Advancing Brain Injury Policy: The View from Washington and (BONUS!) Maine
Agenda

• Federal Elections & Impact on Brain Injury
• BIAA’s Federal Policy Priorities
• Tools You Can Use
• Current Issues
• State Policy Priorities (Guest Speaker)
• Questions
Senate Elections – Big Picture

[Map of the United States with states color-coded by political party:
- Red: Republican held seat
- Blue: Democrat held seat
- Yellow: Independent held seat]

SOURCE: COOK POLITICAL REPORT
Trump Country Races

Senators up for re-election in states won by the opposing party’s 2016 presidential candidate

PERCENTS INSIDE THE STATE REPRESENT BY HOW MUCH THE OTHER PARTY’S PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE WON IN 2016

- Clinton victory
- Trump victory
- Democratic senator up for re-election
- Republican senator up for re-election

Jon Tester (D) won in 2012 by 4%
Heidi Heitkamp (D) won in 2012 by 0.9%
Tammy Baldwin (D) won in 2012 by 5.6%
Debbie Stabenow (D) won in 2012 by 21%
Joe Donnelly (D) won in 2012 by 5.7%
Dean Heller (R) won in 2012 by 1.2%
Joe Manchin (D) won in 2012 by 14%
Claire McCaskill (D) won in 2012 by 16%
Bob Casey, Jr. (D) won in 2012 by 9.1%
Bill Nelson (D) won in 2012 by 13%

SOURCE: NATIONAL JOURNAL
# House Republicans are Vulnerable

**COMPETITIVE 2018 HOUSE RACES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Likely Democrat</th>
<th>Lean Democrat</th>
<th>Toss Up</th>
<th>Lean Republican</th>
<th>Likely Republican</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AZ-9 Sinema*</td>
<td>AZ-1 O’Halleran</td>
<td>MN-1 Walz*</td>
<td>AR-2 Hill</td>
<td>PA-14 OPEN (Lamb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA-7 Bera</td>
<td>CA-10 Denham</td>
<td>MN-8 Nolan*</td>
<td>CA-45 Walters</td>
<td>AZ-6 Schweikert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT-5 Esty*</td>
<td>CA-25 Knight</td>
<td>CA-26 Royce*</td>
<td>CA-21 Valadao</td>
<td>CA-4 McClintock</td>
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<tr>
<td>FL-7 Murphy</td>
<td>CA-39 Rosen*</td>
<td>CA-48 Rohrabacher</td>
<td>FL-15 Ross*</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN-7 Peterson</td>
<td>CA-49 Issa*</td>
<td>CO-6 Coffman</td>
<td>FL-16 Buchanan</td>
<td>CA-21 Valadao</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH-2 Kuster</td>
<td>CA-48 LoBiondo*</td>
<td>FL-26 Curbelo</td>
<td>FL-18 Mast</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NJ-5 Gottheimer</td>
<td>NJ-11 Frelinghuysen*</td>
<td>IA-1 Blum</td>
<td>GA-6 Handel</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV-4 Kihuen*</td>
<td>PA-7 Dent*</td>
<td>IA-3 Young</td>
<td>IL-13 Davis</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-8 Cartwright</td>
<td>PA-17 Rothfus/Lamb</td>
<td>IL-14 Hultgren</td>
<td>IL-14 Hultgren</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WI-3 Kind</td>
<td>VA-10 Comstock</td>
<td>KS-2 Jenkins*</td>
<td>NC-9 Pittenger</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FL-27 Ros-Lehtinen*</td>
<td>PA-5 Meehan*</td>
<td>KS-3 Yoder</td>
<td>NC-13 Budd</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA-6 Costello*</td>
<td>VA-7 Brat</td>
<td>MT-AL Gianforte</td>
<td>NE-2 Bacon</td>
<td>CA-21 McClintock</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Incumbent not seeking re-election

**SOURCE:** COOK POLITICAL REPORT
Anti-Trump Sentiment
Year of the Woman
Kitchen Table Issues
Kavanaugh Backlash
Democratic Majority Agenda

Accountability
• Trump tax returns
• Graft among Administration officials

Health and Welfare
• Push for “Medicare for All”
• Defend and expand Affordable Care Act
• Restore welfare programs

Education
• Invest in early education and affordable child care
• Increase maximum Pell Grant
• Decrease study loan interest rates
• Fund initiatives that increase access for traditionally underrepresented

Immigration
• Protect DACA recipients and allow a path to citizenship

Energy and Environment
• Restore environmental protections
• Protect public lands and disallow the killing of animals on wildlife refuges
• Repeal tax breaks to multi-national oil companies
• Resume Obama-era pledge to cut carbon pollution by 30% by 2030

Voting Rights
• Revise, renew and strengthen the Voting Rights Act
• Restore full protections for voters in states with history of discrimination
• Expand access to the ballot box
• Support efforts to reverse gerrymandering

