

ASHP-PAC Update

December 2011

The Year in Review:

Drug Shortages Crisis Brings Heightened Visibility for Pharmacy

ASHP ramped up its longstanding advocacy work to help pharmacists and other health professionals manage the affects of drug shortages during 2011. Here's how the year unfolded:

November 2010: ASHP and its partners, the American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Society of Anesthesiologists, and the Institute for Safe Medication Practices hold a **Drug Shortages Summit** to define causes of shortages and potential solutions to address the problem.

February 2011: Sens. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) and Robert Casey (D-Pa.) introduce **S. 296**, "The Preserving Access to Life-Saving Medications Act."

June 2011: Reps. Diana DeGette (D-Colo.) and Thomas Rooney (R-Fla.) introduce **H.R. 2245**, "The Preserving Access to Life-Saving Medications Act of 2011."

July 2011: ASHP & the American Hospital Association present **key research findings** on the impact of drug shortages on hospitals with Sen. Klobuchar and Reps. DeGette and Rooney.

September 2011: ASHP's advocacy messages are heard by several high-profile audiences in September, including **HHS Secretary Kathleen**



ASHP past president Kevin J. Colgan, MA, FASHP, corporate director of pharmacy at Rush Medical Center in Chicago, and Richard Paoletti, vice president, Operations - Pharmacy, Laboratory and Radiology at Lancaster General Health, testified during a hearing held by the health subcommittee of the House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee in September.

Sebelius, members of **Congress**, and **Food and Drug Administration** officials.

October 2011: President Obama issues an **Executive Order** that elevates the priority of drug shortages and gives added urgency to the issue. The President also supported passage of S. 296 and H.R. 2245.

November 2011: ASHP testifies during a **hearing** held by the House Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives.

ASHP-PAC Makes Sure Your Voice is Heard

ASHP-PAC is the only political action committee focused on the issues, like drug shortages, REMS, pay-for-performance, and medication safety metrics, that impact your practice. A well-funded PAC will help:

- **Protect** your patients by helping your members of Congress understand the issues that you face and pass laws that will support your role.
- **Elect** members of Congress who support the role of health-system pharmacists in patient care.
- **Build** relationships in Congress and educate legislators about our issues.



Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.), sponsor of drug shortages legislation, S. 296, with the Minnesota delegation after her keynote address at ASHP's Legislative Day breakfast in September.

2011 Member Contributions

(January 1-November 30)

ASHP-PAC is a way for ASHP members to pool our resources and support congressional candidates who understand and promote pharmacists' involvement in patient care. Thank you to our donors for the 2011-12 election cycle.

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If we want to make a difference in legislation and representation, then we need to be visible to people who can make changes on a national level. The PAC gives us access to them. If we don't do it, someone else will.

— *Maria Serpa*
2011 Senator's Suite Donor


Senator's Suite (Gifts of \$100-\$249)

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2011 PAC Expenditures:

Your Contributions Support Pharmacy Champions

ASHP-PAC is bipartisan and backs Democratic and Republican congressional candidates that support our issues. Our contributions tend to support members on committees that primarily address health care issues:

- House Energy and Commerce
- House Ways and Means
- Senate Finance
- Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions

ASHP-PAC contributions for the first part of the 2011-12 election cycle are below. We plan to add to this list of pharmacy champions early in 2012.

It is our responsibility to make sure that our needs are supported on Capitol Hill, and part of that is supporting those whose philosophies align with ours.

— *Randy Kuiper*
2011 Speaker's Club Donor

Candidate	Pharmacy Connection	Amount
Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah)	Senate Finance Committee	\$1,000
Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.)	House Energy and Commerce Committee	\$2,000
Rep. Joe Pitts (R-Pa.)	House Energy and Commerce Committee	\$2,500
Rep. Tom Rooney (R-Fla.)	Original co-sponsor of HR 2245	\$1,000
Rep. Mike Ross (D-Ark.)	House Energy and Commerce Committee	\$1,500