



**OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND POLITICAL ACTION**  
**JUNE-AUGUST REPORT**

**110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

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## **SOCIAL WORK REINVESTMENT INITIATIVE (SWRI)**

### **Social Work Congressional Hearing**

The Social Work Reinvestment Initiative continued to make great strides as the 110th Congress came to a close. The ANSWER Coalition has successfully overseen the project, and will meet on September 15 to determine next steps in the reinvestment process. The Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act is currently in the House Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, where the first ever congressional hearing on the profession of social work took place on July 29, 2008.

Entitled “Caring for the Vulnerable: The State of Social Work in America,” the hearing included testimony from former NASW President Gary Bailey on an overview of the profession, and also from current NASW New Hampshire President Dr. Rene Bergeron on social work research. Dr. Robin Mama spoke about social work education; Michael Bird discussed diversity in the profession; Adina Fuller spoke about direct service; and Rev. Sarah Wells discussed faith-based services.

NASW, together with the Institute for the Advancement of Social Work Research (IASWR) and the Clinical Social Work Association (CSWA), submitted written remarks. The hearing proceedings and written testimony are available at <http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/hfc-2008-07-29.shtml>

### **Clinical Social Work Association**

NASW continues to work in partnership with the Clinical Social Work Association, in support of important legislative measures. The groups have successfully worked together in the past on Medicare payment reforms for mental health services, advocacy for mental health parity, and protection of Medicaid case management and rehabilitative services.

NASW and CSWA recorded a video together in September, expressing their joint support for these critical legislative successes and for the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act. This is the first in a series of videos NASW plans to record in conjunction with other social work and allied organizations.

### **H.R. 5447/S.2858 Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act**

The Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act continues to gain cosponsors. Currently, the Act has 76 cosponsors in the House and 12 in the Senate. NASW Executive Director Betsy Clark sent a video message on July 16, 2008, encouraging the Association’s membership to write to their members of Congress in support of the legislation.

This marks the first time NASW has engaged in video advocacy. The video was posted to NASW’s social networking sites on Facebook and MySpace, on the Association’s Social Work Reinvestment Web page, and on YouTube. To view it, go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLaGCXjBC7g>

To date, the video has been viewed almost 10,000 times. As a result, a total of almost 30,000 grassroots letters have been sent to members of Congress in support of the Social Work Reinvestment Act.

### **FY09 Appropriations Report Language**

NASW was successful in attempting to include report language in the FY09 House L-HHS Appropriations legislation. This language focused on social work recruitment, retention, and research. Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA) and Congressman Edolphus Towns (D-NY) were instrumental in this effort. They penned a “Dear Colleague” letter—along with 15 other members of Congress—

encouraging House Committee on Appropriations Chairman Dave Obey to include this critical workforce language.

#### STATE ACTION

NASW chapters are working at the state level to implement their reinvestment plans. Some key successes this year included:

- Title protection in Florida
- Additional funding for loan forgiveness in New York
- The possibility of the first MSW program in South Dakota

Chapters continually update their reinvestment Web pages at: <http://www.socialworkreinvestment.org/State/>

NASW Executive Director Betsy Clark, IASWR Executive Director Joan Levy Zlotnik, and NASW staff members have also traveled around the country throughout the year, presenting the Social Work Reinvestment Initiative to various chapters. They have also presented this information at sister social work organizations, including:

- Association of Baccalaureate Program Directors (BPD)
- National Association of Deans and Directors of Schools of Social Work (NADD)
- Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Additional presentations are planned for the fall and winter.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW Government Relations staff continue to lobby members of Congress in support of the Dorothy I. Height and Whitney M. Young, Jr. Social Work Reinvestment Act, targeting Subcommittee members for their ability to actively support and move the legislation forward. In addition, they are following up with members of Congress who receive significant grassroots communications, to ensure that they are taking note of their social worker constituents' concerns.

NASW is also seeking to ensure that the FY09 House L-HHS appropriations report language maintains placement in the house legislation. When the legislation is passed, NASW will also seek inclusion of this language in the conference report with the Senate.