SOURCE: NATIONAL JOURNAL
BIAA Policy Priorities for 2018

• Increase Access to Care (ACA & Opioids)
• Fund TBI Act Programs
• Bolster Research
• Keep Individuals with Brain Injury Financially Solvent and Caregivers Strong
• Improve Awareness and Understanding of Brain Injury
• Grow the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force
https://www.biausa.org/public-affairs/public-policy
Policy Briefs
Awareness Day – March 20, 2019

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
2019 Appropriations

• H.R. 6157 - “Minibus” appropriations package for Defense and Labor-HHS plus Continuing Resolution until December 7
  – Agriculture
  – Commerce & Justice
  – Energy & Water
  – Financial Services
  – Homeland Security
  – Interior & Environment
  – Legislative Branch
  – Military Construction
  – State & Foreign Operations
  – Transportation and Housing & Urban Development

• TBI Act Programs Level Funded
• $2 billion increase for NIH research
• $6.6 billion for Opioids
SUPPORT For Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6)

Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act

• 10 State Demonstration Projects
• State Response Grants
• Expanded Tele-health under Medicaid
• Addiction Treatment in Rural Health Clinics
• Regional Centers for Excellence for SUD Education
• Recovery Centers
• Program to Support Coordinate and Continuum of Care for OD Patients
Affordable Care Act

October 2017 – Discontinued insurer reimbursements of waived premiums/deductibles

November 2017 – Reduced health insurance exchange operating hours

December 2017 – Enacted Tax Cuts and Jobs Act

January 2018 – “Able-bodied” Medicaid work requirements; other rules waived (premiums, time-limited benefits, drug testing)

June 2018 – Association Health Plans rule

July 2018 – Discontinued “risk adjustment” payments to insurers

August 2018 – Short-term limited-duration health insurance rule

September 2019 – Cut $26 million from Navigator Program, helping individuals buy health insurance
TBI Act Reauthorization

• Reps. Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-N.J.) & Tom Rooney (R-Fla.)
• Traumatic Brain Injury Reauthorization Act of 2018 (H.R. 6615)
• Only federal legislation addressing civilian TBI
• Re-authorizes TBI Act of 1996:
  – ACL to conduct State Partnership Program
  – ACL to conduct Protection & Advocacy TBI Program
  – CDC to conduct surveillance and education
  – NIH to conduct research
• Sens. Orin Hatch (R-Utah) & Bob Casey (D-Pa.) to introduce in Senate in mid-late October
• Hatch legacy
• Maine does not currently have a SPP grant
• Co-sponsors needed 202-224-3121 or visit www.house.gov
Achieving A Better Life Experience (ABLE) Age Adjustment Act

• ABLE Age Adjustment Act S. 817 and H.R. 1874
• Expands eligibility to age 46 for individuals with disabilities to open tax-advantaged ABLE
• Maine allows ABLE accounts
  – $15,000 per year
  – $400,000 maximum
• Co-sponsors needed 202-224-3121 or visit www.house.gov or www.Collins.senate.gov or www.King.senate.gov
Sports Medicine Licensure Clarity Act (H.R. 302/S. 808)

H.R. 302/S. 808 Signed into law October 5, 2018

“Health care services provided by a covered sports medicine professional outside of his or her home state would be deemed to have occurred in the professional’s primary state of licensure if the secondary state’s requirements are substantially similar to the primary state.”

Translation: Athletic trainers can travel with their teams, treat athletes, and remain covered by liability insurance.
Policy Corner

**Congress Sends Appropriations Bill to President**
This week, the House of Representatives passed the Conference Report for fiscal year 2019 appropriations for the Departments of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, including a Continuing Resolution (CR), which has been sent to the president for his signature.

**In This Issue**
- This Week In Brief
- Consensus Reached on Opioid Legislation
- House Considers Permanent Tax Cut Legislation

**This Week in Brief**
Congress passes Conference Report, Senate and House reach consensus on opioid legislation, and House considers permanent tax cuts. Click here to read the full issue.

**Senate and House Reach Consensus on Opioid Legislation**
The Senate and House leadership reached consensus Wednesday on a package of 70 bills that had passed both bodies separately. The House and the Senate will need to pass this consensus legislation before it can be sent to the President for his signature. Learn more.

**House Considers Permanent Tax Cut Legislation**
The House Committee on Ways and Means passed a bill referred to as “Tax Reform 2.0” this week to make a permanent extension of the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act’s individual provisions that are scheduled to expire after 2025. Keep reading.

BIAA gratefully acknowledges the Centre for Neuro Skills and Avanir for their support for legislative action.

Donations can be made to support these efforts.

Sign up today!
Maine Policy Priorities

Steve Wade, Consulting Executive Director

- Maine is “ground zero” for the opioid overdose crisis
- Educational services for students with brain injury
- Access to Neuro-Resource Facilitation/Neuro-Navigation
- Sustainable funding for the Voice of Brain Injury in Maine – BIAA-ME
Questions?

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[Image of airplane with "Thanks"
written in smoke]