



The fight for healthcare reform in Congress is not over; in fact, in many ways, it has just begun. As Congress and the Administration move forward to begin implementing the various provisions in Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), UROPAC will need to ensure that the interests of urology and our patients are protected. UROPAC, as the only political action committee dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of urology and urologic patients, will be very important over the next six months.

We will need to advocate for revisions to some of the more troubling provisions that were included in the bill and address some of the significant issues which were missing from the bill.

The Board of Directors of UROPAC, which is composed of leaders from both the AUA and the AACU, met during the Urology Joint Advocacy Conference held in Washington, DC, in March, and identified the top three issues facing urology today.

These three top issues are:

- Repeal of the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR)
- Repeal/Modification of the Independent Payment Advisory Board (IPAB)
- Protection of the In-Office Ancillary Exception to the Stark Physician Self-Referral Law (IOAE)

In addition, UROPAC supports the two bills crafted by the AUA. These bills address urologic conditions of national importance and will help our field in its mission to provide the highest quality care to our patients.

- Prostate (Cancer) Research, Outreach, Screening, Testing, Access, and Treatment Effectiveness Act of 2010
- Establishment of a Commission on Urotrauma
 - This bill was introduced on April 21 by Representatives Zack Space (D-OH) and Carol Shear-Porter (D-NH) in the House (H.R. 5106).

The UROPAC leadership is committed to advocate for our profession and our issues on the Hill and at the state level. We will continue to work with all member of Congress to mitigate or remove those provisions of the legislation that we found troublesome, and to include reforms that will improve our healthcare delivery system. Moving forward towards the 2010 elections, UROPAC will pay close attention to these issues and will support those Members of Congress or Congressional Candidates that support them.