the support of many republicans in the House and Senate—were unable to overcome several presidential vetoes of the SCHIP legislation. One provision of the bill, strongly supported by NASW, would expand the SCHIP mental health benefit in states that fall below a new federal benefit floor.

NASW ACTION

NASW worked collaboratively with the Mental Health Liaison Group and a large coalition of advocates to secure passage of the legislation, and to pressure wavering votes to override the President's veto. This effort was unsuccessful and will likely resume after the 2008 elections.

SOCIAL WORK REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE (SWRI)

The goal of the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI) is to secure federal and state investments in professional social work to enhance societal well-being. The Action Network for Social Work Education and Research (ANSWER) Coalition is coordinating efforts to recruit new social workers, retain current social workers, retrain experienced social workers, and promote social work research.

Teri Zenner Social Worker Safety Act [H.R. 2165]

The Teri Zenner Social Worker Safety Act would establish a grant program to assist in the provision of safety measures to protect social workers and other professionals who work with at-risk populations.

NASW ACTION

NASW staff worked with the bill's congressional sponsor to draft the bill language, hosted a congressional briefing on social work safety, and sent letters to congress urging more cosponsors for the bill. NASW staff are seeking a senate sponsor for the social work safety companion bill.

National Center for Social Work Research Act [S. 106]

The National Center for Social Work Research Act would amend the Public Health Service Act to establish the National Center for Social Work Research as an agency of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The Center for Social Work Research would conduct, support, and disseminate targeted research on social work methods and outcomes related to problems of significant social concern.

NASW ACTION

NASW is working with legislative staff and the SWRI consultant to determine the best course of action regarding S. 106. Legislative staff and the consultant recommend including the language of S.106 in the "Dorothy Height/Whitney Young Social Work Reinvestment Act." The bill might also remain a separate piece of legislation allowing for the most effective approach possible.

College Cost Reduction Act of 2007

NASW continues to explore ways to build support for loan forgiveness for social workers. We are pleased to have a victory with the College Cost Reduction Act of 2007, which provides loan forgiveness for social workers in child welfare and other areas of public service. Most of the changes took effect on October 1, 2007. Here are some the specifics of the bill:

- Loan forgiveness is offered to those who hold public service jobs (including social workers in a public child or family service agency) after 10 years of service.
- The interest rate on subsidized student loans will be cut in half, from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent, over four years.
- The maximum Pell grant award would increase by \$490 in 2008 to \$1,090 by 2012-2013.
- A cap on repayments of federally backed loans at 15 percent of a borrower's discretionary income.

NASW ACTION

The Association continues to work with other national organizations—including the National Child Abuse Coalition, the National Bar Association, the National Alliance of Pupil Services Organizations (NAPSO), and the Action Network for Social Work Education and Research (ANSWER) Coalition—to promote loan forgiveness for social workers in child welfare and education. Additionally, we continue to seek opportunities to provide loan debt relief for social workers in other fields of practice.

NASW lobbied Hill staff aggressively on this issue and attended and participated in numerous briefings and coalition meetings with the American Bar Association. The Association also signed support letters about issues involving loan forgiveness. You can read an update about the bill at:

<http://capwiz.com/socialworkers/issues/alert/?alertid=10355231>

Social Work Reinvestment Act

The Social Work Reinvestment Initiative, particularly the comprehensive piece of legislation known as the “Dorothy Height/Whitney Young Social Work Reinvestment Act,” has seen great progress in 2007. Attorney and experienced lobbyist Anita Estell served as a consultant to SWRI, providing insight in crafting the comprehensive piece of federal legislation. Additionally, NASW hired Elizabeth Franklin as project manager for the SWRI.