NASW Chapters will continue to work with social workers, social work employers, allied agencies and organizations, and schools of social work to fully implement their reinvestment goals.

#### **Teri Zenner Social Worker Safety Act, H.R. 2165**

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

#### NASW ACTION

NASW staff are seeking a Senate sponsor for the SW safety companion bill, and continue to work with the House sponsor to garner additional co-sponsors.

#### **National Center for Social Work Research Act, S. 106**

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 National Center would conduct, support, and disseminate targeted research on social work methods and outcomes related to problems of significant social concern.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW staff continue to meet with the bill sponsor's office, and are seeking a House sponsor for the SW research companion bill.

## **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 age out of the foster care system every year. These children tend to have a variety of unaddressed medical conditions and other challenges, primarily due to 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, ensuring that 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 youths access much needed health care. Currently in the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, the bill has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Health with 22 cosponsors.

### **NASW ACTION**

NASW continues to urge Congress to pass this legislation, which could significantly improve the lives and outcomes of youths in foster care. We have met with numerous Hill staff on this issue, and have mobilized our members to contact their members of Congress. The Alert is available at: <http://capwiz.com/socialworkers/issues/alert/?alertid=10542426>

### **School Social Work**

New York Representative Edolphus Towns recently introduced the Increased Student Achievement Through Increased Student Support Act (H.R.6654). This bill would affect the lives of children tremendously, by creating a better-trained, more prepared school social work workforce, to address the psychosocial and emotional issues that can impede educational performance.

Our nation currently faces a serious shortage of qualified school-employed professionals, putting students with issues that interfere with learning at greater risk for school failure. The Increased Student Achievement through Increased Student Support Act seeks to address this shortage.

Through a federal grant program designed to increase the number of school social workers, school counselors, and school psychologists serving low-income local educational agencies (LEAs), the bill would create a pipeline between institutions of higher education and low-income school districts.

Institutions of higher education—with graduate training programs in school social work, school counseling, and school psychology—that develop collaborative training and placement partnerships with LEAs will be eligible to apply for federal grant funds. These funds would enable the institutions to hire and pay participating graduates to work in low-income schools.

Program participants who remain employed in a low-income school setting for a minimum of five years will be eligible for loan forgiveness. By expanding the number of school social workers in low-income, high-need schools, we can improve success, in school *and* life, for students throughout the country.

#### NASW ACTION

The bill has 40 cosponsors in the House. In July, NASW staff attended a hearing on the matter. The Association also spearheaded a workgroup of psychologists, counselors, school social workers, and educators to draft the bill. In addition, an alert was issued to NASW members.

## CIVIL RIGHTS

### **End Racial Profiling Act**

This legislation (H.R.4611/S.2481) attempts to seek corrective action against “profiling.” Profiling occurs when law enforcement officials routinely use race, ethnicity, or national origin when choosing which individuals should be stopped, detained, or searched.

The Association contends that the End Racial Profiling Act is critical to restoration of impartial governance and equitable treatment dispensed by federal, state, and local law enforcement officials. Further, the bill is essential to building confidence in minority communities throughout the United States, with respect to humane and principled adjudicative approaches to the law.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW continues to work diligently with nationally recognized civil rights organizations—such as the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, National Urban League, NAACP, and National Puerto Rican Coalition—to secure enactment of the End Racial Profiling Act. NASW representatives contacted and met with vital staff personnel representing the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. In the Senate, the Association collaborated with external coalitions in meeting with staff members of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Through these efforts, cosponsorship has risen to 66 in the House of Representatives and 13 in the Senate.

Additionally, Government Relations staff members drafted letters and alerts, and devised legislative strategy concerning this important initiative. Since the introduction of the End Racial Profiling Act, NASW has sought diverse endorsement of this legislation. To this end, the Association has engaged more than 70 congressional members.

### **Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (Hate Crimes)**

Hate Crimes legislation (S.1105/H.R.1585) continuously receives bipartisan majority support, in the House and the Senate, since its original introduction in 1997.