The “Dorothy Height/Whitney Young Social Work Reinvestment Act” is an effort to gather more information about the issues facing the profession of social work and to determine the best course of action to address them. It includes:

- A findings section to exhibit the state of the profession
- A Blue Ribbon Panel to address the future of the profession
- Demonstration Programs to address the current need to reinvest into the profession
- The permanent establishment of March as Social Work Awareness Month

Congressman Edolphus Towns (D-NY), a fellow social worker, has been asked to introduce the Act in the House in the first quarter of 2008. The proposed Act falls under the umbrella of the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative, which continues to support individual federal legislation around the following issues:

- Title IV-E/child welfare
- Social work safety
- Medicare payment to social workers
- Loan forgiveness
- The social work research center

NASW chapters are also crafting their own state level SWRI plans. All 56 chapters were awarded grants to devise and implement their plans. These plans are as varied as the chapters themselves, and will reflect their current needs, particularly in the areas of public education, loan forgiveness, compensation, training, reimbursement, and recruitment.

The chapter plans will be uploaded onto the new Social Work Reinvestment Web site. The Web site is a thorough, interactive journey for users interested in federal and state investments in the profession. Users will be able to search for and browse past efforts, achievements, and current activity.

Additionally, related legislation, social work education programs, employers, workforce data, and a host of other information will be available to users through the site. Policymakers will find this Web site particularly useful, as they can track the past and present political climate for the profession.

FIELD ORGANIZING

Grassroots Activities

During 2007, 1,593 individuals sent 5,283 letters, e-mails, and phone calls through Congress Web and CapWiz to their congressional representatives. The federal issues that generated the most grassroots efforts included restoring mental health Medicare payments, Medicare amendments, and social worker safety.

Subject Area	Number of Letters/E-mails
Compose your own message	1550
Mental Health: Restore CSW Medicare Payments	1180
Support Social Work Provisions in Medicare Amendments	657
Protect our Nation's Social Workers	419
Increase Funding for Older American Act Programs by 10 Percent	332
Support CHAMP and Clinical Social Work Services	322
Health: Genetics	294
Health Care: Urge Senate to Support SCHIP Funding	252
Support the Foster Care Medicaid Coverage Act of 2007	81
Protect our Nation's Social Workers	25
Support the Labor/HHS Appropriations Bill	23
Lobby Senate on Medicare SWRI Agenda	20
Support loan forgiveness for social workers	11
Support pay equality for women	4

Presentations

During 2007, NASW staff made 15 presentations to students, social workers, social work educators, and conference attendees.

Lobby Day

On April 26, NASW hosted a lobby day in conjunction with the Annual Leadership Meeting. Leaders lobbied on social work safety, the clinical social work Medicare equity act, and strengthening social work

training. One hundred twenty five leaders met with 39 members of congress and staff from 198 member offices.

Web Site Development

NASW has changed our online advocacy program from The Soft Edge to Capitol Advantage. We are better able to mobilize members through the new system, to provide more information on elected officials, and to help people register to vote through one program. Additionally, all chapters can use Capitol Advantage to mobilize members on state level advocacy.

POLITICAL ACTION FOR CANDIDATE ELECTION (PACE)

Staffing Changes

On July 23, Brian Dautch became NASW's Senior Political Action Associate. Brian, who holds a master's degree in political science and a law degree, has a background in lobbying, policy analysis, and campaign politics.

Authorized Contributions

During a conference call on October 23, 2007, the PACE trustees authorized discretionary spending of up to \$40,000 through the end of January 2008. A majority of this money has been allocated, as follows:

- \$15,000 was sent to the Democratic National Committee
- \$7,000 was sent to both the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee
- \$5,000 was spent on fundraisers for federal legislators who can significantly advance NASW's legislative goals

NASW LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES CHART

<i>Number and Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>NASW Position</i>	<i>Last Action</i>	<i>Staff Responsible</i>
Appropriations/Budget				
S. 1710 - <u>Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies Appropriations</u>	Sen. Tom Harkin (IA) Introduced 6/27/2007 Cosponsors (None)	Support	6/29/2007: Star Print ordered on the bill.	
H.R. 3043 - <u>Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act</u>	Rep. David Obey (WI-7) Introduced 7/13/2007 Cosponsors (None)	Support	11/15/2007: On motion to refer the bill and the accompanying veto message to the Committee on Appropriations. Agreed to without objection.	
Child Welfare				
H.R. 1376 - <u>Medicaid Foster Care Coverage Act</u>	Rep. Dennis Cardoza (CA-18) Introduced 3/7/2007 Cosponsors (17)	Support	3/08/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.	Nancy McFall Jean
Civil Rights: Hate Crimes				
S. 1105 - <u>Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act</u>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA) Introduced 4/12/2007 Cosponsors (45)	Support	4/12/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 1592 - <u>Local Law Enforcement Hat Crimes Prevention Act</u>	Rep. John Conyers (MI-14) Introduced 3/20/2007 Cosponsors (172)	Support	5/07/2007: Received in the Senate; read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.	Lawrence Moore
Civil Rights: Voting Rights				
S. 1257 - <u>DC Voting Rights Act</u>	Sen. Joseph Lieberman (CT) Introduced 5/1/2007 Cosponsors (21)	Support	9/18/2007: Motion to proceed to measure considered in Senate.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 1905 - <u>DC Voting Rights Act</u>	Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC) Introduced 4/18/2007 Cosponsors (2)	Support	5/23/2007: Committee on the Judiciary; hearings held.	Lawrence Moore
Economic Empowerment				
S. 766 - <u>Paycheck Fairness Act</u>	Sen. Hillary Clinton (NY) Introduced 3/6/2007 Cosponsors (23)	Support	3/06/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 1338 - <u>Paycheck Fairness Act</u>	Rep. Rosa DeLauro (CT-3) Introduced 3/6/2007 Cosponsors (227)	Support	7/11/2007: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections Hearings Held.	Lawrence Moore

<i>Number and Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>NASW Position</i>	<i>Last Action</i>	<i>Staff Responsible</i>
S. 1087 - Fair Pay Act	Sen. Tom Harkin (IA) Introduced 4/11/2007 Cosponsors (17)	Support	4/11/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 2019 - Fair Pay Act	Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC) Introduced 4/24/2007 Cosponsors (11)	Support	7/09/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.	Lawrence Moore
S. 2 - Fair Minimum Wage Act	Sen. Harry Reid (NV) Introduced 1/4/2007 Cosponsors (44)	Support	1/08/2007: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 2.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 2 - Fair Minimum Wage Act	Rep. George Miller (CA-7) Introduced 1/5/2007 Cosponsors (224)	Support	2/01/2007: Passed Senate with an amendment by Yea-Nay Vote. 94 - 3. Record Vote Number: 42.	Lawrence Moore
H.R. 2015 - Employment Non-Discrimination Act	Rep. Barney Frank (MA-4) Introduced 4/24/2007 Cosponsors (174)	Support	9/05/2007: Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Hearings Held.	Lawrence Moore
Health				
S. 1070 - Elder Justice Act	Sen. Orrin Hatch (UT) Introduced 3/29/2007 Cosponsors (20)	Support	3/29/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1783 - Elder Justice Act	Rep. Rahm Emmanuel (IL-5) Introduced 3/29/2007 Cosponsors (87)	Support	6/27/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities.	Asua Ofosu
S. 910 - Healthy Families Act	Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA) Introduced 3/15/2007 Cosponsors (25)	Support	3/15/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1542 - Healthy Families Act	Rep. Rosa Delauro (CT-3) Introduced 3/15/2007 Cosponsors (79)	Support	6/27/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.	Asua Ofosu
S. 5 - Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act	Sen. Harry Reid (NV) Introduced 1/4/2007 Cosponsors (42)	Support	6/20/2007: Vetoed by President.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 3 - Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act	Rep. Diana Degette (CO-1) Introduced 1/5/2007 Cosponsors (219)	Support	1/12/2007: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 6.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 676 - United States National Health Insurance Act	Rep. John Conyers (MI-14) Introduced 1/24/2007 Cosponsors (87)	Support	2/02/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1078 - Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act	Rep. Lois Capps (CA-23) Introduced 2/15/2007 Cosponsors (88)	Support	3/07/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.	Asua Ofosu