Foremost, the measure would eliminate a serious limitation on federal involvement under the existing 1968 law. The 1968 law requires victims of bias-motivated crimes to have been attacked when engaged in federally protected activities (e.g., serving on a jury or attending a public school).

In addition, the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act would also authorize the Department of Justice to investigate and prosecute certain bias-induced crimes, predicated on the victim’s actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

#### NASW ACTION

The Association contends that hate-motivated crimes instill fear and serve as a catalyst to marginalize innocent people from society. NASW, in collaboration with nationally recognized civil rights

organizations, has developed policy prescriptions that serve as a foundation to combat bias-induced crimes, and to facilitate federal investigations and prosecutions when local authorities are unwilling or unable to achieve a just result.

To this end, Government Relations staff, during this legislative session, made more than 45 advocacy visits to espouse social work principles regarding intolerance. Moreover, NASW signed on to letters explicitly seeking enactment of Hate Crimes legislation, and forwarded varied elements of communication emphasizing the necessity of this initiative.

## **HEALTH**

### **Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008, S. 2708 and H.R. 6337**

The Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008 addresses the emerging care gap between rapidly increasing numbers of older Americans and the serious lack of providers trained in meeting the aging population's medical, health, and social support needs.

#### **NASW ACTION**

NASW staff helped secure a sponsor for the House companion bill. The Association also sent a support letter for the bill.

### **United States Health Insurance Act, H.R. 676**

The United States Health Insurance Act would provide for comprehensive health insurance coverage for all U.S. residents.

#### **NASW ACTION**

NASW staff participated in numerous coalition and Hill meetings and briefings about the bill. Furthermore, Association staff met with the House sponsor of the bill, to discuss how NASW can best advocate for the legislation.

### **H.R.493 and S. 358, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2007**

NASW support the passage of the bill, which would prohibit discrimination—with respect to health insurance and employment—on the basis of genetic information.

#### **NASW ACTION**

NASW staff participated in the annual Genetics Hill Day and other coalition meetings of the Genetics Alliance. Additionally, NASW helped advocate for the final passage of the GINA legislation. The President signed GINA into law on May 21, 2008.

## **LOAN FORGIVENESS**

### **College Cost Reduction Act**

On July 15, 2008, NASW submitted comments to the U.S. Department of Education on the proposed rulemaking to implement Title IV loan provisions in the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA).

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. Following are some specifics of the bill:

- Loan forgiveness is offered to those who hold public service jobs (including social workers in public child- or family-service agencies) 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 is set at 15 percent of a borrower’s discretionary income.

**NASW ACTION**

NASW will continue to monitor this legislation’s implementation, as we partner with the American Bar Association and other national groups.

**Higher Education and Opportunity Act (HEA)**

Congress passed the Higher Education and Opportunity Act (P.L. 110–315) on July 31, on the eve of its expiration date; the President signed in on August 14.

This Act fully reauthorizes the Higher Education Act (HEA) for the first time since 1998, and also:

- Includes loan forgiveness for national need occupations
- Clarifies appropriate financial aid professional/lender relationships
- Simplifies the financial aid application process
- Attempts to slow rising college costs
- Creates a host of reporting requirements for higher education institutions

The loan forgiveness provisions directly benefit social workers, by allowing a person with a degree in social work or a related field, who is employed by a public or private child welfare agency, to have part of his or her college loans forgiven. For each year of work, \$2,000 would be forgiven, up to a maximum of \$10,000 over five years.

The loan forgiveness covers 13 areas of national need, including: qualified Head Start, child care, and preschool teachers; some teachers in high-need fields; some mental health professionals; and school counselors. The funds will be available on a “first come, first served” basis, and are subject to appropriations. Important hate crime provisions are also included in the law.

**NASW ACTION**

NASW lobbied aggressively on this issue through numerous Hill visits and with grassroots advocacy. NASW members received alerts and updates as the bill progressed, and staff collaborated with the American Bar Association and other national groups to secure its passage.

**MENTAL HEALTH**

**Health Information Technology (HIT) and Personal Privacy, S.1693, H.R. 6357**

Health IT legislation is a popular bi-partisan issue, but Congress has continued to struggle over whether to include health privacy standards in federal law to promote adoption of IT in health care.