<i>Number and Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>NASW Position</i>	<i>Last Action</i>	<i>Staff Responsible</i>
Health: Children				
S. 1893 - <u>Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization</u>	Sen. Max Baucus (MT) Introduced 7/26/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	7/27/2007: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 288.	Jim Finley
H.R. 976 - <u>Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization</u>	Rep. Charles Rangel (NY-15) Introduced 2/9/2007 Cosponsors (73)	Support	10/18/2007: On passage, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding Failed by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 273 - 156 (Roll no. 982).	Jim Finley
H.R. 3963 - <u>Children's Health Insurance Program Extension</u>	Rep. John Dingell (MI-15) Introduced 10/24/2007 Cosponsors (24)	Support	12/12/2007: On motion to postpone consideration of the veto message Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: 211 - 180 (Roll no. 1154).	Jim Finley
H.R. 3162 - <u>Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act</u>	Rep. John Dingell (MI-15) Introduced 7/24/2007 Cosponsors (13)	Support	9/04/2007: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 338.	Jim Finley
S. 911 - <u>Conquer Childhood Cancer Act</u>	Sen. Jack Reed (RI) Introduced 3/19/2007 Cosponsors (46)	Support	12/12/2007: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 535.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1553 - <u>Conquer Childhood Cancer</u>	Rep. Deborah Pryce (OH-15) Introduced 3/15/2007 Cosponsors (176)	Support	3/16/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.	Asua Ofosu
S. 895 - <u>Children's Health First Act</u>	Sen. Hillary Clinton (NY) Introduced 3/15/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	3/15/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1535 - <u>Children's Health First Act</u>	Rep. John Dingell (MI-15) Introduced 3/15/2007 Cosponsors (43)	Support	3/16/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 1688 - <u>All Healthy Children Act</u>	Rep. Bobby Scott (VA-3) Introduced 3/26/2007 Cosponsors (63)	Support	7/16/2007: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H7827)	Asua Ofosu
S. 1564 - <u>All Healthy Children Act</u>	Rep. Bernard Sanders (VT) Introduced 6/7/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	6/07/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.	Asua Ofosu
H.R. 2464 - <u>Wakefield Act</u>	Rep. Jim Matheson (UT-2) Introduced 5/23/2007 Cosponsors (64)	Support	5/23/2007: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Asua Ofosu
S. 60 - <u>Wakefield Act</u>	Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI) Introduced 1/4/2007 Cosponsors (10)	Support	5/23/2007: Star Print ordered on the bill.	Asua Ofosu

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<u>H.R. 3162 - Child Health and Medicare Protection Act</u>	Rep. John Dingell (MI-15) Introduced 7/24/2007 Cosponsors (13)	Support	9/04/2007: Received in the Senate. Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 338.	Asua Ofosu
Health: Disparities				
<u>S. 1576 - Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act</u>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA) Introduced 6/7/2007 Cosponsors (15)	Support	6/07/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Asua Ofosu
<u>H.R. 3333 - Minority Health Improvement and Health Disparity Elimination Act</u>	Rep. Jesse Jackson (IL-2) Introduced 8/2/2007 Cosponsors (59)	Support	8/02/2007: Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Asua Ofosu
<u>H.R. 3014 - Health Equity and Accountability Act</u>	Rep. Hilda Solis (CA-23) Introduced 7/12/2007 Cosponsors (95)	Support	9/11/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.	Asua Ofosu
Health: Genetics				
<u>S. 976 - Genomics and Personalized Medicine Act</u>	Sen. Barack Obama (IL) Introduced 3/23/2007 Cosponsors (2)	Support	3/23/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Asua Ofosu
<u>H.R. 493 - Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act</u>	Rep. Louise McIntosh Slaughter (NY-28) Introduced 1/16/2007 Cosponsors (221)	Support	4/30/2007: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 125.	Asua Ofosu
<u>S. 358 - Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act</u>	Sen. Olympia Snowe (ME) Introduced 1/22/2007 Cosponsors (37)	Support	4/10/2007: By Sen. Kennedy from Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions filed written report. Report No. 110-48.	Asua Ofosu
<u>S. 2140 - Francis Collins Congressional Gold Medal Resolution</u>	Sen. Byron Dorgan (ND) Introduced 10/4/2007 Cosponsors (19)	Support	10/04/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.	Asua Ofosu
Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI)				
<u>S. 1212 - Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act</u>	Sen. Barbara Mikulski (MD) Introduced 4/25/2007 Cosponsors (8)	Support	4/25/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.	Jim Finley
<u>S. 106 - National Center for Social Work Research Act</u>	Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI) Introduced 1/4/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	1/04/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Asua Ofosu
<u>S. 64 - Strengthen Social Work Training Act</u>	Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI) Introduced 1/4/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	1/04/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Asua Ofosu