In the Senate, the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee has been pressing hard for floor consideration under unanimous consent. The Committee’s “Wired for Health Care Quality” (S.1693), however, faces strong opposition from our small pro-privacy coalition. Privacy disagreements have long stalled Senate passage, but privacy advocates have never had much strength with Senate offices.

Sponsored by Sens. Kennedy and Enzi, S.1693 would promote information technology as a tool to bring about fundamental change in the health care system. It would also codify the functions of the Office of the National Coordinator of Health Information Technology within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The Senate bill also requires the HHS Secretary to establish the public-private “American Health Information Collaborative” to make recommendations for national policies for the adoption of health information technology. Unfortunately, the bill contains extremely inadequate federal personal health privacy protections. Sen. Snowe’s is the last Senate office still willing to buck the leadership of both parties, seeking additional changes in the bill to improve the privacy protections.

In a major victory for NASW’s privacy lobbying, the leading House bill recently added a broad range of personal health privacy requirements in new legislation, known as the PRO(TECH)T Act, HR. 6357. This bill was introduced in July, and quickly passed the House Energy and Commerce Committee. It is now awaiting action before the House Ways and Means Committee before it can go to the floor.

#### NASW ACTION

This bill is a major priority for NASW’s Government Relations staff. The Association is working with several other mental health groups to ensure the inclusion of privacy measures in both the House and Senate bills.

The mental health coalition is small, and NASW plays a significant role in this effort. Our recent activities include:

- Making calls to the Hill
- Sending letters to key members of Congress
- Drafting bill language for consideration by key offices

#### **Medicare Coverage of Clinical Social Work (CSW) Services, H.R. 6331/S.1212**

NASW’s advocacy efforts scored a milestone victory in July, when Congress overrode the President’s veto of Medicare legislation (H.R. 6331). This action restored funding for clinical social work payments cut in 2007, and greatly improved coverage of outpatient psychotherapy services.

NASW staff report that mental health advocates— who scored a major victory by expanding coverage under Medicare’s outpatient mental health benefit—were exuberant when Congress finally passed this legislation.

The Medicare package halts a scheduled 10.6 percent cut in all Part B provider payment rates, and makes mental health coverage improvements. Firstly, clinical social workers billing Part B would receive an increase in their payment rates for psychotherapy services for the 18 month duration of the bill. Secondly, mental health coverage for beneficiaries would be improved by a critical Medicare coinsurance parity provision that gradually reduces over five years the beneficiary cost sharing amount from the current 50 percent coinsurance rate down to 20 percent in 2014. This change reaches full parity with other Medicare outpatient benefits when fully phased in. This is a crucial legislative goal long sought by NASW.

Unfortunately, a provision permitting clinical social workers to bill Medicare directly for psychotherapy services to Medicare Part A clients residing in skilled nursing facilities was not included in this year’s final Medicare bill. Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) remains our lead proponent of the Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act (S.1212). In July 2007, the House passed this provision within broader

Medicare legislation known as CHAMP. The Finance Committee ultimately dropped it in the final Senate bill.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW success this year is due to our long-time lobbying efforts and vigorous grassroots mobilization supporting this initiative. In the coming year, coverage of CSW services to nursing home residents will be a high priority. Further, we will seek a long-term correction for CSW payments under Part B, which, without additional congressional action, will fall back to prior lower levels.

### **Mental Health Services Appropriations**

The annual Labor-HHS appropriations bill funding the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is moving slowly through Congress this year. The delay results from the Democratic leadership's strategy to await a more favorable administration in January.

The President's proposed '09 budget for SAMHSA and the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) included small cuts, which Congress hopes to restore. Many Congress members seeking to boost domestic spending for FY'09 believe it will be easier to work with either major Presidential candidate on appropriations bills next year.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW is actively supporting adequate funding for SAMHSA and other agencies for 2009. We are working with coalition partners in the Mental Health Liaison Group and NASW staff have made visits to the Hill to support appropriations for the agency in 2009.

### **Medicaid Spending**

This year the Bush Administration again employed the CMS regulatory process to extract large cuts from federal Medicaid expenditures—particularly those affecting social work services, such as rehabilitative services, targeted case management, and certain school-based services. NASW vigorously opposed the rules, which were ultimately stopped by congressional action.

The House and Senate passed so-called Medicaid moratorium legislation by wide margins, attaching it to a supplemental appropriations bill, effectively compelling the President's signature.

NASW ACTION NASW members were alarmed by these rules and strongly supported our legislative appeals against these cuts. NASW was very active in a large coalition that succeeded in getting Congress to bar the CMS rules.

### **Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity, S. 558 and H.R. 1424**

In a major political breakthrough, longstanding political opposition from business and House GOP leaders to mental health parity was largely resolved in 2007. NASW and its coalition partners support passage of the "Paul Wellstone Equitable Mental Health Treatment Act."

Both the Senate and House have passed their own versions, and final passage is close. At this time relatively minor differences remain over financing issues. Final passage in 2008 remains an important NASW priority in the final days of this Congress.

#### NASW ACTION

NASW supports passage of full mental health and substance abuse parity in this Congress, in conjunction with the Mental Health Liaison Group and other parity advocates. We are working now in support of final passage.

## FIELD ORGANIZING

### Grassroots Activities

During the quarter, 8,557 people sent 20,124 e-mails (through Capwiz) and 222 postcards to their congressional representatives. Federal issues that generated the most grassroots efforts included Medicare and the social work reinvestment initiative. Below is the distribution of e-mails by subject area for the quarter.

| Subject Area   | Number of E-mails | Number of Postcards |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| Medicare Bill  | 10,581            |                     |
| Support the Social Work Reinvestment Act               | 9,293             | 222                 |
| Halt Medicaid Rules                                    | 113               |                     |
| Appropriations Request                                 | 67                |                     |
| Compose your own message                               | 39                |                     |
| Act Now! House Vote on HEA Tomorrow                    | 15                |                     |
| Protect our Nation's Social Workers                    | 12                |                     |
| Support the Foster Care Medicaid Coverage Act of 2007! | 4                 |                     |

### Web Site Development

Nine alerts and six updates were posted to the Web site.

## POLITICAL ACTION FOR CANDIDATE ELECTION (PACE)

### 2008 Congressional Endorsements and Contributions

The national PACE Board of Trustees has authorized the endorsement of 195 candidates for the White House, Senate, and House of Representatives. Some of these endorsements were accompanied by \$500 checks. PACE has also been fundraising by mailing "Social Worker for Obama" buttons to NASW members who contribute \$20 or more online. An additional round of endorsements is scheduled for September 18.

## NASW LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES CHART

You can find a list of bills at <https://ssl.capwiz.com/socialworkers/issues/bills/>.