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H.R. 2165 - <u>Teri Zenner Social Worker Safety Act</u>	Rep. Dennis Moore (KS-3) Introduced 5/3/2007 Cosponsors (109)	Support	5/03/2007: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.	Asua Ofosu
SWRI: Loan Forgiveness				
H.R. 2669 - <u>Higher Education Act Reauthorization</u>	Rep. George Miller (CA-7) Introduced 6/12/2007 Cosponsors (32)	Support	9/27/2007: Signed by President.	Nancy McFall Jean
H.R. 2661 - <u>Education for Public Service Act</u>	Rep. John Sarbanes (MD-3) Introduced 6/11/2007 Cosponsors (1)	Support	7/24/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness.	Nancy McFall Jean
S. 556 - <u>Head Start Reauthorization</u>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA) Introduced 2/12/2007 Cosponsors (8)	Support	4/10/2007: By Sen. Kennedy from Committee on Aging filed written report. Report No. 110-49.	Nancy McFall Jean
H.R. 1429 - <u>Head Start Reauthorization</u>	Rep. Dale Kildee (MI-5) Introduced 3/9/2007 Cosponsors (27)	Support	12/12/2007: Signed by President.	
Mental Health: Information Technology				
S. 1814 - <u>Health Information Privacy and Security Act</u>	Sen. Patrick Leahy (VT) Introduced 7/17/2007 Cosponsors (3)	Support	7/18/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.	Jim Finley
S. 1693 - <u>Wired for Health Care Quality Act</u>	Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA) Introduced 6/26/2007 Cosponsors (13)	Support	10/01/2007: By Sen. Kennedy from Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions filed written report. Report No. 110-187.	Jim Finley
Mental Health: Parity				
S. 558 - <u>Mental Health Parity Act</u>	Sen. Pete Domenici (NM) Introduced 2/12/2007 Cosponsors (58)	Support	10/17/2007: Referred to the House Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.	Jim Finley
H.R. 1424 - <u>Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act</u>	Rep. Patrick Kennedy (RI-1) Introduced 3/9/2007 Cosponsors (274)	Support	10/16/2007: Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held. Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 32 - 13.	Jim Finley
Mental Health: Veterans				
H.R. 2874 - <u>Veteran's Health Care Improvement Act</u>	Rep. Michael Michaud (ME-2) Introduced 6/27/2007 Cosponsors (24)	Support	8/03/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.	Jim Finley
H.R. 1585 - <u>Department of Defense Appropriations</u>	Rep. Ike Skelton (MO-4) Introduced 3/20/2007 Cosponsors (2)	Monitoring	12/19/2007: Presented to President	Jim Finley

<i>Number and Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>NASW Position</i>	<i>Last Action</i>	<i>Staff Responsible</i>
H.R. 327 - <u>Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act</u>	Rep. Leonard Boswell (IA-3) Introduced 1/9/2007 Cosponsors (153)	Support	11/05/2007: Signed by President.	Jim Finley