| <i>Number and Title</i>  | <i>Sponsor</i>  | <i>NASW Position</i> | <i>Last Action</i>  | <i>Staff Responsible</i> |
|--|---|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>Appropriations/Budget</b>   |   |                      |   |                          |
| <b>S. 1710</b> – <a href="#"><u>Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies Appropriations</u></a>       | Sen. Tom Harkin (IA)<br>Introduced 6/27/2007<br>Cosponsors (None)     | Support              | 6/29/2007: Star Print ordered on the bill   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 3043</b> – <a href="#"><u>Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act</u></a> | Rep. David Obey (WI-7)<br>Introduced 7/13/2007<br>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 |                          |
| <b>Children and Families</b>   |   |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 1376</b> – <a href="#"><u>Medicaid Foster Care Coverage Act</u></a>  | Rep. Dennis Cardoza (CA-18)<br>Introduced 3/7/2007<br>Cosponsors (17) | Support              | 3/08/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health   | Nancy McFall Jean        |
| <b>H.R. 6654</b> – <a href="#"><u>Increased Student Achievement Through Increased Student Support</u></a>                          | Rep. Ed Towns (NY-10)<br>Introduced 7/30/2008<br>Cosponsors (40)      | Support              | 7/30/2008: Referred to House Committee on Education and Labor   | Nancy McFall Jean        |
| <b>S. 3364</b> – <a href="#"><u>Increased Student Achievement Through Increased Student Support</u></a>                            | Sen. Blanche Lincoln (AR)<br>Introduced 7/30/2008<br>Cosponsors (4)   | Support              | 7/30/2008: Referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  | Nancy McFall Jean        |
| <b>Civil Rights</b>  |   |                      |   |                          |
| <b>S. 1105</b> – <a href="#"><u>Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act</u></a>                           | Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA)<br>Introduced 4/12/2007<br>Cosponsors (45)   | Support              | 4/12/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary  | Lawrence Moore           |
| <b>H.R. 1592</b> – <a href="#"><u>Local Law Enforcement Hat Crimes Prevention Act</u></a>  | Rep. John Conyers (MI-14)<br>Introduced 3/20/2007<br>Cosponsors (172) | Support              | 5/07/2007: Received in the Senate; read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary  | Lawrence Moore           |
| <b>H.R. 4611</b> – <a href="#"><u>End Racial Profiling Act</u></a>   | Rep. John Conyers (MI-14)<br>Introduced 12/13/2007<br>Cosponsors (66) | Support              | 01/14/2008: Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security   | Lawrence Moore           |
| <b>S. 2481</b> – <a href="#"><u>End Racial Profiling Act</u></a>   | Sen. Russ Feingold (WI)<br>Introduced 12/13/2007<br>Cosponsors (14)   | Support              | 12/13/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary   | Lawrence Moore           |
| <b>Health</b>  |   |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 676</b> – <a href="#"><u>United States National Health Insurance Act</u></a>   | Rep. John Conyers (MI-14)<br>Introduced 1/24/2007<br>Cosponsors (91)  | Support              | 2/02/2007: 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> |
|---|--|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>S. 400</b> – <a href="#"><u>Michelle’s Law</u></a>                               | Sen. John Sununu (NH)<br>Introduced 1/25/2007<br>Cosponsors (25)                   | Support              | 1/25/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions                                   | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>H.R. 2851</b> – <a href="#"><u>Michelle’s Law</u></a>                            | Rep. Paul Hodes (NH-2)<br>Introduced 6/25/2007<br>Cosponsors (132)                 | Support              | 9/11/2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education, Lifelong Learning, and Competitiveness                             | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>S. 2708</b> – <a href="#"><u>Caring for an Aging America Act</u></a>             | Sen. Barbara Boxer (CA)<br>Introduced 3/5/2008<br>Cosponsors (2)                   | Support              | 3/5/2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions                                    | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>H.R. 3162</b> – <a href="#"><u>Child Health and Medicare Protection Act</u></a>  | Rep. John Dingell (MI-15)<br>Introduced 7/24/2007<br>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               |
| <b>H.R. 493</b> – <a href="#"><u>Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act</u></a>  | Rep. Louise McIntosh Slaughter (NY-28)<br>Introduced 1/16/2007<br>Cosponsors (226) | Support              | 05/21/2008: Signed by President   | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>S. 358</b> – <a href="#"><u>Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act</u></a>    | Sen. Olympia Snowe (ME)<br>Introduced 1/22/2007<br>Cosponsors (46)                 | Support              | 04/10/2007: By Senator Kennedy from Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions filed written report. Report No. 110-48 | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>Social Work Reinvestment Initiative (SWRI)</b>                                   |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 5447</b> – <a href="#"><u>Social Work Reinvestment Act</u></a>              | Rep. Ed Towns (NY-10)<br>Introduced 2/14/2008<br>Cosponsors (67)                   | Support              | 2/14/2008: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor   | Elizabeth Franklin       |
| <b>S. 2858</b> – <a href="#"><u>Social Work Reinvestment Act</u></a>                | Sen. Barbara Mikulski (MD)<br>Introduced 4/15/2008<br>Cosponsors (6)               | Support              | 4/15/2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions                                   | Elizabeth Franklin       |
| <b>S. 1212</b> – <a href="#"><u>Clinical Social Work Medicare Equity Act</u></a>    | Sen. Barbara Mikulski (MD)<br>Introduced 4/25/2007<br>Cosponsors (8)               | Support              | 4/25/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance  | Jim Finley               |
| <b>S. 106</b> – <a href="#"><u>National Center for Social Work Research Act</u></a> | Sen. Daniel Inouye (HI)<br>Introduced 1/4/2007<br>Cosponsors (1)                   | Support              | 1/04/2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions                                   | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>H.R. 2165</b> – <a href="#"><u>Teri Zenner Social Worker Safety Act</u></a>      | Rep. Dennis Moore (KS-3)<br>Introduced 5/3/2007<br>Cosponsors (114)                | Support              | 5/03/2007: Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor   | Asua Ofosu               |
| <b>SWRI: Loan Forgiveness</b>   |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 4137</b> – <a href="#"><u>Higher Education Act</u></a>                      | Rep. George Miller (CA-7)<br>Introduced 11/9/2007<br>Cosponsors (30)               | Support              | 02/25/2008: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions       | Nancy McFall Jean        |

| <i>Number and Title</i>   | <i>Sponsor</i>   | <i>NASW Position</i> | <i>Last Action</i>  | <i>Staff Responsible</i> |
|---|--|----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| <b>H.R. 2669</b> – <u>Higher Education Act Reauthorization</u>                  | Rep. George Miller (CA-7)<br>Introduced 6/12/2007<br>Cosponsors (32)   | Support              | 9/27/2007: Signed by President  | Nancy McFall Jean        |
| <b>Medicare</b>   |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 1663</b> – <u>Medicare Mental Health Modernization Act</u>              | Rep. Pete Stark (CA13)<br>Introduced 3/23/2007<br>Cosponsors (54)      | Support              | 4/3/2007: Referred to Subcommittee on Health  | Jim Finley               |
| <b>S. 2785</b> – <u>Save Medicare Act of 2008</u>                               | Sen. Debbie Stabenow (MI)<br>Introduced 3/13/2008<br>Cosponsors (18)   | Support              | 3/13/2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance  | Jim Finley               |
| <b>Medicaid</b>   |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>H.R. 5613</b> – <u>Protecting the Medicaid Safety Net Act</u>                | Rep. John Dingell (MI-15)<br>Introduced 3/13/2008<br>Cosponsors (222)  | Support              | 4/9/2008: Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held   | Jim Finley               |
| <b>S. 2819</b> – <u>Economic Recovery in Health Care Act</u>                    | Sen. John Rockefeller (WV)<br>Introduced 4/3/2008<br>Cosponsors (37)   | Support              | 4/3/2008: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance   | Jim Finley               |
| <b>Mental Health: Information Technology</b>                                    |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>S. 1693</b> – <u>Wired for Health Care Quality Act</u>                       | Sen. Edward Kennedy (MA)<br>Introduced 6/26/2007<br>Cosponsors (16)    | Oppose               | 10/01/2007: By Sen. Kennedy from Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions filed written report. Report No. 110–187 | Jim Finley               |
| <b>H.R. 5442</b> – <u>TRUST in Health Information Act</u>                       | Rep. Edward Markey (MA-7)<br>Introduced 2/14/08<br>Cosponsors (12)     | Support              | 2/14/2008: Referred to House Subcommittee on Health   | Jim Finley               |
| <b>Mental Health: Parity</b>  |  |                      |   |                          |
| <b>S. 558</b> – <u>Mental Health Parity Act</u>                                 | Sen. Pete Domenici (NM)<br>Introduced 2/12/2007<br>Cosponsors (58)     | Support              | 10/17/2007: Referred to the House Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions                                     | Jim Finley               |
| <b>H.R. 1424</b> – <u>Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act</u> | Rep. Patrick Kennedy (RI-1)<br>Introduced 3/9/2007<br>Cosponsors (275) | Support              | 3/7/2008: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 610                  | Jim Finley               |